WIRRAL MENCAP

England & Wales · Charity number 1153742

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	08668735
Registered	2013-09-09
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	42-44 Market Street Wirral Birkenhead Wirral CH46 9QP
Phone	01516661829
Email	info@mencapwirral.org.uk
Website	www.mencapwirral.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1. THE RELIEF OF PEOPLE WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF HELP AND SUPPORT FOR THEM AND FOR THEIR FAMILIES, DEPENDENTS AND CARERS,2. TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEED THEREOF BY REASON OF LEARNING DISABILITY WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE."LEARNING DISABILITY" MEANS ANY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY OF THE MIND AND ANY ASSOCIATED CONDITION HOWSOEVER CAUSED AND WHETHER MILD, MODERATE OR SEVERE

Activities: Wirral Mencap delivers services and creates opportunities that improve the quality of life of adults with learning disabilities and their families in Wirral. Services include information, advice and advocacy, training opportunities, social drop-in activities, volunteering, personal development, and campaigning and influencing, making the Wirral community more supportive, accessible and inclusive.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Disability, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

Geography

- Wirral

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£414,481	£429,955	-	-
2024-09-30	£351,036	£379,526	-	-
2023-09-30	£389,804	£335,325	-	-
2022-09-30	£311,926	£338,023	-	-
2021-09-30	£291,082	£293,345	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Clare Newton		2017-06-08
Darren Craig Jamieson		2024-02-22
Esther Abayie		2025-02-27
Karen Blair		2022-06-14
Patricia Doran		2025-02-27
Peter Alan Loosemoore		2025-11-18

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WIRRAL MENCAP

England & Wales - Charity number 1153742

Accounts

WIRRAL MENCAP

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Company Number: 08668735
Charity Number: 1153742

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WIRRAL MENCAP
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 30th September 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Wirral Mencap is a registered charitable company working with and for people with a learning disability and their families. The organisation is based in Birkenhead but works across Wirral.

Wirral Mencap exists to advance equality for people with a learning disability and their families through campaigning, raising awareness, providing information and opportunities. It is our view that to achieve our aims we need to be person centred and work in partnership with other Charities/Organisations that support people with a learning disability.

During the financial year 2024, the charity's objectives and activities were guided by a 5-year Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 which was developed in consultation with members, beneficiaries and local professionals.

The aims for the period were:

1. To champion equality and promote independence so that people with a learning disability reach their full potential
2. To provide knowledge and build confidence to improve personal well-being, resilience and future planning
3. To connect people to their community and others to reduce social isolation and develop personal relationships.
4. To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

1.1. **The Information, Advice & Advocacy Service** (IA&A) provides direct support to people with a learning disability and their families through 1:1 case work, information events and workshops as well as working strategically with the local authority and other organisations to improve services and promote inclusion.

From **1st October 2024 to September 30th 2025,** the service supported **175** individuals/families through casework. **67** of these were new issues this year, the rest were ongoing from the previous year. **858** individual actions were undertaken to support these families including providing support with meetings and forms, planning for the future, navigating and accessing local services, both statutory and voluntary, and providing information on, and support to access, a range of services such as housing, social care and planning for the future. We also received **12** requests for information regarding people who did not have a learning disability. These people were supported to access appropriate agencies for information and support.

Through a partnership with other local advice-giving organisations, officially known as Ask Us Wirral, **38** individuals/ families also accessed specialist welfare benefits advice. A further **68** families/ individuals were referred on to another service or organisation in this period.

We held **1** event attended by **41** people. Let's Talk about Health featured a marketplace of health providers, and a range of talks on accessing support with health concerns for people with learning disabilities.

Fourteen workshops were delivered to a total of **123** people. Eight workshops were co-delivered by our Lived Experience Advocate team to professionals on how to work more inclusively with people with a learning disability. Parents and carers accessed the ever-popular Wills & Trusts workshops x 3, Preparing for Independent Living x 1 and Introduction to the Court of Protection x 2.

1.2. Other highlights in this year include

- Workshop attendance increased from 54 last year to 123 this year and over half of those workshops were training practitioners on understanding and communicating better with people with a learning disability.
- Our new Project Worker joined the IAA Service as a qualified and accredited advocate in October 2024.
- Training co-produced and delivered by Parents with Experience Training delivered to Family Hubs across October and November 2024 was well received, and further training has been delivered to Parent Advocates as a result, with likelihood of delivering more in next year to other organisations and services in a paid capacity.
- A further commission from the Family Alliance to produce an easy read/ accessible resource detailing Child Protection process on Wirral, has been completed this year. This resource was coproduced with Lived Experience Advocates and partners at Koala and has been a great success. The resource will be available on Wirral Council, Koala and Wirral Mencap websites.
- We received new National Lottery funding for 4 years to develop coproduction projects and work, based on the success of the projects above. Empower, Advocate, Transform began in July 2025 and was formally launched at an event in November.
- Funding was also received from John Moores to contribute towards the Information, Advice & Advocacy casework service.

1.2 Personal Development Services

Project	Overview	Achievements
Gateway Award (Commissioned Day Service)	A personal development programme with five modules: hobbies, lifestyle, fitness, volunteering and challenge. The award has three levels: Bronze (Year 1), Silver (Year 2), Gold (Year 3). Participants attend Wirral Mencap for one day per	• 28 people accessed the Gateway Award (day service model): - 5 people completed their bronze award - 6 people completed their silver award - 10 people achieved their gold Award - 7 people achieved their gold plus award - A new cohort of 6 people started the programme in September 2025.
Project	**Overview**	**Achievements**
	week to complete the modules. Participants pay for this service via a personal budget/ direct payment.	Activities included, Taekwondo, drama, photography, boxing, gym sessions, arts and crafts, drumming, yoga, music sessions, cookery and various sports activities such as football, basketball and boccia. • Gateway members volunteered at the Nest Café and Wirral country park; a new volunteer placement was established at Ness Gardens for the Friday group next year 2026.

Summer Club	Summer Club runs in the six weeks school holiday. During Summer Club, participants access a range of activities in the community. It is run by Gateway Award staff and participants pay for the serviced via a personal budget/direct payment	• 14 people accessed Summer Club including a one-off day trip. -Summer Club ran for 6 weeks during July and August on both a Monday and a Thursday. Activities included, drama, museum visits, Boxing, Taekwondo, Golf, boccia, Music • sessions, and a narrowboat trip
Open-access services	Below are our services open to anyone with a learning disability for free. Some people take up our services, and some people just come in for some guidance and signposting. For details of each programme see below.	• 31 PDPs were completed for new people assessed for Wirral Mencap personal development or social/activity services of which 14 have signed up to new activities - Gateway, Crossbow, Lunch Club, courses, LDA training. • At least 4 people have reengaged with us after several years. • 47 PDP reviews were completed for people who engage with us on a regular basis.
Gateway Award (Independent)	A free version of the awards programme outlined above for people who do not have funding to access the 'Day Service' model. Participants complete the award independently with the support of family/ support staff and our part-time Personal Development Mentor.	• There are currently 25 people signed up to the Independent Gateway Award. • 6 people are working towards their Bronze Award, 7 towards their Silver and 12 towards Gold. • 1 person completed their Bronze Award (in 3 months). • 1 person completed their Silver Award • Activities included walking, swimming, snowsports, cooking, fixing computers. • One volunteers with the Scouts and the other in a hospital.
Volunteering for All	A service that supports people with a learning disability to find meaningful volunteering opportunities in their community, either independently, with their support staff/carers or with a volunteer buddy (see below).	• 1 person was supported into a volunteering placement. Several others were provided with information, including at local cafes and church coffee mornings, and charity shops. • 11 people attended a meeting with Seetec and the Careers Service (another 13 expressed interest but were unable to attend on the day). Unfortunately, Seetec has been disbanded but we have established a link with the Careers Service.
Buddy Scheme	This programme matches people with a learning disability with trained volunteer buddies. The aims of the project are to reduce isolation and improve access to community opportunities.	• There were 2 active buddy pairs this year, all continuing to support people who were feeling lonely and isolated or helping members to access volunteering/activities. 2 members were supported to become pen pals.

Courses	Accessible personal development courses delivered to meet the identified learning needs of people with a learning disability and those who support them.	Total number of course hours delivered: 248 Total number of people who have accessed a course: 325 Active courses: 65 Courses are delivered by WM staff, volunteers or external providers such as Wirral Lifelong Learning. The following courses were delivered this year (courses in bold were delivered more than once) - **Photography** - **Friendships** - **Cookery** - **Cycling** - **Walking Football** - Computer Skills - **Artists & their Art** - Fun Mini Tennis Skills - **Boccia** - Fun Team Sports - English Skills - Creative Writing - Maths Skills - **Money Skills** - Tennis - General Wellbeing We also delivered two free walking groups on Mondays and Thursdays to encourage people to exercise, chat and make new friends.
Health Awareness	Health Awareness Sessions (HAS) have replaced Health Club.	Health Awareness Sessions (HAS) now run the first Monday of every month in the Gateway Room. The LD nurses have delivered the sessions and have covered the following topics: breast screening programme, alcohol, looking after our mental health, STOMP, coping with difficult feelings, prevention of falls, anxiety, sleeping well, how to keep hydrated.

Social Clubs/ Drop in	• Crossbow Social Club (at Liberty Centre Birkenhead).	• Crossbow Club continues to be supported by a smaller but committed team of volunteers and one member of staff. • There are on average around 30 people with learning disabilities attending on a weekly basis. • A weekly timetable of activities is coordinated with both in-house activities such as discos, karaoke, and bingo, and outsourced activities with a provider, such as Drumming with Rhythm Reaction and Flower Crafts with a local florist who volunteers their time, keeping the offering appealing, stimulating and accessible to a variety of interests and abilities. • Also serves as first POC for potential new members, and outreach to draw in more attendees to other events via ticket sale events/promotional materials. • Bingo is now hosted with option additional charges for extra tickets which brings in a small amount of funds each time.
	• Monday Lunch Club (Bloom Building, 3 Abbey Cl, Birkenhead).	• Lunch Club has now moved to Rek41 which is closer to the Wirral Mencap office and also reduces outgoings due to reduced room hire cost. • Lunch Club averages 17 attendees per week • As well as a sociable space for lunch, it also provides Bingo and a special monthly music quiz activity
	• Pub Night (The Swan pub, Prenton)	• Pub Night is a small social club for people to gather and have an evening out in a safe supported space. • It is held once monthly for 2 hours • It averages around 6-10 attendees each session
	• Walk and Talk	• 5 people attend Walk and Talk regularly in Birkenhead Park. The group is led by a volunteer who is buddy to someone with a learning disability. They both were the lead walkers at this year's Seaside Walk event.

1.3 Other schemes of work

1.3.1. Oliver McGowan Mandatory Learning Disability and Autism Training

Working in partnership with Be Well Training, we have seen a significant increase in paid work opportunities for our Learning Disability Trainers, who are fully trained to deliver the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training (OMMT).

This has included both:

- **Tier 1** training delivered online
- **Tier 2** training delivered in person

We have supported our trainers to rehearse and build confidence with scripts, practice delivery, and improve facilitation skills.

For this financial year the OMMT work has generated 341 hours of paid employment for our trainers.

We have now established a clear pricing structure, with charges applied to Be Well Training for each session our trainers deliver. This ensures the project generates reliable income for Wirral Mencap each month.

Be Well Training have confirmed that there will be a high volume of training dates in 2026, which will provide further opportunities for our trainers to gain paid work and will continue to increase the organisation's income.

1.3.2. Healthy Hearts (Step Up Project)

We delivered a 12-month project called "Healthy Hearts," designed to reduce cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk among adults with a learning disability by focusing on behaviour change in areas such as diet, weight management, and physical activity.

We recruited six individuals with a learning disability to take part in the project. Each participant identified two personal health goals and received regular 1:1 support to review progress, build motivation, and celebrate achievements. We also facilitated group sessions where participants could share experiences and encourage one another.

The project has achieved excellent outcomes through personalised goal setting, including:

- Reduced alcohol consumption
- Lower stress levels
- Cutting down on takeaways
- Increased participation in physical activities

A key part of Healthy Hearts was co-production. We held four paid co-production workshops where participants worked together to design accessible resources and generate ideas for helping others with a learning disability to make positive lifestyle changes. This work also led to three participants being successfully recruited as Learning Disability Trainers.

We hope to secure additional funding to continue developing the project and to deliver the training sessions and resources produced through co-production.

1.3.3. Cancer Screening Project

In partnership with One Wirral CIC, we are delivering a project focused on improving cancer screening for people with a learning disability across the Wirral.

To support this work, we appointed Erin Blanchard on a fixed-term contract for two additional days per week to lead the project.

The aims of the project are to:

1. **Increase cancer screening uptake** (bowel, breast and cervical) by 10% within 12 months for people with a learning disability registered with a GP in Wirral.

2. **Design an innovative and evidence-based intervention programme** that can demonstrate improvement in screening uptake.
3. **Create and deliver a co-produced educational programme** with people with a learning disability and their carers, relatives, and supporters.

To better understand current barriers, we developed separate surveys for each cancer screening type. These explored:

- Whether individuals had attended their screening
- What supported or enabled attendance
- Reasons and barriers for not attending
- Suggestions for how to make screening more accessible

We then carried out co-production sessions with people with a learning disability, their families, and support workers to discuss the findings and identify practical changes that would improve attendance.

The project is now progressing to the next phase, where we will work collaboratively with health professionals to implement the improvements identified through co-production and ensure screening pathways are more inclusive and effective.

1.4 Strategic/ partnership work

Our fourth Strategic Objective remains:

To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

We have continued to work towards this strategic aim through building relationships with external organisations, seeking/ responding to opportunities to collaborate and work with them, and people with lived experience, to improve their services and accessibility for people with learning disabilities.

1.4.1 influencing and self-advocacy

The Make It Better (MIB) group come together once a quarter for advocacy training and to discuss what issues they would like to work on. They have been involved in a range of campaigns, consultations and coproduction work, including giving views on respite and short breaks on Wirral, pharmacies, and have supported PhotoSymbols with creation of their AI Easy Maker easy read tool. 30+ people with lived experience, including some parents and carers, continue to contribute to our strategic/ partnership work in a voluntary capacity. Their role is mainly self-advocacy, some participating and engaging regularly and some joining intermittently to have their say on issues of particular concern to them.

	Forums/ collaborations	What is their purpose	Our role
1	All Age Disability Partnership Board	To work systematically to improve policy and procedure within Social Care, Health and across all ages and disabilities. To eradicate gaps and make services seamless and fit for purpose	To highlight all gaps and systemic issues that affect the LD community and to work with the partnership to effect improvements. There are 4 Thematic Groups within the Partnership, focusing on: - Health and Wellbeing - Economic and Employment - Enriched Lives - Independent Lives Wirral Mencap have representation within each group and on the Board. Our Information Advice and Advocacy Manager is joint chair of the Enriched Lives group.
2	Annual Health Checks Working Group	Improving the uptake and quality of annual health checks for people with a learning disability.	To ensure the people we support are represented and included in this work
3	BRIDGE Forum	Multi Agency Networking and Information group	Maintain connections across all sectors
4	Community of Practice	To network and cascade information through the Third Sector	Networking and information sharing.
5	Core 20 plus 5 Action Group	Core 20 Plus 5 is a national approach for addressing health inequalities published by NHS England/Improvement. Wirral Integrated Care System identified people with learning disabilities as a population group experiencing poorer than average health access, experience and/or outcomes in Wirral.	To ensure inclusion of the LD perspective in discussions on health service delivery. To promote accessible health support
6	CVFSE Forum	Third sector community response forum. To support meaningful working together opportunities and to prevent duplication or unhelpful competition.	Highlight needs of LD community. Information on up-to-date support available. Form relationships to co deliver support

7	Koala/ Family Toolbox	Networking/ info sharing for 3rd Sector organisations working with families and children under 25	Networking / maintaining a presence in organisations working with families, children and young people
8	Parent Carer Participation Wirral	Parent Carer Forum/ voice for SEND on Wirral. To provide challenge to local authority where necessary on SEND for 0-25.	To support aims and to ensure we have regular links with parent carers of those still in education. To promote our service and to work in partnership on key issues eg transition policies
9	RMS Network Partners I&A Forum	Networking/ info sharing for regional and national Mencap groups	To collaborate and share ideas and resources. Maintaining up to date information in I&A
10	Support to Employment Strategy Group and Panel	To bring together people in Wirral working within the lifelong learning and supported employment arena to improve opportunities by maximising opportunities, support and preventing duplication.	To ensure that the people we support are represented and opportunities meet their needs.
11	Supported Living Providers Forum	Forum for provider discussion and for local authority to cascade information to providers	Build connections with providers - find out what their challenges are - identify opportunities to work together

1.5 Volunteering

Without funding for the post, we do not have anyone in the team with specific responsibilities for volunteer recruitment, training and management. Despite this we continued to be supported by long standing active volunteers at Crossbow Club, Walk and Talk, and in the Wirral Mencap office. The volunteer fundraising team has expanded with the setting up of a fundraising committee and regular Fundraising Volunteer continues to support with administrative tasks. Depending on work available we have office volunteers who support with data entry. In addition, we benefit from the time and expertise of our volunteer Leaning Disability Advocates who have been involved in a range of consultation opportunities through Make it Better.

1.6 Fundraising

The aims of the fundraising strategy for the financial year October 2024 to September 2025 were to generate income to reverse the previous year's deficit, diversify income streams and raise the profile of Wirral Mencap in the area.

1.6.1. Community Fundraising

Events income continued to be profitable throughout the year but did not bring in as much money as in previous years. Repeat events saw higher income than previous years but new events were significantly less profitable than expected. This may have been due to the community-focussed approach taken or due to circumstances beyond our control, i.e. poor weather. Events raised a net total of £5,054.

This financial year marked a shift towards more external challenge events, such as Santa Dash, Liverpool Cathedral abseil, and Wirral Coastal Walk. The Liverpool Cathedral Abseil proved to be the most profitable, raising £3,589.70.

The abseil also saw a range of participants, including Wirral Mencap members, Networx 4 Business members, other corporate contacts, and general supporters. A total of £7,935.44 was raised by external challenge events this year.

We also leaned more into fundraising campaigns this year, with the Big Give Christmas Campaign and the Big 5K Drive. Both surpassed their fundraising target with the Big Give raising £4,183 and the Big 5K Drive raising £8,322.61 (plus an additional £1,000 via Gift Aid). Both campaigns saw staff and people we support alike getting involved in fundraising.

Support from members continued with £1,245 paid in membership subscriptions. We received a total of £9,905.72 in gifts and donations, many from members with their membership renewals. Thank you to everyone who added a donation to their membership payment.

We were grateful for in memoriam donations of £436.50 this year.
Weekly attendance at the Networx 4 Business meetings continues to be beneficial. The Networx Group supported several fundraising activities, including the Race Night, Liverpool Cathedral abseil, and a Crazy Hat Day.

Businesses also showed support in a variety of valuable ways, including raffle prizes, in-kind donations, charity rates for services, and corporate sponsorship for events such as the Photography Exhibit.

We are pleased to report a significant rise in corporate supporters, which has doubled this year. Ten new businesses have joined us, with most providing event sponsorship. In addition, two companies (Aspect Electrical Services and Mmunic Mail) named Wirral Mencap as their Charity of the Year. Their support has included fundraising campaign donations, event sponsorship, and social media support.

2025 also saw the formation of a new Fundraising Committee. The Committee has 11 members and meets every 8 weeks. So far, various members have organised a coffee morning, completed a sponsored swim, taken part in the cathedral abseil, collected raffle prizes, and volunteered at events. We also have a regular fundraising volunteer who completes 5 hours of volunteering per week in the Wirral Mencap office. He has been filming videos at events, writing blog posts, and helping with admin jobs.

Our Community Fundraiser enrolled on the Chartered Institute of Fundraising's Certificate in Fundraising, completing the qualification in August 2025 with a Merit. The focus of the certification was how Wirral Mencap can improve its corporate fundraising strategy.

1.6.2 Grants Fundraising

Applications to Trusts and Foundations were key to ensuring the continuation of projects and services. 53 grant applications were submitted. The total value of those applications was £808 560 including one unsuccessful request for a 3-year grant totalling £333 928. A

Grants and trusts fundraising was especially challenging this year. Many small funders decided to spend out or close down and bigger funders paused applications to review their strategy and establish new funding priorities – including 2 previous supporters of Wirral Mencap. Then when they reopened, they received a large number of expressions of interest creating a very crowded and increasingly competitive market. Feedback from one funder reported that they had received 600 EOIs and were looking to take 40 to second stage application and fund just 20 – a one in 30 chance of success.

We were however successful in securing a 4-year grant from the National Lottery Reaching Communities fund. We were awarded £403,740 over 4 years.

The project builds on our expertise of managing co-production work with people with lived experience and the intention is to not just improve people's lives but to improve wider service delivery in Wirral.

The impact of artificial intelligence (AI) is being felt with grants and trusts funding. Discussion over its use in preparing applications and assessing submissions is quite polarised with voices within charities and funders expressing opposing views. It does seem clear that some funders are seeing the efficiencies to be gained in using AI to screen large volumes of applications.

The trustees would like to thank our CEO Sharon Nicholson for her leadership and the staff for their hard work and commitment.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income in the year was £414,481 (2024: £351,036) of which £219,063 (2024: £173,371), related to funding for projects upon which restrictions are placed.

Total expenditure in the year was £429,955 (2024: £379,526), leaving a deficit for the year of £15,474 (2024: deficit £28,490).

At 30th September 2025 the charitable company's reserves stood at £212,406 (2024: £227,880) of which £107,341 (2024: £75,426) represent restricted funds.

Risk Management

The committee examines the major risks that the charitable company faces each year and has developed and continues to develop systems to monitor and control these risks to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity both now and in the future.

This year the committee completed a full review of the Strategic Risk Register. When complete the board decided to review the Risk Register on an ongoing basis. Different sections of the register are standing agenda items at the 6 weekly board meetings.

The main risk to the organisation is financial. Staff changes has meant generating unrestricted income through community fundraising continues to be challenging. It will take time to grow the supporter base and to build up community activity to previous levels.

Given the level of risk and following a review of our approach to income generation we decided to recruit a part time Grants Fundraiser and a full time Fundraiser with a focus on community fundraising.

This proved easier to recruit and has had a positive impact on our approach to fundraising. We have become more proactive with our grants fundraising and have created a much bigger pipeline of opportunities and applications.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charitable company to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves; at a level which will allow the charity to cover redundancy costs and continue its activities for three to six months should no further funding be received.

The level of reserves is intended to provide continuation and security for the organisation in light of:

- Existing commitments to deliver the Gateway Programme.
- High levels of competition in the grant funding market
- Uncertain future plans and costs for future premises and premises maintenance.

At the end of the financial year the unrestricted funds totalled £105,009 (2024: £152,379) net of fixed assets. The charitable company's policy reserves require £10,222 for redundancy provision, £4,317 lease commitment and running costs between £60,702 to £121,403, totalling £75,241 to £135,942.

PLANS FOR FUTURE

In the coming year Wirral Mencap will

- continue the work of promoting inclusivity, independence and opportunities for people with a learning disability.
- Take part in co-production and partnership working.
- Look to diversify our funding, strengthen and expand our Board of Trustees.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 29th August 2013 (Company number 08668735) and registered as a charity on 9th September 2013 (Charity number 1153742).

The Governing Instruments under which the charitable company operates comprise the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1st October 2009 and revised by special resolution on 18th February 2016 developed by the Royal Mencap society.

Members' Liability

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the Association undertakes to contribute the assets of the Society, in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member or within one year of ceasing to be a member for debts and liabilities of the Society contracted before he or she ceases to be a member such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

The board of Trustees, who are also the Directors, are appointed by the members in accordance with procedures set out in the Memorandum and Articles.

Trustees are appointed by the membership at the annual general meeting. The board may from time to time co-opt a person (who may or may not be a member) to the board either to fill a vacancy or as an addition member of the board. Co-opted members must not form more than one-third of the board in number, and the total number must not exceed twelve.

The trustees develop the strategy for the organisation and oversee its management. They ensure that decisions are taken in the best interests of the beneficiaries.

The day-to-day decision-making is delegated to the Chief Executive with any significant decisions being taken to the Committee at board meetings. The board of Trustees meet 12 times a year to make key decisions regarding the organisations present and future activity, and to offer guidance and support to the staff team

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name	Wirral Mencap
Company Number	08668735
Charity Number	1153742
Registered Office	42-44 Market Street Birkenhead Merseyside England CH41 5BT
Trustees	The trustees, who are also the company directors, that served during the year were as follows:

E A Abayie	(Appointed 27th February 2025)
K Blair	
P Doran	(Appointed 27th February 2025)
D C Jamieson	
P A Loosemore	(Appointed 18th November 2025)
D P Mearns	(Resigned 27th February 2025)
C Newton	
K Ward	(Resigned 27th February 2025)

Company Secretary	S Nicholson
Independent Examiner	Ying Huang, ACCA LCVS 151 Dale Street Liverpool L2 2AH
Bankers	Lloyds Plc P.O. Box BX1 1LT

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

C. Newton

.....

C Newton - Trustee

Date: 18/2/26

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue as a going concern;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

By the Order of the board,

C Newton

.....

C Newton - Trustee

42-44 Market Street
Birkenhead
Merseyside
Englan
CH41 5BT

Date: 18/2/26

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF WIRRAL MENCAP

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 30th September 2025, which are set out on pages 17 to 31.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a 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 the 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.

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting 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.

Name: **Ying Huang**

Relevant professional qualification or body: **ACCA**

Address: **c/o LCVS 151, Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH**

Dated: 25/02/2026

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
Income and endowments from:		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	3a	43,996	-	43,996	91,482
Charitable activities	3b	126,320	219,063	345,383	240,672
Other trading activities	3c	21,693	-	21,693	15,218
Investments	3d	3,409	-	3,409	3,664
Total income		**195,418**	**219,063**	**414,481**	**351,036**
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		52,398	-	52,398	43,456
Charitable activities	4	190,409	187,148	377,557	336,070
Total expenditure		**242,807**	**187,148**	**429,955**	**379,526**
Net (expenditure)/income, net movement in funds		**(47,389)**	**31,915**	**(15,474)**	**(28,490)**
Total funds brought forward	9,10	152,454	75,426	227,880	256,370
Total funds carried forward	8-10	**105,065**	**107,341**	**212,406**	**227,880**

The notes on pages 19 to 31 form part of these accounts.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities of the charitable company.

WIRRAL MENCAP

Company Number: 08668735

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025

	Notes	30th September 2025		30th September 2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		8,210		4,199
Current assets					
Debtors	6	1,402		842	
Cash at bank and in hand		213,542		225,000	
		214,944		225,842	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(10,748)		(2,161)	
Net current assets			204,196		223,681
Total assets less current liabilities			**212,406**		**227,880**
Funds:					
Unrestricted funds	8, 9		105,065		152,454
Restricted funds	8, 10		107,341		75,426
			212,406		**227,880**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

For the period covered by these accounts the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are the directors of the company, acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees on 18/2/26

C. Newton

C Newton - Trustee

1. Limited Liability

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Each member's liability is limited to £1.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) effective 1st January 2019.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Going Concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees are confident that the levels of liquidity and free reserves will not affect the charity's operations. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Funds Accounting

Unrestricted funds are the charity's free reserves available for the trustees to distribute in accordance with the charitable company's charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by the donor. All restricted funds are accounted for as restricted income and expenditure for the purposes is charged to the fund.

Income recognition

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

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exception of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accrual's basis except for grants receivable, which are recognised on the date on which their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Income from other trading activities relates to fundraising events and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Income from investment relates to bank interest received and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities. Support and governance costs are applied to unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions, as specified by the donor.

Expenditure on raising funds relates to costs incurred in fundraising events including a fundraiser salary and other costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities relate to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charitable company. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charitable company.

Fixed Assets

Capital expenditure of £500 and above is stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life as below:

Leasehold Improvements	25% per annum straight line basis
Motor Vehicle	25% per annum reducing balance basis
Fixtures & Fittings	25% per annum reducing balance basis

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Taxation

Income and gains are exempt from taxation as they are received and applied for charitable purposes only. The charitable company benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Income and endowments from

	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
a. Donations and legacies	£	£	£	£
Donations	15,908	-	15,908	16,250
Gift Aid	3,088	-	3,088	-
Legacies	-	-	-	75,232
General grants	25,000	-	25,000	-
	43,996	**-**	**43,996**	**91,482**

Income from donations and legacies for year end 2024 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

b. Charitable activities	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Ann Duchess Westminster Fund	-	5,000	5,000	5,000
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	-	4,000	4,000	-
Argyle Quarter Commercial Property Improvements Grant	-	2,925	2,925	-
Club activities income	71,262	-	71,262	61,277
Contract income	50,710	-	50,710	3,300
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	41,666	41,666	8,333
Forbes Charitable Foundation	-	-	-	3,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-
John Moores Foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-
Kickstart and Access to Work	-	-	-	1,115
Medicash Foundation	-	2,500	2,500	-
Member's Subs	1,506	-	1,506	1,109
Nathaniel Reyner Trust Fund	-	2,000	2,000	-
National Lottery Awards for All	-	-	-	19,182
National Lottery Community Fund	-	97,128	97,128	101,509
P H Holt Foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-
Skelton Charity	-	-	-	2,500
Sport England	-	-	-	5,147
Training income	2,842	-	2,842	500
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	6,844	6,844	-
Wirral Borough Council	-	-	-	28,700
Wirral CVS Step Up Fund	-	15,000	15,000	-
	126,320	**219,063**	**345,383**	**240,672**

Income from charitable activities for year end 2024 comprised £67,301 unrestricted funds and restated £173,371 related to restricted funds.

c. Other trading activities	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events income	**21,693**	**-**	**21,693**	**15,218**

Income from other trading activities for year end 2024 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

d. Investments	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	**3,409**	**-**	**3,409**	**3,664**

Income from investments for year end 2024 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

4. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct Charitable Expenditure £	Support & Governance Costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Relief of people with learning disabilities, to provide help and support and provide facilities for recreation and leisure time	244,203	133,354	**377,557**	**336,070**

a. Analysed as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Direct charitable expenditure:		
Staff salary costs	176,577	143,570
Pension	2,877	2,422
Minibus expenses	3,329	4,267
Building running costs	22,746	22,397
Sessional fees	4,944	-
Activities and events costs	20,426	23,536
Equipment	389	405
Training	6,995	2,195
Travel expenses	1,002	1,202
Volunteer expenses	202	999
Recruitment and DBS fees	3,685	5,585
Depreciation	1,031	1,374
	244,203	**207,952**

Support & Governance costs:	2025 £	2024 £
Staff salary costs	109,669	95,604
Pension	1,935	2,114
Office costs	8,070	10,253
Consumables	1,388	2,698
Insurance	-	4,379
Marketing	3,128	4,265
Registrations and subscriptions	4,681	6,308
Uniform	30	-
Cleaning and waste	1,212	-
Bad debts written off	200	-
Bank and credit card charges	586	346
Payroll fees	1,016	861
Accountancy fees	1,420	1,265
Depreciation	19	25
	133,354	**128,118**
Total expenditure on charitable activities	**377,557**	**336,070**

£187,148 (2024: £233,451) of the above expenditure relates to restricted funding.

b. Staff Costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross wages and salaries	310,768	263,484
Social security costs	17,316	13,665
Pension	5,124	4,536
	333,208	**281,685**

Total staff costs of £333,208 includes £42,150 (2024: £37,975) related to staff costs related to fundraising activities.

c. Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year 26.83 (2024: 21.58), and calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2025	2024
Charitable activities	**13.52**	**13.4**

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

The Trustees are not remunerated for their services and are not included in the above number of employees.

No out-of-pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2024: £nil).

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements	Motor Vehicle	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
Cost:	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st October 2024	13,800	39,052	7,256	60,108
Additions	-	-	5,061	5,061
Balance at 30th September 2025	**13,800**	**39,052**	**12,317**	**65,169**
Depreciation:				
Balance at 1st October 2024	13,800	36,120	5,989	55,909
Charge for the year	-	733	317	1,050
Balance at 30th September 2025	**13,800**	**36,853**	**6,306**	**56,959**
Net Book Value:				
Balance at 30th September 2025	**-**	**2,199**	**6,011**	**8,210**
Balance at 30th September 2024	-	2,932	1,267	4,199

6. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Debtors	886	340
Prepayments	516	502
	1,402	**842**

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Creditors	8,116	-
Accruals	1,497	1,265
Pension	1,135	896
	10,748	**2,161**

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

2025	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	56	105,009	105,065
Restricted Funds			
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	-	3,729	3,729
Department of Transport	2,199	-	2,199
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	30,422	30,422
Henry Smith Charity	894	-	894
John Moores Foundation	-	10,000	10,000
National Lottery Awards for All	-	1,009	1,009
National Lottery Community Fund	-	48,301	48,301
Screwfix Foundation	-	1,443	1,443
Skelton Charity	-	2,500	2,500
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	5,061	1,783	6,844
	8,154	**99,187**	**107,341**
Totals	**8,210**	**204,196**	**212,406**

2024	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	75	152,379	152,454
Restricted Funds			
Department of Transport	2,932	-	2,932
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	8,333	8,333
Forbes Charitable Foundation	-	3,000	3,000
Henry Smith Charity	1,192	-	1,192
National Lottery Awards for All	-	15,755	15,755
National Lottery Community Fund	-	2,855	2,855
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	11,844	11,844
Screwfix Foundation	-	1,443	1,443
Skelton Charity	-	2,500	2,500
Sport England	-	2,597	2,597
Tesco Bags for Help	-	128	128
Wirral Borough Council	-	22,847	22,847
	4,124	**71,302**	**75,426**
Totals	**4,199**	**223,681**	**227,880**

9. Unrestricted Funds

2025	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	152,454	195,418	(242,807)	105,065

2024	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	120,864	177,665	(146,075)	152,454

General Fund is used to finance the charitable company's general activities as outlined in the Trustees' Report.

10. Restricted funds

2025	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Ann Duchess Westminster Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	-	4,000	(271)	3,729
Argyle Quarter Commercial Property Improvements Grant	-	2,925	(2,925)	-
Department of Transport	2,932	-	(733)	2,199
Family Toolbox Alliance	8,333	41,666	(19,577)	30,422
Forbes Charitable Foundation	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
Henry Smith Charity	1,192	-	(298)	894
John Moores Foundation	-	10,000	(-)	10,000
Medicash Foundation	-	2,500	(2,500)	-
Nathaniel Reyner Trust Fund	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
National Lottery Awards for All	15,755	-	(14,746)	1,009
National Lottery Community Fund	2,855	97,128	(51,682)	48,301
P H Holt Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	11,844	-	(11,844)	-
Screwfix Foundation	1,443	-	(-)	1,443
Skelton Charity	2,500	-	(-)	2,500
Sport England	2,597	-	(2,597)	-
Tesco Bags for Help	128	-	(128)	-
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	6,844	(-)	6,844
Wirral Borough Council	22,847	-	(22,847)	-
Wirral CVS Step up Fund	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
	75,426	**219,063**	**(187,148)**	**107,341**

2024	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Ann Duchess Westminster Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	8,783	-	(8,783)	-
Department of Transport	3,910	-	(978)	2,932
Family Toolbox Alliance	14,895	8,333	(14,895)	8,333
Forbes Charitable Foundation	-	3,000	-	3,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	6,638	-	(6,638)	-
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	-		
Henry Smith Charity	1,589	-	(397)	1,192
Mencap for Treat me Well	-	-		
National Lottery Awards for All	1,806	19,182	(5,233)	15,755
National Lottery Community Fund	775	101,509	(99,429)	2,855
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	25,000	-	(13,156)	11,844
Price Parry for Crossbow	2,052	-	(2,052)	-
Royal Mencap Society	3,444	-	(3,444)	-
Screwfix Foundation	5,000	-	(3,557)	1,443
Skelton Charity	-	2,500	-	2,500
Sport England	-	5,147	(2,550)	2,597
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,320	-	(2,320)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	-		
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	-		
Tesco Bags for Help	269	-	(141)	128
Wirral Borough Council	59,025	28,700	(64,878)	22,847
	135,506	**173,371**	**(233,451)**	**75,426**

Description of Funds
These are monies given to the charitable company to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes, as follows:

Ann Duchess Westminster Fund- Contribution towards the salary of the programmes Co-ordinator.

Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust – Contribution towards staff costs for the Independent Gateway Award programme.

Argyle Quarter Commercial Property Improvements Grant – Contribution towards the refurbishment of the outside of the building

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund – Contribution towards Gateway award.

Department of Transport – For the purchase of a new minibus, to be used in the delivery of Wirral Mencap Services as well as lending to third party organisations at the discretion of the Trustees and subject to licensing and insurance conditions.

Family Toolbox Alliance – Contribution towards family support group.

Forbes Charitable Foundation- Contribution towards set up costs for the adult social clubs

Garfield Weston Foundation – Contribution towards general running costs.

Hemby Charitable Trust – Contribution towards Gateway award.

Henry Smith Charity – Contribution towards activities, personal development and running costs.

John Moores Foundation – Contribution towards the salary for Projects Worker in the IA&A team

Medicash Foundation – Contribution towards the social clubs and drop-ins

Mencap for Treat me Well – Funding for treat me well group activity and support in 2021.

Nathaniel Reyner Trust Fund – Contribution towards core costs

National Lottery Awards for All – Contribution towards salary costs of the information and advice manager.

National Lottery Community Fund – To support adults with learning difficulties by providing provision of information, support, and advocacy services.

P H Holt Foundation - Contribution towards core costs

Postcode Neighbourhood Fund – Contribution towards general running costs.

Price Parry for crossbow – To pay for the cost of running Crossbow in a new venue and with a new member of staff.

Royal Mencap Society – To deliver 'Let's get digital' programme of digital skills training for people with a learning disability.

Screwfix Foundation – To part fund the installation of a Changing Places toilet

Skelton Charity – Contribution towards life skills courses for people with learning disabilities

Sport England- Contribution towards the project, sports for adults with learning disabilities in Wirral

St James Place Charitable Fund – Contribution towards gateway holiday treats

Steve Morgan Foundation – Contribution towards CEO salary

Steve Morgan Foundation- DCMS – Community match funding from DCMS for Covid recovery plan.

Tesco Bags for Help – Contribution towards running costs.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Contribution towards Members' Christmas Party

Wirral Borough Council – Contribution towards cost-of-living support.

Wirral CVS Step up Fund – Contribution towards 'Healthy Hearts' project

11. Operating Lease Commitments

Financial commitments under non-cancellable operating leases relating to the lease of 42-44 Market Street. Plus, one photocopier over five years. This will result in the following payments falling due at 30th September 2025. There was a 1-year extension signed after 2024-year end,

		2025 £	2024 £
Premises			
	Within one year	-	-
Photocopiers			
	Within one year	1,570	1,841
	Due 1 to 2 years	1,570	1,570
	Due 2- 5 years	1,177	2,747
	Total	**4,317**	**6,157**

12. Related Party Transactions

There were no material related party transactions during the year which require disclosure (2024: none).

13. Guarantees

As at 30th September 2025, 169 members had given a guarantee of £1 each in the event of the company winding-up, total: £169 (2024: 208 members £208).

WIRRAL MENCAP

England & Wales - Charity number 1153742

Accounts

WIRRAL MENCAP

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Company Number: 08668735
Charity Number: 1153742

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WIRRAL MENCAP
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 30th September 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Wirral Mencap is a registered charitable company working with and for people with a learning disability and their families. The organisation is based in Birkenhead but works across Wirral.

Wirral Mencap exists to advance equality for people with a learning disability and their families through campaigning, raising awareness, providing information and opportunities. It is our view that to achieve our aims we need to be person centred and work in partnership with other Charities/Organisations that support people with a learning disability.

During the financial year 2024, the charity's objectives and activities were guided by a 5-year Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 which was developed in consultation with members, beneficiaries and local professionals.

The aims for the period were:

1. To champion equality and promote independence so that people with a learning disability reach their full potential
2. To provide knowledge and build confidence to improve personal well-being, resilience and future planning
3. To connect people to their community and others to reduce social isolation and develop personal relationships.
4. To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

1.1 Information, Advice & Advocacy Service

The Information, Advice & Advocacy Service (IA&A) provides direct support to people with a learning disability and their families through 1:1 case work, information events and workshops as well as working strategically with the local authority and other organisations to improve services and promote inclusion.

From **1st October 2023 to September 30th 2024** the service supported **265** individuals/families through casework. **75** of these were new issues this year, the rest were ongoing from the previous year. **1009** individual actions were undertaken to support these families including providing support with meetings and forms, planning for the future, navigating and accessing local services, both statutory and voluntary, and providing information on, and support to access, a range of services such as housing, social care and planning for the future. We also received 31 requests for information regarding people who did not have a learning disability. These people were supported to access appropriate agencies for information and support.

Through a partnership with other local advice-giving organisations, officially known as *Ask Us Wirral*, **54** individuals/ families also accessed specialist welfare benefits advice. A further **64** families/ individuals were referred on to another service or organisation in this period.

We held **2** events. Have Fun, Keep Well highlighted inclusive social and wellbeing opportunities across Wirral; Adult Social Care introduced the Care Act and new developments and processes in social care on Wirral. **150** people attended across both events

Nine workshops were delivered to a total of **54** people. Three workshops were for people with a learning disability: Learn about Voting, Advocates' Big Meet Up, and Utility Bills Help and Support. Parents and carers accessed the ever-popular Wills & Trusts workshops x 2 and Preparing for Independent Living x 2, as well as 2 opportunities to attend the new Court of Protection and Deputyship workshop.

Other highlights in this year include

- Recruited a new Project Worker to replace the previous role of Caseworker in September. Amy joined the IAA Service as a qualified and accredited advocate in October 2024.
- Event attendance increased from 60 last year to 150 this year.
- Make It Better advocates input over past two years into Wirral Council policies and strategies has culminated in strategies being approved at Health and Social Care Committee level this year. Advocates can be proud of the influence they have had on Housing, Co-production, Supported Employment, All Age Disability, and Transition Strategies.
- Work undertaken last year with parents with learning disabilities and additional needs led to further funding from Family Hubs to develop and deliver training in October and November to 80 professionals working within the Hubs. This was co-produced and delivered by Parents with Experience Trainers. The success of this pilot has led the Family Alliance to commission further delivery of the training to be offered to all Alliance partners in 2025.

We have begun work on an additional commission from the Family Alliance which is to produce an Easy Read/Accessible resource detailing Child Protection process on Wirral, for inclusion on Wirral Council and Family Toolbox web sites.

1.2 Personal Development Services

Project	Overview	Achievements
Gateway Award (Commissioned Day Service)	A personal development programme with five modules: hobbies, lifestyle, fitness, volunteering and challenge. The award has three levels; Bronze (Year 1), Silver (Year 2), Gold (Year 3 & 4). Participants attend Wirral Mencap for one day per week to complete the modules. Participants pay for this service via a personal budget/ direct payment.	• 32 people accessed the Gateway Award (day service model): - 7 people completed their bronze award - 13 people completed their silver award - 0 people achieved their gold Award as this has been extended to a new 2 year programme - A new cohort of 8 people started the programme between July and September I have extended the provision of Gateway to 4 years, with the addition of a volunteer-based 4th year, which I currently being trialled and going well. We will be completed lots of volunteering as well mock interviews and preparation and also a CV and about me profile for when they leave next June.

		Activities included, Taekwondo, drama, photography, boxing, gym sessions, artist study course, drumming, yoga, music sessions, cookery and various sports activities such as football, cricket and boccia.
Summer Club	Summer Club runs in the six weeks school holiday. During Summer Club, participants access a range of activities in the community. It is run by Gateway Award staff and participants pay for the serviced via a personal budget/direct payment	This year we ran summer club for two days, a total of 11 sessions with 15 attendees. This is included, a canal trip, British music experience, bowling, drama sessions and more.
Open-access services	Below are our services open to anyone with a learning disability for free. Some people take up our services and some people just come in for some guidance and signposting. For details of each programme see below.	• 42 new PDPs were completed for Wirral Mencap Personal Development or social/activity services, 6 were for people already known to us who wanted more information about activities.(people who have completed the day service Gateway Award or go to Crossbow or Lunch Club) • Only 14 appear to be accessing activities - Gateway, Crossbow, Lunch Club, Pub Night, course, workshops . Some people just want information; others are on waiting lists for courses. Courses and activities are not always suitable or on a convenient day. Social care and transport are increasingly barriers limiting access to activities. • 86 informal PDPs were undertaken for people who continue to engage with us. • 4 people attended the Voting workshop
Gateway Award (Independent)	A free version of the awards programme outlined above for people who do not have funding to access the 'Day Service' model. Participants complete the award independently with the support of family/ support staff and our part-time Personal Development Mentor.	• There are currently 22 people signed up to the Independent Gateway Award, 28 in the middle of the year. • 2 people are working towards their Bronze Award, 9 towards their Silver and 11 towards Gold. Another 2 have either paid or completed all the requirements but are not currently active. Experience suggests that some of the people who have disengaged may return in the future. • 5 people completed their Bronze Award • 7 people completed their Silver Award

		• Activities include volunteering in shops and cafes, walking, swimming, going to the gym, boccia, cycling, arts and crafts, photography, a signing choir, • 18 outcomes recorded for achievements most reported improved skills, more engagement in their community, increased independence and confidence, and that they are socialising more and feel less lonely.
Volunteering for All	A service that supports people with a learning disability to find meaningful volunteering opportunities in their community, either independently, with their support staff/carers or with a volunteer buddy (see below).	• 4 people referred to the Support to Employment panel, no successful placements yet. • 20 people are interested in working with Seetec to look for paid work.
Buddy Scheme	This programme matches people with a learning disability with trained volunteer buddies. The aims of the project are to reduce isolation and improve access to community opportunities.	• I have been trying to encourage buddy friendships, so far 3 pairs seem to be successful. • One new non-LD buddy completed her DBS and is available to support.
Social Clubs/ Drop in	• Crossbow Social Club (at Liberty Centre Birkenhead).	• Crossbow has a regular 8-10 week timetable with both staple activities and special events including physical activities such as Drumming and Taekwondo lead by an outsourced activity provider, and "in House" cost-free events such as bingo, karaoke and film nights. There is usually a seasonal themed party IE Valentines Day/Halloween. • The Social Club Lead now manages Crossbow and Lunch Club which run weekly & dedicated team of 5 Wirral Mencap volunteers support the running of this service, along with support from the Liberty Centre venue volunteers also, who provide technical support (karaoke/film projection, live music) operate a tuckshops/coffee shop and who occasionally provide crafts • Attendees pay £2 per entry to this service • On average around 35 attendees with learning disabilities access this service weekly

	• Monday Lunch Club (Bloom Building, 3 Abbey Cl, Birkenhead).	• This service has been accessed 1272 times during 2024 • Lunch Club now runs to an extended time of 1.30pm (1.5hrs) • Attendees pay £2 per entry to help cover venue hire cost • Lunch Club also offers a monthly music quiz which has proved a popular change and engages a wider audience than Bingo alone • Lunch Club is occasionally supported by a Volunteer or temporary work experience intern • Specialty Nurses visit on a semi regular basis, who provide casual information, noninvasive health checks (BP, etc) and signposting to attendees, further improving the offer at Lunch Club • Lunch Club hosts approx. 15-20 attendees each week
	• Monthly social pub nights	• This service has been accessed 670 times in 2024 • A monthly Pub Night was launched at Scrap Yard Liscard early in the year, providing an opportunity for a group of people with a Learning Disability to have more intimate, relaxed night out in the community in a safe, supported setting
	• Walk and Talk	• The pub night supports individuals' social development, networking opportunities and confidence, with no dedicated activity but some facilitation and prompting on social networking between attendees, and also acts as an outreach for new potential WM members to learn about other services • Due to complications with venue, the Pub Night is temporarily suspended until a suitable new venue is identified. • This service hosted on average 5 attendees each time.
Courses	Accessible personal development courses delivered to meet the identified learning needs of people with a learning disability and those who support them.	Total number of course hours delivered: 192 Total number of people who have completed a course and demonstrated good attendance: 176 Courses are delivered by volunteers, external providers and Wirral Mencap staff. Courses delivered this financial year and total number who accessed our courses (241):

		Walking Football – 22 (two courses) Boccia – 26 (two courses) Photography Course One – 15 (two courses) Cookery – 17 (three courses) Badminton & Mini Tennis – 22 (two courses) The Great Friendship Course – 30 (four courses) Computer Skills – 6 Artists and their Art – 15 (two courses) Ukulele – 6 Eco Course – 10 Visit to Recycling Centre – 7 Lunch Club Walking Group – 21 Cycling – 12 (three courses) Fun Team Sports – 11 Photography Course Two – 8 Christmas Crafts – 5 Visit to New Brighton RNLI - 8 Popular courses such as The Great Friendship Course, Cookery, Cycling, Photography, Boccia and Walking Football were delivered at least twice during this financial year. We are developing new courses in Cookery (Cookery Course Two), Photography (Photography Course Two), and Money Skills for the new financial year.
Health Club	Health Club (renamed Health Awareness Sessions from Jan 24) Monthly session focusing on various health related topics.	• Health Club / Health Awareness Sessions. The sessions were moved from Bloom to Wirral Mencap and people were asked to book on to sessions they would like to attend. We discussed the changes with attendees in January 2024 and received feedback on subjects attendees would like to learn more about. Subjects covered: Stress & anxiety Your questions about cancer What is blood pressure? Needle phobia workshop Ways to get healthy and feel great Learn about diabetes and the diabetic screening programme
Walk & Talk	Tuesdays 10.30-12 at Birkenhead Park	• On average four people attended Walk and Talk regularly in Birkenhead Park. The group is led by one of our experienced volunteers who is also a buddy to someone with a learning disability.

1.3 Other schemes of work

Relationships and Sexuality

We continue to seek specific funding for Relationships and Sexuality work. While at the individual level the need for education and support remains high, we will continue to offer a free version of the Relationships and Sexuality course - Great Friendships – for people with learning disabilities. We have been offering this course on a quarterly basis funded from unrestricted income. In the new financial year, we are planning an event to showcase our expertise in this area and raise awareness of the need amongst parents and carers and supported living providers.

Oliver McGowan Mandatory Learning Disability and Autism Training

Working in partnership with Be Well Training, we have been involved in the delivery of Oliver McGowan Mandatory Learning Disability and Autism Training for health professionals under a contract from the local ICB. We have supported people with a learning disability through the Train the Trainer and roll out of sessions for the Tier 1 and Tier 2 Oliver McGowan Learning Disability and Autism Mandatory Training programme. We now have 7 Learning Disability Trainers (LDTs), employed and paid by Wirral Mencap, who are fully trained and can be called upon to deliver the training across the Northwest. It is anticipated that over the next financial year demand for their services will increase.

Parents with Learning Disabilities

Our work in this area has expanded. We received a grant from the Family Toolbox alliance to explore with experts by experience what a good practice model for supporting parents with learning disabilities would look like. The report of the findings and recommendations was presented by the experts themselves in March 2024. One of the key recommendations was for staff training. The group went on to co-produce and co-deliver a series of workshops for the recently recruited Family Hubs staff teams. Feedback to date has been extremely positive and the impact for the individuals now employed by Wirral Mencap has been life changing.

1.4 Strategic/ partnership work

Our fourth Strategic Objective is:

To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

We have continued to work towards this strategic aim through building relationships with external organisations, seeking/ responding to opportunities to collaborate and work with them, and people with lived experience, to improve their services and accessibility for people with learning disabilities.

1.4.1 influencing and self-advocacy

An important part of this work is valuing the contribution made by people with lived experience. The Information, Advice & Advocacy Service has extended the LDT role and trained and employed 3 parents with learning disabilities to co design and deliver workshops, as lived experience experts.

A further 44 people with lived experience, including parents and carers, continue to contribute to our strategic/ partnership work in a voluntary capacity. Their role is mainly self-advocacy and we have formalised the role of Learning Disability Advocates (LDAs).

The Make It Better (MIB) group come together once a quarter for advocacy training and to discuss what issues they would like to work on. They have been involved in a wide range of campaigns, consultations and coproduction work, many participating and engaging heavily and some joining intermittently to have their say on issues of particular concern to them.

Wirral Mencap Learning Disability Advocates, and Steering Group have input into a number of strategies under development by the local authority.
This year they have worked on

- Learning Disability and Autism Housing Strategy
- All Age Disability Strategy
- All Age Disability Review Implementation (includes Social Care Transition Protocol and story from our Steering Group member
- Coproduction Strategy and Charter

1.4.2 influencing and community partners.
The team engage with several local organisations and service providers through attending and working with a variety of forums, networks and collaborations. Some meet as regularly as once a week, others once a quarter.

The overall aim is to ensure that a learning disability perspective is included in discussions and decision making, that Wirral Mencap is well placed to take up opportunities for collaboration and influencing and that people with lived experience are included in that process too, from an early stage.

Forum	**What is their purpose**	**What is our role**
CVFSE Forum	Third sector community response forum. To support meaningful working together opportunities and to prevent duplication or unhelpful competition.	Highlight needs of LD community. Information on up-to-date support available. Form relationships to co deliver support
Supported Living Providers Forum	Forum for provider discussion and for local authority to cascade information to providers	Build connections with providers - find out what their challenges are - identify opportunities to work together
Residential providers forum	Forum for provider discussion and for local authority to cascade information to providers	Build connections with providers - find out what their challenges are - identify opportunities to work together
BRIDGE Forum	Multi Agency Networking and Information group	Maintain connections across all sectors
Parent Carer Participation Wirral	Parent Carer Forum/voice for SEND on Wirral. To provide challenge to local authority where necessary on SEND for 0-25.	To support aims and to ensure we have regular links with parent carers of those still in education. To promote our service and to work in partnership on key issues e.g. transition policies
Koala/Family Toolbox	Networking/info sharing for 3rd Sector organisations working with families and children under 25	Networking/maintaining a presence in organisations working with families, children and young people
Community of Practice	To network and cascade information through the Third Sector	Networking and information sharing.

Patient Experience Strategy PROMISE groups	Following consultation 5 workstreams exist to progress improvements for patients of the local hospital. To develop the criteria for "what good looks like" and evaluate performance.	To ensure representation of LD views across 5 workstreams.
All Age Disability Partnership Board	To work systematically to improve policy and procedure within Social Care, Health and across all ages and disabilities. To eradicate gaps and make services seamless and fit for purpose	To highlight all gaps and systemic issues that affect the LD community and to work with the partnership to effect improvements
Support to Employment Strateg y Group and Panel	To bring together people in Wirral working within the lifelong learning and supported employment arena to improve opportunities by maximising oppo rtunities, support and preventing duplication.	To ensure that the people we support are represented and opportunities meet their needs.
RMS Network Partners I&A Forum	Networking/ info sharing for regional and national Mencap groups	To collaborate and share ideas and resources. Maintaining up to date information in I&A
Co Production Working Group	To co-produce the Co production strategy for Health & Adult Social Care	To ensure the strategy is fully co-produced and represents the needs and views of the LD community

1.5 Volunteering

Without funding for the post, we do not have anyone in the team with specific responsibilities for volunteer recruitment, training and management.

Despite this we continued to be supported by long standing active volunteers at Crossbow Club, Walk and Talk, and in the Wirral Mencap office. We recruited one new regular volunteer for Crossbow and one for Fundraising. Depending on work available we have office volunteers who support with data entry.

In addition, we benefit from the time and expertise of our Leaning Disability Advocates who volunteer on our IA&A Steering Group and have been involved in a range of consultation opportunities through Make it Better. Similarly, some from the Members' Committee have supported our recruitment and our community fundraising efforts.

1.6 Fundraising

With a new fundraising team starting at the beginning of the financial year, there has been a focus on rebuilding corporate links, restarting community fundraising and expanding grant applications. Wirral Mencap had 9 features in the Wirral Globe and 3 features on BBC Radio Merseyside over the last financial year.

We received a total of £16,482 in gifts and donations, donated largely by individual fundraisers, our members with membership renewal, and local rotary / round table groups.

External sponsorship events proved to be successful this year with £2,973 raised in sponsorship via the Leasowe Lighthouse Abseil and £1,743.32 raised at the annual Seaside Walk.

We introduced a new Bollywood Night this year which was met with a lot of interest and raised a total net income of £4,127.64. Our second most successful event was the Comedy Night which raised a net income of £3,272.42. Both of these events were done in collaboration with others, showing the benefits of partnering up for events.

We were grateful for in memoriam and legacy donations of £75,232.

Attendance at both BNI and Networx 4 Business meetings has continued to prove worthwhile. Members of Networx took part in the Comedy Night, donated raffle prizes and participated in fundraising events. BNI contributed towards the Big Give and donated gifts. Both groups took part in fundraising challenges.

1.6.1 Grant Fundraising

Over the last financial year, Wirral Mencap has been active in securing grant funding to support our work. We submitted 48 applications, requesting a total of £729,236. Of these, 15 applications were successful, resulting in £173,371 in grant funding, as well as a fully funded defibrillator. This equates to a 31.25% success rate in applications and 19.28% of the total funding amount requested.

The grants awarded have supported a range of activities, including our social clubs, courses, and personal development programmes, as well as contributing to our core costs. Despite our efforts, we have observed a significant increase in the demand and competition for grant funding, which has presented challenges in achieving our fundraising goals.

To enhance our grant-making skills and practices, we undertook reviews with three local grant funding experts during the year. These reviews provided valuable insights and guidance, enabling us to refine our approach and improve future applications.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income in the year was £351,036 (2023: £389,804) of which £173,371 (2023: £288,762), related to funding for projects upon which restrictions are placed.

Total expenditure in the year was £379,526 (2023: £335,325), leaving a deficit for the year of £28,490 (2023: surplus £54,479).

At 30th September 2024 the charitable company's reserves stood at £227,880 (2023: £256,370) of which £75,426 (2023: £135,506) represent restricted funds.

Risk Management

The committee examines the major risks that the charitable company faces each year and has developed and continues to develop systems to monitor and control these risks to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity both now and in the future.

This year the committee completed a full review of the Strategic Risk Register. When complete the board decided to review the Risk Register on an ongoing basis. Different sections of the register are standing agenda items at the 6 weekly board meetings.

The main risk to the organisation is financial. Staff changes has meant generating unrestricted income through community fundraising continues to be challenging. It will take time to grow the supporter base and to build up community activity to previous levels.

Given the level of risk and following a review of our approach to income generation we decided to recruit a part time Grants Fundraiser and a full time Fundraiser with a focus on community fundraising.

This proved easier to recruit and has had a positive impact on our approach to fundraising. We have become more proactive with our grants fundraising and have created a much bigger pipeline of opportunities and applications.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charitable company to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves; at a level which will allow the charity to cover redundancy costs and continue its activities for six to twelve months should no further funding be received.

The level of reserves is intended to provide continuation and security for the organisation in light of:

- Existing commitments to deliver the Gateway Programme.
- High levels of competition in the grant funding market
- Uncertain future plans and costs for future premises and premises maintenance.

At the end of the financial year the unrestricted funds totalled £152,379 (2023: £120,864) net of fixed assets. The charitable company's policy reserves require £27,983 for redundancy provision, £6,157 lease commitment and running costs between £73,038 to £146,075, totalling £107,178 to £180,215.

PLANS FOR FUTURE

We will continue to work to advance the health and wellbeing and education of people with a learning disability, their families and carers.

In the next 12 months we are looking forward to developing and expanding the services we provide including

- an additional day service offer similar to the existing Gateway Award Programme.
- recruitment of additional Learning Disability Trainers to expand the role out of Oliver McGowan training.
- resumption of Relationships and Sexuality work
- providing Information Advice and Advocacy support for autistic adults and families of autistic children
- continued development of appropriate support model for parents with learning disabilities
- supporting experts with lived experience to inform and train professionals and in turn improve accessibility of service delivery for people with learning disabilities.

We have plans to review the purpose and composition of the Members' Committee in the next financial year. The intention is to recruit new people and to refresh the approach taken by the group.

Financial year 2024-25 is the last year of our current 5-year strategy. We have already started the process of consulting with members and other stakeholders on the focus of a new strategy for the next five years. We have plans to increase consultation work in the second quarter of the next financial year and to let that inform the strategic direction of the organisation.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 29th August 2013 (Company number 08668735) and registered as a charity on 9th September 2013 (Charity number 1153742).

The Governing Instruments under which the charitable company operates comprise the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1st October 2009 and revised by special resolution on 18th February 2016 developed by the Royal Mencap society.

Members' Liability

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the Association undertakes to contribute the assets of the Society, in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member or within one year of ceasing to be a member for debts and liabilities of the Society contracted before he or she ceases to be a member such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

The board of Trustees, who are also the Directors, are appointed by the members in accordance with procedures set out in the Memorandum and Articles.

Trustees are appointed by the membership at the annual general meeting. The board may from time to time co-opt a person (who may or may not be a member) to the board either to fill a vacancy or as an addition member of the board. Co-opted members must not form more than one-third of the board in number, and the total number must not exceed twelve.

The trustees develop the strategy for the organisation and oversee its management. They ensure that decisions are taken in the best interests of the beneficiaries.

The day-to-day decision-making is delegated to the Chief Executive with any significant decisions being taken to the Committee at board meetings. The board of Trustees meet 12 times a year to make key decisions regarding the organisations present and future activity, and to offer guidance and support to the staff team

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name	Wirral Mencap
Company Number	08668735
Charity Number	1153742
Registered Office	42-44 Market Street Birkenhead Merseyside England CH41 5BT
Trustees	The trustees, who are also the company directors, that served during the year were as follows:

T Beck	(Resigned 22nd February 2024)
K Blair	
D C Jamieson	(Appointed 22nd February 2024)
D P Mearns	(Appointed 22nd February 2024)
C Newton	
K Ward	(Appointed 13th August 2024)

Company Secretary	S Nicholson
Independent Examiner	Ying Huang, ACCA LCVS 151 Dale Street Liverpool L2 2AH
Bankers	Lloyds Plc P.O. Box BX1 1LT

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

C. Newton

.....

C Newton - Trustee

Date: 25/2/25

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue as a going concern;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

By the Order of the board,

C. Newton

.....

C Newton - Trustee

42-44 Market Street
Birkenhead
Merseyside
Englan
CH41 5BT

Date: 25/2/25

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF WIRRAL MENCAP

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 30th September 2024, which are set out on pages 17 to 29.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a 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 the 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.

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting 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.

Name: **Ying Huang**
Relevant professional qualification or body: **ACCA**
Address: **c/o LCVS 151, Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH**
Dated: .....04/03/2025.

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
Income and endowments from:		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	3a	91,482	-	91,482	10,925
Charitable activities	3b	67,301	173,371	240,672	358,402
Other trading activities	3c	15,218	-	15,218	18,900
Investments	3d	3,664	-	3,664	1,577
Total income		**177,665**	**173,371**	**351,036**	**389,804**
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		43,456	-	43,456	18,123
Charitable activities	4	102,619	233,451	336,070	317,202
Total expenditure		**146,075**	**233,451**	**379,526**	**335,325**
Net (expenditure)/income, net movement in funds		**31,590**	**(60,080)**	**(28,490)**	**54,479**
Total funds brought forward	9,10	120,864	135,506	256,370	201,891
Total funds carried forward	8-10	**152,454**	**75,426**	**227,880**	**256,370**

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities of the charitable company.

WIRRAL MENCAP

Company Number: 08668735

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

	Notes	30th September 2024		30th September 2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		4,199		5,598
Current assets					
Debtors	6	842		1,903	
Cash at bank and in hand		225,000		253,842	
		225,842		255,745	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(2,161)		(4,973)	
Net current assets			223,681		250,772
Total assets less current liabilities			**227,880**		**256,370**
Funds:					
Unrestricted funds	8, 9		152,454		120,864
Restricted funds	8, 10		75,426		135,506
			227,880		**256,370**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

For the period covered by these accounts the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are the directors of the company, acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees on 25/2/25

C. Newton

C Newton - Trustee

1. Limited Liability

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Each member's liability is limited to £1.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) effective 1st January 2019.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Going Concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees are confident that the levels of liquidity and free reserves will not affect the charity's operations. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Funds Accounting

Unrestricted funds are the charity's free reserves available for the trustees to distribute in accordance with the charitable company's charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by the donor. All restricted funds are accounted for as restricted income and expenditure for the purposes is charged to the fund.

Income recognition

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

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exception of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accrual's basis except for grants receivable, which are recognised on the date on which their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Income from other trading activities relates to fundraising events and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Income from investment relates to bank interest received and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities. Support and governance costs are applied to unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions, as specified by the donor.

Expenditure on raising funds relates to costs incurred in fundraising events including a fundraiser salary and other costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities relate to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charitable company. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charitable company.

Fixed Assets
Capital expenditure of £500 and above is stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life as below:

Leasehold Improvements	25% per annum straight line basis
Motor Vehicle	25% per annum reducing balance basis
Fixtures & Fittings	25% per annum reducing balance basis

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Financial instruments
The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities
Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities
Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Taxation

Income and gains are exempt from taxation as they are received and applied for charitable purposes only. The charitable company benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Income and endowments from

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
a. Donations and legacies	£	£	£	£
Donations	16,250	-	16,250	10,925
Legacies	75,232	-	75,232	-
	91,482	**-**	**91,482**	**10,925**

Income from donations and legacies for 2023 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
b. Charitable activities	£	£	£	£
Ann Duchess Westminster Fund	-	5,000	5,000	-
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	-	-	10,000
Club activities income	61,277	-	61,277	59,815
Contract income	3,300		3,300	6,030
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	8,333	8,333	15,000
Forbes Charitable Foundation	-	3,000	3,000	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	20,000
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	-	-	2,500
Kickstart and Access to Work	1,115	-	1,115	1,066
Member's Subs	1,109	-	1,109	1,155
National Lottery Awards for All	-	19,182	19,182	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	101,509	101,509	98,874
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	-	-	25,000
Room hire	-	-	-	15
Skelton Charity	-	2,500	2,500	-
Sport England	-	5,147	5,147	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	-	-	8,667
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	-	-	14,471
Training income	500	-	500	1,559
Wirral Borough Council	-	28,700	28,700	94,250
	67,301	**173,371**	**240,672**	**358,402**

Income from charitable activities in 2023 comprised £69,640 unrestricted funds and restated £288,762 related to restricted funds.

c. Other trading activities	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events income	**15,218**	**-**	**15,218**	**18,900**

Income from other trading activities for 2023 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

d. Investments	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	**3,664**	**-**	**3,664**	**1,577**

Income from investments for 2023 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

4. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct Charitable Expenditure £	Support & Governance Costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Relief of people with learning disabilities, to provide help and support and provide facilities for recreation and leisure time	207,952	128,118	**336,070**	**317,202**

a. Analysed as follows:

Direct charitable expenditure:	2024 £	2023 £
Staff salary costs	143,570	135,275
Pension	2,422	2,177
Minibus expenses	4,267	3,912
Building running costs	22,397	18,245
Activities and events costs	23,536	22,783
Equipment	405	392
Training	2,195	2,088
Travel expenses	1,202	1,032
Volunteer expenses	999	300
Recruitment and DBS fees	5,585	2,389
Depreciation	1,374	1,833
	207,952	**190,426**

Support & Governance costs:	2024 £	2023 £
Staff salary costs	95,604	103,062
Pension	2,114	2,134
Office costs	10,253	5,861
Consumables	2,698	3,156
Insurance	4,379	2,236
Marketing	4,265	4,085
Registrations and subscriptions	6,308	3,992
Bank and credit card charges	346	199
Payroll fees	861	818
Accountancy fees	1,265	1,200
Depreciation	25	33
	128,118	**126,776**
Total expenditure on charitable activities	**336,070**	**317,202**

£233,451 (2023: £202,767) of the above expenditure relates to restricted funding.

b. Staff Costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	263,484	241,345
Social security costs	13,665	12,899
Pension	4,536	4,311
	281,685	**258,555**

Total staff costs of £281,685 includes £37,975 (2023: £15,907) related to staff costs related to fundraising activities.

c. Particulars of employees:

Average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024	2023
Charitable activities	**13.4**	**10**

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

The Trustees are not remunerated for their services and are not included in the above number of employees.

No out-of-pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2023: £nil).

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements	Motor Vehicle	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
Cost:	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st October 2023	13,800	39,052	7,256	60,108
Additions	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30th September 2024	**13,800**	**39,052**	**7,256**	**60,108**
Depreciation:				
Balance at 1st October 2023	13,800	35,143	5,567	54,510
Charge for the year	-	977	422	1,399
Balance at 30th September 2024	**13,800**	**36,120**	**5,989**	**55,909**
Net Book Value:				
Balance at 30th September 2024	**-**	**2,932**	**1,267**	**4,199**
Balance at 30th September 2023	-	3,909	1,689	5,598

6. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Debtors	340	938
Prepayments	502	965
	842	**1,903**

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	**2,161**	**4,973**

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

2024	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	75	152,379	152,454
Restricted Funds			
Department of Transport	2,932	-	2,932
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	8,333	8,333
Forbes Charitable Foundation	-	3,000	3,000
Henry Smith Charity	1,192	-	1,192
National Lottery Awards for All	-	15,755	15,755
National Lottery Community Fund	-	2,855	2,855
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	11,844	11,844
Screwfix Foundation	-	1,443	1,443
Skelton Charity	-	2,500	2,500
Sport England	-	2,597	2,597
Tesco Bags for Help	-	128	128
Wirral Borough Council	-	22,847	22,847
	4,124	**71,302**	**75,426**
Totals	**4,199**	**223,681**	**227,880**

2023	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds			
General Fund	99	120,765	120,864
Restricted Funds			
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	8,783	8,783
Department of Transport	3,910	-	3,910
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	14,895	14,895
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	6,638	6,638
Henry Smith Charity	1,589	-	1,589
National Lottery Community Fund	-	1,806	1,806
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	775	775
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	25,000	25,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	2,052	2,052
Royal Mencap Society	-	3,444	3,444
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	-	2,320	2,320
Tesco Bags for Help	-	269	269
Wirral Borough Council	-	59,025	59,025
	5,499	**130,007**	**135,506**
Totals	**5,598**	**250,772**	**256,370**

9. Unrestricted Funds

2024	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	**120,864**	**177,665**	**(146,075)**	**152,454**

2023	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	**152,380**	**101,042**	**(132,558)**	**120,864**

General Fund is used to finance the charitable company's general activities as outlined in the Trustees' Report.

10. Restricted funds

2024	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Ann Duchess Westminster Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	8,783	-	(8,783)	-
Department of Transport	3,910	-	(978)	2,932
Family Toolbox Alliance	14,895	8,333	(14,895)	8,333
Forbes Charitable Foundation	-	3,000	-	3,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	6,638	-	(6,638)	-
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	-		
Henry Smith Charity	1,589	-	(397)	1,192
Mencap for Treat me Well	-	-		
National Lottery Awards for All	1,806	19,182	(5,233)	15,755
National Lottery Community Fund	775	101,509	(99,429)	2,855
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	25,000	-	(13,156)	11,844
Price Parry for Crossbow	2,052	-	(2,052)	-
Royal Mencap Society	3,444	-	(3,444)	-
Screwfix Foundation	5,000	-	(3,557)	1,443
Skelton Charity	-	2,500	-	2,500
Sport England	-	5,147	(2,550)	2,597
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,320	-	(2,320)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	-		
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	-		
Tesco Bags for Help	269	-	(141)	128
Wirral Borough Council	59,025	28,700	(64,878)	22,847
	135,506	**173,371**	**(233,451)**	**75,426**

2023	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	10,000	(1,217)	8,783
Department of Transport	5,213	-	(1,303)	3,910
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	15,000	(105)	14,895
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	20,000	(13,362)	6,638
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	2,500	(2,500)	-
Henry Smith Charity	2,118	-	(529)	1,589
Mencap for Treat me Well	824	-	(824)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	9,903	-	(8,097)	1,806
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	7,174	98,874	(105,273)	775
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	25,000	(-)	25,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	5,000	-	(2,948)	2,052
Royal Mencap Society	3,967	-	(523)	3,444
Screwfix Foundation	5,000	-	(-)	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,500	-	(180)	2,320
Steve Morgan Foundation	5,019	8,667	(13,686)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	1,793	14,471	(16,264)	-
Tesco Bags for Help	1,000	-	(731)	269
Wirral Borough Council	-	94,250	(35,225)	59,025
	49,511	**288,762**	**(202,767)**	**135,506**

Description of Funds
These are monies given to the charitable company to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes, as follows:

Amy Duchess Westminster Fund- Contribution towards the salary of the programmes Co-ordinator.

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund – Contribution towards Gateway award.

Department of Transport – For the purchase of a new minibus, to be used in the delivery of Wirral Mencap Services as well as lending to third party organisations at the discretion of the Trustees and subject to licensing and insurance conditions.

Family Toolbox Alliance – Contribution towards family support group.

Forbes Charitable Foundation- Contribution towards set up costs for the adult social clubs

Garfield Weston Foundation – Contribution towards general running costs.

Hemby Charitable Trust – Contribution towards Gateway award.

Henry Smith Charity – Contribution towards activities, personal development and running costs.

Mencap for Treat me Well – Funding for treat me well group activity and support in 2021.

National Lottery Awards for All – Contribution towards salary costs of the information and advice manager.

National Lottery Community Fund – To support adults with learning difficulties by providing provision of information, support, and advocacy services.

Postcode Neighbourhood Fund – Contribution towards general running costs.

Price Parry for crossbow – To pay for the cost of running Crossbow in a new venue and with a new member of staff.

Royal Mencap Society – To deliver 'Let's get digital' programme of digital skills training for people with a learning disability.

Screwfix Foundation – To part fund the installation of a Changing Places toilet

Skelton Charity – Contribution towards life skills courses for people with learning disabilities

Sport England- Contribution towards the project, sports for adults with learning disabilities in Wirral

St James Place Charitable Fund – Contribution towards gateway holiday treats

Steve Morgan Foundation – Contribution towards CEO salary

Steve Morgan Foundation- DCMS – Community match funding from DCMS for Covid recovery plan.

Tesco Bags for Help – Contribution towards running costs.

Wirral Borough Council – Contribution towards cost of living support.

11. Operating Lease Commitments

Financial commitments under non-cancellable operating leases relating to the lease of 42-44 Market Street. Plus, one photocopier over five years. This will result in the following payments falling due at 30th September 2024. There was a 1 year extension signed after 2024 year end, relating to the lease of 42-44 Market Street for £10,000, the below figures do not include this.

		2024	2023
		£	£
Premises			
	Within one year	-	10,000
		-	10,000
Photocopiers		-	
	Within one year	1,841	2,653
	Due 1 to 2 years	1,570	1,841
	Due 2- 5 years	2,747	4,316
	Total	**6,157**	**18,810**

12. Related Party Transactions

There were no material related party transactions during the year which require disclosure (2023: none).

13. Guarantees

As at 30th September 2024, 208 members had given a guarantee of £1 each in the event of the company winding-up, total: £208 (2023: 235 members £235).

WIRRAL MENCAP

England & Wales - Charity number 1153742

Accounts

WIRRAL MENCAP

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Company Number: 08668735
Charity Number: 1153742

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WIRRAL MENCAP
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 30th September 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Wirral Mencap is a registered charitable company working with and for people with a learning disability and their families. The organisation is based in Birkenhead but works across Wirral.

Wirral Mencap exists to advance equality for people with a learning disability and their families through campaigning, raising awareness, providing information and opportunities. It is our view that to achieve our aims we need to be person centred and work in partnership with other Charities/Organisations that support people with a learning disability.

During the financial year 2021-23, the charity's objectives and activities were guided by a 5-year Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 which was developed in consultation with members, beneficiaries and local professionals.

The aims for the period were:

1. To champion equality and promote independence so that people with a learning disability reach their full potential
2. To provide knowledge and build confidence to improve personal well-being, resilience and future planning
3. To connect people to their community and others to reduce social isolation and develop personal relationships.
4. To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2023 has been a very important year for Wirral Mencap. It was our 60th anniversary. A real milestone. 60 years of supporting people with a learning disability in Wirral. A time to reflect on what has happened in those 60 years and also to plan ahead for our future.

The last 12 months, arguably the first fully functioning period since Covid, have seen many more people coming to our events, fundraisers, courses and accessing support through our Information Advice and Advocacy services. We have had to rise to the challenges this brings. We have done this through partnership working, upskilling and enabling our members, running full programmes of events, courses and workshops. Our partnerships have included various organisations within the health service and Wirral Council. Our Learning Advocates (LDAs) have been vital in these collaborations and have been influential in bringing about change, increasing knowledge and improving services. One of our LDAs, Neil, represented us at the Houses of Parliament at the launch of My Vote My Voice. Something that would not have happened 60 years ago.

The many and varied courses we have provided have been an opportunity for our members to learn new skills. We continue to run various workshops including free workshops on how to cope with the cost-of-living problems many of the people we work with encounter in their daily lives.

As 2023 was our 60th anniversary, we used it as an opportunity to consult with our members about membership and what it means to them. We were pleased that the feedback was positive and that 97% of people surveyed said being a member of Wirral Mencap was important to them.

83% said Wirral Mencap membership was either great or OK as it is. We have been looking at how we organise our membership and the responses received will help us make some improvements for the future.

Our 60th anniversary celebrations began with our AGM in February 2023. Events were planned throughout the year, involving members, supporters and the wider community. An excellent opportunity to celebrate and raise our profile. Highlights included the 60 Day Challenge and a video of members, staff and volunteers talking about what Wirral Mencap means to them, which we put on YouTube.

2023 has seen our website completely re-designed. We have also embarked on a new project working with parents who have a learning disability. This will be developed going forward.

The year has been challenging at times, especially with staff changes and recruitment issues. This has been addressed by looking at how we provide our services and making adaptations. We have had a big change in our board of trustees. At our last AGM we had several long term and very experienced trustees retire, including our Chair. Therefore, the board has been going through a period of transition looking at new ways of working. We introduced subgroups which have worked well, and we have a new pattern of meetings. Our Awayday was a great opportunity to come together with staff and plan for the future. Going forward we will be looking at our governance and risk management and are close to appointing 2 new trustees in the next financial year.

Wirral Mencap continues to work to advance the health and wellbeing and education of people with a learning disability, their families and carers, by providing accessible services and facilities. We endeavor to advance human rights, citizenship and community development and promote equality and diversity.

1.1. **The Information, Advice & Advocacy Service** (IA&A) provides direct support to people with a learning disability and their families through 1:1 case work, information events and workshops as well as working strategically with the local authority and other organisations to improve services and promote inclusion.

From **1st October 2022 to September 30th 2023** the service supported 293 individuals/families through casework. 187 of these were new issues this year, the rest were ongoing from the previous year. 1251 individual actions were undertaken to support these families including providing support with meetings and forms, planning for the future, navigating and accessing local services, both statutory and voluntary, and providing information on, and support to access, a range of services such as housing, social care and planning for the future. We also received 81 requests for information regarding people who did not have a learning disability. These people were supported to access appropriate agencies for information and support.

Through a partnership with other local advice-giving organisations, officially known as Ask Us Wirral, 77 individuals/ families also accessed specialist welfare benefits advice. A further 47 families/ individuals were referred on to another service or organisation in this period.
We held 2 events. The Big Launch celebrated our Learning Disability Advocates and Trainers, and formalised and promoted these roles. Our second event covered Adult Social Care, the Care Act and rights and responsibilities therein. 60 people attended across both events.

Twelve workshops were delivered to a total of 68 people. Eight workshops delivered to people with a learning disability: How Parliament Works x 2, Advocates' Big Meet Up x 2, Voting and Simple Ways to Save on Bills x 3. Parents and carers accessed the ever-popular Wills & Trusts workshops x 2 and Preparing for Independent Living x 2.

Other highlights in this year include

- Workshop attendance increased from 40 last year to 68 this year, due to increased number of workshops offered.
- Advocate interest and engagement in work with Wirral Council (WBC) has been good. Parent carers and people with a learning disability advocates have worked on Council Strategies including the All Age Disability Strategy, Co production Strategy for Health and Social Care and the Birkenhead Regeneration 2040 work has continued with accessible and interactive methods to gather views of our community. The Council are increasingly asking for this kind of input from our community.
- WBC and CVF partners have discussed and agreed to work together to develop plans for making accessible / easy read information more widespread across council departments.
- Our Make It Better advocate meetings have had new attendees from local day centres, widening our advocate reach and we have had speakers from the community and a local councillor seeking views on blue badge parking and accessible taxis, making sure our community voice is heard and acted upon.
- Our input into the Support to Employment Strategy Board and Panel has had good results for some individual members as well as evidencing successful partnership working.
- We were successful in our bid for Family Toolbox funding to develop work with and for parents with learning disabilities and additional needs. The project is well underway with parents engaging in interviews and wanting to get involved with partners1.1 Information, Advice & Advocacy Service

1.2 Personal Development Services

Project	Overview	Achievements
Gateway Award (Commissioned Day Service)	A personal development programme with five modules: hobbies, lifestyle, fitness, volunteering and challenge. The award has three levels; Bronze (Year 1), Silver (Year 2), Gold (Year 3). Participants attend Wirral Mencap for one day per week to complete the modules. Participants pay for this service via a personal budget/ direct payment.	• 28 people accessed the Gateway Award (day service model): - 11 people completed their bronze award - 10 people completed their silver award - 5 people achieved their gold Award - A new cohort of 6 people started the programme in August 2023. Covid continues to have an impact on the level of award people are progressing through, For example 2 people completed Gold last year but were given an extra year due to shielding during the COVID-19 Pandemic. 2 more of our Gold group last year were on the Silver level, and are remaining on the programme to complete their Gold. Activities included, Taekwondo, drama, photography, boxing, gym sessions, artist study course, drumming, yoga, music sessions, cookery and various sports activities such as football, cricket and boccia.

		Gateway members volunteered at The Open Golf in Hoylake this summer. 8 people in total attended a further 3 attended a specialised golf session at The Open.
Summer Club	Summer Club runs in the six weeks school holiday. During Summer Club, participants access a range of activities in the community. It is run by Gateway Award staff and participants pay for the serviced via a personal budget/direct payment	• 16 people accessed Summer Club including a one-off day trip. -Summer Club ran for 6 weeks during July and August Activities included, drama, museum visits, Boxing, Taekwondo, Golf, boccia, Music sessions, and a narrowboat trip.
Open-access services	Below are our services open to anyone with a learning disability for free. Some people take up our services and some people just come in for some guidance and signposting. For details of each programme see below.	• 58 PDPs were completed for new people assessed for Wirral Mencap personal development or social/activity services of which 40 signed up to new activities - Gateway, Crossbow, Lunch Club, courses.
Gateway Award (Independent)	A free version of the awards programme outlined above for people who do not have funding to access the 'Day Service' model. Participants complete the award independently with the support of family/ support staff and our part-time Personal Development Mentor.	• There are currently 24 people signed up to the Independent Gateway Award. • 8 people are working towards their Bronze Award, 12 towards their Silver and 4 towards Gold. • 11 people completed their Bronze Award • 4 people completed their Silver Award • 9 people achieved their Gold Award • Activities included walking, boccia, swimming, basketball, cycling, football, singing in a signing choir, photography, cooking, knitting, dancing. • 23 updated PDPs completed and 28 outcomes recorded for achievements. • 25 people made a short video clip for the AGM.
Volunteering for All	A service that supports people with a learning disability to find meaningful volunteering opportunities in their community, either independently, with their support staff/carers or with a volunteer buddy (see below).	• 4 people were supported into volunteering placements including at local cafes and church coffee mornings and working as admin support at Wirral Mencap.

Buddy Scheme	This programme matches people with a learning disability with trained volunteer buddies. The aims of the project are to reduce isolation and improve access to community opportunities.	• There were 4 active buddy pairs this year, all continuing to support people who were feeling lonely and isolated either on the phone or in person or helping members to access volunteering/activities. Although we still need volunteers to act as buddies, the need is not as great as it was as people are able to access social activities once again.
Courses	Accessible personal development courses delivered to meet the identified learning needs of people with a learning disability and those who support them.	Total number of course hours delivered: 286. That is a 26% increase on last year. Total number of individuals who have accessed a course: 153. That is an increase of 135% on last year. Courses are delivered by volunteers, external providers and Wirral Mencap staff. Courses delivered this financial year included: Include IT (11) Crockpot Cookery (10) Ukulele with Gerry from Kerry (8) Christmas Arts and Crafts (6) In Person Cookery – delivered 3 times (6) Great Friendships Course – 6 weeks course delivered 3 times (8) Tennis – 4 weeks (4) Arts and Crafts – 7 weeks (10) Boccia – 6 weeks (10) Cycling – (6) Badminton – 5 weeks (10) Basic Life Support (9) Drumming (7) Easter Arts and Crafts (6) Gardening (7) King's Coronation Craft (5) Photography (9) Walking Football (14) We have established a quarterly timetable of the most popular courses. Great Friendships and Cookery for Independent Living will run once a quarter. Photography and Walking Football will likely be included in the quarterly programme for next year. Sports England funding meant we were able to provide a programme of courses focussing on increasing physical activity for people with learning disabilities.

Health Club	Health club one-hour weekly session and addresses a range of health issues.	• Health Club – average of between 7 and 12 people attend. Health club has been running successfully in person at The Bloom Building every week. -Health Club attendees gave feedback on VR Headsets. Headsets to be used for people who feel nervous about going to health appointments. - Feedback on Learning Disability noticeboards at Arrowe Park Hospital (APH) promoting new Health Passport - Health Club attendees volunteered at 3 Learning Disability Awareness events at APH in support of the Trust's Patient Experience Strategy. - Health Care professionals provided specialist sessions on anxiety, Movement and Mindfulness and Cognitive Stimulation Therapy
Social Clubs/ Drop in	• Crossbow Social Club (at Liberty Centre Birkenhead).	• Crossbow Club continues to be supported by a smaller but committed team of volunteers. We recruited a part time Social Club Lead responsible for Crossbow Club activities and volunteers. • Numbers have grown and are close to the limit of the venue's capacity. There are on average around 30 people with learning disabilities attending on a weekly basis. • A weekly timetable of activities is available and includes Bingo, Karaoke and Film nights. • Sports England funding meant Crossbow Club members were offered taster sessions of more physically active sessions. They proved very popular and included Taekwondo, Boccia, drumming and chair fitness.
	• Monday Lunch Club (Bloom Building, 3 Abbey Cl, Birkenhead).	• The Lunch Club at Bloom Building has an average of 20 people attend each week. Between 2 and 4 people who are unable to attend in person were joining on Zoom.
	• Walk and Talk	• 5 people attend Walk and Talk regularly in Birkenhead Park. The group is led by a volunteer who is buddy to someone with a learning disability. They both were the lead walkers at this year's Seaside Walk event.

	• Big Day out	• 9 people met and planned their Big Day out. They decided to go to Chester Zoo again as they had not managed to get round the whole zoo last time.
One to one Support	Literacy support	• One of our volunteers Lesley, has been running bespoke 1:1 literacy sessions. The sessions involve an initial assessment and Lesley then provides sessions each week to provide support with reading and writing. Over the year she has provided 85 hours of one to one support. She has worked with 5 people in total and is currently providing weekly sessions for 2.

1.3 Other schemes of work

Relationships and Sexuality

Specific funding for Relationships and Sexuality work ended during the previous financial year. Demand for free training remained high but is financially unsustainable. We recognise that the need is still high and decided to continue to offer a free version of the Relationships and Sexuality course - Great Friendships – for people with learning disabilities. We offered this course on a quarterly basis funded from unrestricted income.

Oliver McGowan Mandatory Learning Disability and Autism Training

Working in partnership with Be Well Training, we have been involved in the pilot and delivery of Oliver McGowan Mandatory Learning Disability and Autism Training for health professionals. We have supported people with a learning disability through the Train the Trainer and roll out of sessions for the Tier 1 and Tier 2 Oliver McGowan Learning Disability and Autism Mandatory Training programme. We recruited 5 Learning Disability Trainers (LDTs), employed and paid by Wirral Mencap, who are fully trained and can be called upon to deliver the training across the Northwest. It is anticipated that over the next financial year demand for their services will increase.

Parents with Learning Disabilities

Over the last three years Wirral Mencap has provided Information, Advice and Advocacy support to 21 parents with learning disabilities. Those were all referred from Children's Services at the point where court proceedings were either imminent or underway. Wirral Mencap has been keen to develop a more proactive and preventive approach to supporting parents with learning disabilities. We received a grant from the Family Toolbox alliance to explore with experts by experience what that approach and support would look like. The overall aim is to identify a good practice model for supporting parents with learning disabilities informed by lived experiences of not just parenting but accessing appropriate support. Over a 9 month period, the IA&A team carried out in-depth interviews with over 20 parents with learning disabilities or other types of neurodivergences. The report of the findings and recommendations will be presented in March 2024 when the project is due for completion.

1.4 Strategic/ partnership work

Our fourth Strategic Objective is:

To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services.

We have continued to work towards this strategic aim through building relationships with external organisations, seeking/ responding to opportunities to collaborate and work with them, and people with lived experience, to improve their services and accessibility for people with learning disabilities. 1.4.1 influencing and self-advocacy.

An important part of this work is valuing the contribution made by people with lived experience. With the increased demand for Learning Disability Advisors to engage with the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Learning Disability and Autism training we recruited 5 people with lived experience to a paid Learning Disability Trainer role. The Information, Advice & Advocacy Service has extended the LDT role and trained and employed LDTs to co design and deliver IAA workshops, as experts by experience. Workshops coproduced and delivered with LDTs so far are Simple Ways to Save on Bills and Moving to Independent Living.

A further 51 people with lived experience, including parents and carers, continue to contribute to our strategic/ partnership work in a voluntary capacity. Their role is mainly self-advocacy and we have formalised the role of Learning Disability Advocates (LDAs).

The Make It Better (MIB) group come together once a quarter for advocacy training and to discuss what issues they would like to work on. They have been involved in a wide range of campaigns, consultations and coproduction work, many participating and engaging heavily and some joining intermittently to have their say on issues of particular concern to them.

Some of the ongoing activities include:

Treat Me Well Campaign: national campaign to improve health outcomes. Advocate representation on the board; promotion of Health passports to increase awareness.

Patient Experience Strategy: across 2 local hospitals advocates have been involved in the PES. Surveys carried out. Walk about exercise to inform the strategy. Virtual reality test exercises to create information accessible for people with additional needs. Way finding exercises to improve signage etc. Feedback on orientation videos for surgery patients. Virtual reality testing of dental surgery.

Reimagining Birkenhead: continuing input into the 20-year local development plan to regenerate the local area. Advocates have taken part in an accessible event, looking at what needs to be built into the infrastructure to make it accessible for all. The key message was that the needs of the learning disability community are included from the outset, not as an add on or 'afterthought.

Direct Payments Working Group: some of our advocates have continued to work on the Council's Direct Payments Review. They have seen the first outcome from this long running and complex piece of work this year. The Direct Payments Review report went to the Social Care Committee where recommendations to increase PA pay rates to improve recruitment and retention from April 2023 was approved. Further work has been agreed to look at establishing a full direct payment service including Info & Advice services, a PA register, and payroll support.

1.4.2 influencing and community partners.

The team engage with several local organisations and service providers through attending and working with a variety of forums, networks and collaborations. Some meet as regularly as once a week, others once a quarter.

The overall aim is to ensure that a learning disability perspective is included in discussions and decision making, that Wirral Mencap is well placed to take up opportunities for collaboration and influencing and that people with lived experience are included in that process too, from an early stage.

For example, as part of the work on health inequalities, we were asked by One Wirral CIC to take part in a consultation exercise looking at Health Literacy. We brought together a group of LDAs and made the consultation exercise more accessible for the people we support. The information obtained was more meaningful to the project as a result and at the same time we demonstrated good practice in involving people with lived experience.

	Forums/ collaborations	What is their purpose	Our role
1	All Age Disability Partnership Board	To work systematically to improve policy and procedure within Social Care, Health and across all ages and disabilities. To eradicate gaps and make services seamless and fit for purpose	To highlight all gaps and systemic issues that affect the LD community and to work with the partnership to effect improvements
2	Annual Health Checks Working Group	Improving the uptake and quality of annual health checks for people with a learning disability.	To ensure the people we support are represented and included in this work
3	BRIDGE Forum	Multi Agency Networking and Information group	Maintain connections across all sectors
4	Community Mental Health Transformation - Wirral Alliance	Developing a VCFSE Mental Health Alliance - to form a voluntary sector alliance that could work alongside the local authority and NHS	To ensure inclusion of the LD perspective on mental health service delivery. To promote accessible mental health support
5	Community of Practice	To network and cascade information through the Third Sector	Networking and information sharing.
6	Core 20 plus 5 Action Group	Core 20 Plus 5 is a national approach for addressing health inequalities published by NHS England/Improvement. Wirral Integrated Care System identified people with learning disabilities as a population group experiencing poorer than average health access, experience and/or outcomes in Wirral.	To ensure inclusion of the LD perspective in discussions on health service delivery. To promote accessible health support

7	CVFSE Forum	Third sector community response forum. To support meaningful working together opportunities and to prevent duplication or unhelpful competition.	Highlight needs of LD community. Information on up-to-date support available. Form relationships to co deliver support
8	Direct Payments Working Group	To increase the uptake of Direct Payments on Wirral.	To improve information on Direct Payments. To make the process accessible. To improve the culture within social care and personal finance unit to make more user friendly
9	Koala/ Family Toolbox	Networking/ info sharing for 3rd Sector organisations working with families and children under 25	Networking / maintaining a presence in organisations working with families, children and young people
10	Parent Carer Participation Wirral	Parent Carer Forum/ voice for SEND on Wirral. To provide challenge to local authority where necessary on SEND for 0-25.	To support aims and to ensure we have regular links with parent carers of those still in education. To promote our service and to work in partnership on key issues eg transition policies
11	Patient Experience Strategy PROMISE groups	Following consultation 5 workstreams exist to progress improvements for patients of the local hospital. To develop the criteria for "what good looks like" and evaluate performance.	To ensure representation of LD views across 5 workstreams. To ensure LDAs get opportunities to engage in the improvement process.
12	Residential providers forum	Forum for provider discussion and for local authority to cascade information to providers	Build connections with providers - find out what their challenges are - identify opportunities to work together
13	RMS Network Partners I&A Forum	Networking/ info sharing for regional and national Mencap groups	To collaborate and share ideas and resources. Maintaining up to date information in I&A

14	Support to Employment Strategy Group and Panel	To bring together people in Wirral working within the lifelong learning and supported employment arena to improve opportunities by maximising opportunities, support and preventing duplication.	To ensure that the people we support are represented and opportunities meet their needs.
15	Supported Living Providers Forum	Forum for provider discussion and for local authority to cascade information to providers	Build connections with providers - find out what their challenges are - identify opportunities to work together

1.5 Volunteers

It was another tough year for volunteering. The Volunteer Co-ordinator and Club Leader recruited to give impetus to our volunteer programme resigned from Wirral after 6 months. It was decided that we would recruit for a part time role for the Social Club Lead. That has meant that there was no one in the team with specific responsibilities for volunteer recruitment, training and management.

Despite this we continued to be supported by long standing active volunteers at Crossbow Club, Walk and Talk, one to one literacy sessions and in the Wirral Mencap office. We recruited one new volunteer for Lunch Club and two new office volunteers specifically for the IA&A service.

In addition, we benefit from the time and expertise of our Leaning Disability Advocates who volunteer on our IA&A Steering Group and have been involved in a range of consultation opportunities through the Make it Better and Treat Me Well Groups. Similarly, some from the Members' Committee have supported our recruitment and our community fundraising efforts.

1.6 Fundraising

The aims of the fundraising strategy for the financial year October 2022 to September 2023 were to generate income to meet the projected deficit, diversify income streams and raise the profile of Wirral Mencap in the area.

The full time Fundraiser who started in April 2022 resigned at the start of the new financial year in October 2022. The stop start disruption to our community fundraising activity has been a huge challenge in building back momentum in generating unrestricted income.

Once again it proved difficult to recruit and we only recruited a part time replacement Fundraiser in January 2023. They then resigned in August 2023, so we ended the financial year having had 8 months of a 3 day week Fundraiser.

To coincide with our 60th Anniversary Celebrations we launched a 60 Day Challenge appeal at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in February. The Challenge proved really popular and many people, including people we support, completed a variety of fun and difficult challenges to raise funds for Wirral Mencap – sixty-minute silence, walking a mile a day for 60 days and a sponsored head shave. One Wirral Mencap supporter completed 60 challenges before their 60th birthday and raised £1,220. A total of £12,824.71 was raised from events and challenges in 2022-23.

The Comedy Night had a reprieve in the form of a Legends Night involving supporters who had performed at our previous Comedy Nights. The night raised £5,500 proving it's still the best income generator of our current fundraising events.

Support from members continued with £1,155 paid in membership subscriptions. We received a total of £5,656 in gifts and donations, many from members with their membership renewals. Thank you to everyone who added a donation to their membership payment.

We were grateful for in memoriam donations of £3,833 this year.

Applications to Trusts and Foundations were key to ensuring the continuation of projects and services. Applications totalling £285 085 were submitted. We were awarded £139 250 (48.8% success rate).

Weekly attendance at the Networx 4 Business meetings continues to be beneficial. The Networx Group supported several fundraising activities – the Legends Comedy Night in particular - and individuals from the group took on their own 60 Day Challenges.

Additional support from businesses included raffle prize donations, in kind donations, charity rates for services and support and corporate sponsorship for the Wirral Mencap Seaside Walk.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income in the year was £389,804 (2022: £311,926) of which £288,762 (2022: £150,720), related to funding for projects upon which restrictions are placed.

Total expenditure in the year was £335,325 (2022: £338,023), creating a surplus for the year of £54,479 (2021: deficit £26,097).

At 30th September 2023 the charitable company's reserves stood at £256,370 (2022: £201,891) of which £135,506 (2022: £49,511) represent restricted funds.

Risk Management

The committee examines the major risks that the charitable company faces each year and has developed and continues to develop systems to monitor and control these risks to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity both now and in the future.

The main risk to the organisation is financial. Staff changes has meant generating unrestricted income through community fundraising continues to be challenging. It will take time to grow the supporter base and to build up community activity to previous levels.

Longer term, more developmental funding opportunities have been difficult to identify. Trust and Foundation funding applications made for £145,835 were unsuccessful.

Given the level of risk, the stop, start disruption of staffing changes and difficulties recruiting to the fundraising role a review of our approach to income generation is underway.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charitable company to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves; at a level which will allow the charity to cover redundancy costs and continue its activities for six to twelve months should no further funding be received.

At the end of the financial year the unrestricted funds totalled £115,266 (2022: £152,380) net of fixed assets. The charitable company's policy reserves require £22,830 for redundancy provision, £18,810 lease commitment and running costs between £66,279 to £132,558, totalling £107,919 to £174,198.

PLANS FOR FUTURE

We will continue to work to advance the health and wellbeing and education of people with a learning disability, their families and carers.

In the next 12 months we are looking forward to developing and expanding the services we provide including

- an additional day service offer similar to the existing Gateway Award Programme.
- recruitment of additional Learning Disability Trainers to expand the role out of Oliver McGowan training.
- more focused Health Awareness sessions to replace weekly Health Club
- a new evening social club for younger adults with learning disabilities
- resumption of Relationships and Sexuality work
- improving volunteering opportunities and management for people with learning disabilities
- providing Information Advice and Advocacy support for autistic adults and families of autistic children
- continued development of appropriate support model for parents with learning disabilities

We have reviewed our approach to fundraising and have decided to split the Sole Fundraiser role to allow great focus on two different aspects of fundraising. We will recruit a full time Fundraiser to develop community fundraising activity and look to employ someone on a part time basis to focus on trusts and foundations fundraising.

We intend during the next financial year to explore co-occupancy opportunities in a new development about to start near our current offices.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 29th August 2013 (Company number 08668735) and registered as a charity on 9th September 2013 (Charity number 1153742).

The Governing Instruments under which the charitable company operates comprise the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1st October 2009 and revised by special resolution on 18th February 2016 developed by the Royal Mencap society.

Members' Liability

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the Association undertakes to contribute the assets of the Society, in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member or within one year of ceasing to be a member for debts and liabilities of the Society contracted before he or she ceases to be a member such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

The board of Trustees, who are also the Directors, are appointed by the members in accordance with procedures set out in the Memorandum and Articles.

Trustees are appointed by the membership at the annual general meeting. The board may from time to time co-opt a person (who may or may not be a member) to the board either to fill a vacancy or as an addition member of the board. Co-opted members must not form more than one-third of the board in number, and the total number must not exceed twelve.

The trustees develop the strategy for the organisation and oversee its management. They ensure that decisions are taken in the best interests of the beneficiaries.

The day-to-day decision-making is delegated to the Chief Executive with any significant decisions being taken to the Committee at board meetings. The board of Trustees meet 12 times a year to make key decisions regarding the organisations present and future activity, and to offer guidance and support to the staff team

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name	Wirral Mencap
Company Number	08668735
Charity Number	1153742
Registered Office	42-44 Market Street Birkenhead Merseyside England CH41 5BT
Trustees	The trustees, who are also the company directors, that served during the year were as follows:

T Beck	
K Blair	(Appointed 23rd February 2023)
J Evans	(Resigned 23rd February 2023)
S Neville	(Resigned 23rd February 2023)
C Newton	
G Seller	(Resigned 23rd February 2023)
A Troxler	(Resigned 23rd February 2023)

Company Secretary	S Nicholson
Independent Examiner	Paula Sanchez, ACCA LCVS 151 Dale Street Liverpool L2 2AH
Bankers	Lloyds Plc P.O. Box BX1 1LT

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

.....C. Newton.....
C Newton - Trustee

Date: .....14/2/24.....

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue as a going concern;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

By the Order of the board,

C. Newton

.....

C Newton - Trustee

42-44 Market Street
Birkenhead
Merseyside
Englan
CH41 5BT

Date: 14/2/24

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF WIRRAL MENCAP

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 30th September 2023, which are set out on pages 18 to 30.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a 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 the 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.

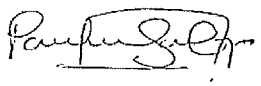
Independent examiner's statement

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting 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.



Name: **Paula Sanchez**
Relevant professional qualification or body: **ACCA**
Address: **c/o LCVS 151, Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH**

Dated: *29th February 2024*

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Income and endowments from:		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	3a	10,925	-	10,925	66,585
Charitable activities	3b	69,640	288,762	358,402	235,232
Other trading activities	3c	18,900	-	18,900	9,978
Investments	3d	1,577	-	1,577	131
Total income		**101,042**	**288,762**	**389,804**	**311,926**
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		18,123	-	18,123	17,457
Charitable activities	4	114,435	202,767	317,202	320,566
Total expenditure		**132,558**	**202,767**	**335,325**	**338,023**
Net (expenditure)/income, net movement in funds		**(31,516)**	**85,995**	**54,479**	**(26,097)**
Total funds brought forward	9,10	152,380	49,511	201,891	227,988
Total funds carried forward	8-10	**120,864**	**135,506**	**256,370**	**201,891**

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these accounts.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities of the charitable company.

WIRRAL MENCAP

Company Number: 08668735

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

	Notes	30th September 2023		30th September 2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		5,598		7,464
Current assets					
Debtors	6	1,903		3,221	
Cash at bank and in hand		253,842		193,155	
		255,745		196,376	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(4,973)		(1,949)	
Net current assets			250,772		194,427
Total assets less current liabilities			**256,370**		**201,891**
Funds:					
Unrestricted funds	8, 9		120,864		152,380
Restricted funds	8, 10		135,506		49,511
			256,370		**201,891**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

For the period covered by these accounts the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are the directors of the company, acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees on 14/2/24

C. Newton

C Newton - Trustee

1. Limited Liability

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Each member's liability is limited to £1.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) effective 1st January 2019.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Going Concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees are confident that the levels of liquidity and free reserves will not affect the charity's operations. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Funds Accounting

Unrestricted funds are the charity's free reserves available for the trustees to distribute in accordance with the charitable company's charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by the donor. All restricted funds are accounted for as restricted income and expenditure for the purposes is charged to the fund.

Income recognition

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

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exception of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accrual's basis except for grants receivable, which are recognised on the date on which their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Income from other trading activities relates to fundraising events and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Income from investment relates to bank interest received and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities. Support and governance costs are applied to unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions, as specified by the donor.

Expenditure on raising funds relates to costs incurred in fundraising events including a fundraiser salary and other costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities relate to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charitable company. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charitable company.

Fixed Assets
Capital expenditure of £500 and above is stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life as below:

Leasehold Improvements	25% per annum straight line basis
Motor Vehicle	25% per annum reducing balance basis
Fixtures & Fittings	25% per annum reducing balance basis

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Financial instruments
The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities
Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities
Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Taxation

Income and gains are exempt from taxation as they are received and applied for charitable purposes only. The charitable company benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Income and endowments from

	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
a. Donations and legacies	£	£	£	£
Donations	**10,925**	**-**	**10,925**	**66,585**

Income from donations and legacies for 2022 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

b. Charitable activities	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-
Club activities income	59,815	-	59,815	67,328
Contract income	6,030	-	6,030	1,713
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	15,000	15,000	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	2,500	2,500	-
Kickstart and Access to Work	1,066	-	1,066	14,216
Member's Subs	1,155	-	1,155	1,155
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	9,903
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	98,874	98,874	97,346
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	25,000	25,000	-
Room hire	15	-	15	-
Royal Mencap Society	-	-	-	4,227
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	8,667	8,667	26,667
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	14,471	14,471	11,577
Tesco Bags for Help	-	-	-	1,000
Training income	1,559	-	1,559	100
Wirral Borough Council	-	94,250	94,250	-
	69,640	**288,762**	**358,402**	**235,232**

Income from charitable activities in 2022 comprised £84,512 unrestricted funds and restated £150,720 related to restricted funds.

c. Other trading activities	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events income	**18,900**	**-**	**18,900**	**9,978**

Income from other trading activities for 2022 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

d. Investments	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	**1,577**	**-**	**1,577**	**131**

Income from investments for 2022 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

4. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct Charitable Expenditure £	Support & Governance Costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Relief of people with learning disabilities, to provide help and support and provide facilities for recreation and leisure time	190,426	126,776	**317,202**	**320,566**

a. Analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
Direct charitable expenditure:	£	£
Staff salary costs	135,275	145,586
Pension	2,177	2,112
Minibus expenses	3,912	3,511
Building running costs	18,245	24,554
Activities and events costs	22,783	26,696
Equipment	392	2,604
Training	2,088	2,890
Travel expenses	1,032	365
Volunteer expenses	300	323
Recruitment and DBS fees	2,389	10,034
Depreciation	1,833	2,444
	190,426	**221,119**

	2023	2022
Support & Governance costs:	£	£
Staff salary costs	103,062	74,570
Pension	2,134	883
Office costs	5,861	10,090
Consumables	3,156	1,918
Insurance	2,236	801
Marketing	4,085	3,700
Registrations and subscriptions	3,992	4,297
Bank and credit card charges	199	587
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	214
Payroll fees	818	1,283
Accountancy fees	1,200	1,060
Depreciation	33	44
	126,776	**99,447**
Total expenditure on charitable activities	**317,202**	**320,566**

£202,767 (2022: £188,195) of the above expenditure relates to restricted funding.

b. Staff Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	241,345	223,016
Social security costs	12,899	11,424
Pension	4,311	3,407
	258,555	**237,847**

Total staff costs of £258,555 includes £15,907 (2022: £18,821) related to staff costs related to fundraising activities.

c. Particulars of employees:

Average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2023	2022
Charitable activities	10	10

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

The Trustees are not remunerated for their services and are not included in the above number of employees.

No out-of-pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2022: £nil).

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements	Motor Vehicle	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
Cost:	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st October 2022	13,800	39,052	7,256	60,108
Additions	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30th September 2023	**13,800**	**39,052**	**7,256**	**60,108**
Depreciation:				
Balance at 1st October 2022	13,800	33,840	5,004	52,644
Charge for the year	-	1,303	563	1,866
Balance at 30th September 2023	**13,800**	**35,143**	**5,567**	**54,510**
Net Book Value:				
Balance at 30th September 2023	**-**	**3,909**	**1,689**	**5,598**
Balance at 30th September 2022	-	5,212	2,252	7,464

6. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	938	1,349
Prepayments	965	1,872
	1,903	**3,221**

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	**4,973**	**1,949**

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

2023	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	99	120,765	120,864
Restricted Funds			
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	8,783	8,783
Department of Transport	3,910	-	3,910
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	14,895	14,895
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	6,638	6,638
Henry Smith Charity	1,589	-	1,589
National Lottery Community Fund	-	1,806	1,806
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	775	775
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	25,000	25,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	2,052	2,052
Royal Mencap Society	-	3,444	3,444
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	-	2,320	2,320
Tesco Bags for Help	-	269	269
Wirral Borough Council	-	59,025	59,025
	5,499	**130,007**	**135,506**
Totals	**5,598**	**250,772**	**256,370**

2022	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	133	152,247	152,380
Restricted Funds			
Department of Transport	5,213	-	5,213
Henry Smith Charity	2,118	-	2,118
Mencap for treat me well	-	824	824
National Lottery Community Fund	-	9,903	9,903
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	7,174	7,174
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	5,000	5,000
Royal Mencap Society	-	3,967	3,967
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	-	2,500	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	5,019	5,019
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	1,793	1,793
Tesco Bags for Help	-	1,000	1,000
	7,331	**42,180**	**49,511**
Totals	**7,464**	**194,427**	**201,891**

9. Unrestricted Funds

2023	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	**152,380**	**101,042**	**(132,558)**	**120,864**

2022	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	**141,002**	**161,206**	**(149,828)**	**152,380**

General Fund is used to finance the charitable company's general activities as outlined in the Trustees' Report.

Crossbow Club – is a social club for adults with a learning disability. It runs on Wednesday evenings from a community venue in Birkenhead. It is a relaxed, informal club and gives people from across Wirral the opportunity to meet with friends on a regular basis.

The club is run entirely by volunteers and has been operating for more than 50 years regularly attracting more than 70 attendees.

Gateway Award – is a multi-activity awards programme for people with a learning disability. Similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, it offers bronze, silver and gold levels. The Gateway Award empowers people to experience new things, gain confidence, increase independence, meet new people, have fun and get fit. The award can be accessed as part of a weekly group programme, or independently.

10. Restricted funds

2023	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	10,000	(1,217)	8,783
Department of Transport	5,213	-	(1,303)	3,910
Family Toolbox Alliance	-	15,000	(105)	14,895
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	20,000	(13,362)	6,638
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	2,500	(2,500)	-
Henry Smith Charity	2,118	-	(529)	1,589
Mencap for Treat me Well	824	-	(824)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	9,903	-	(8,097)	1,806
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	7,174	98,874	(105,273)	775
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	-	25,000	(-)	25,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	5,000	-	(2,948)	2,052
Royal Mencap Society	3,967	-	(523)	3,444
Screwfix Foundation	5,000	-	(-)	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,500	-	(180)	2,320
Steve Morgan Foundation	5,019	8,667	(13,686)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	1,793	14,471	(16,264)	-
Tesco Bags for Help	1,000	-	(731)	269
Wirral Borough Council	-	94,250	(35,225)	59,025
	49,511	**288,762**	**(202,767)**	**135,506**

2022	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Department of Transport	6,950	-	(1,737)	5,213
ESF Community Grant	1,210	-	(1,210)	-
Henry Smith Charity	2,825	-	(707)	2,118
LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust	1,000	-	(1,000)	-
Mencap for Treat me Well	1,900	-	(1,076)	824
National Lottery Community Fund	-	9,903	(-)	9,903
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	25,779	97,346	(115,951)	7,174
NHS Wirral CCG	19,636	-	(19,636)	-
P H Holt Foundation	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Price Parry for Crossbow	5,000	-	(-)	5,000
Royal Mencap Society	2,000	4,227	(2,260)	3,967
Screwfix Foundation	5,000	-	(-)	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,500	-	(-)	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	5,186	26,667	(26,834)	5,019
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	11,577	(9,784)	1,793
Tesco Bags for Help	-	1,000	(-)	1,000
WBC for Ventilation	5,000	-	(5,000)	-
	86,986	**150,720**	**(188,195)**	**49,511**

Description of Funds
These are monies given to the charitable company to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes, as follows:

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund – Contribution towards Gateway award.

Department of Transport – For the purchase of a new minibus, to be used in the delivery of Wirral Mencap Services as well as lending to third party organisations at the discretion of the Trustees and subject to licensing and insurance conditions.

ESF Community Grant – To support Volunteering for All project.

Family Toolbox Alliance – Contribution towards family support group.

Garfield Weston Foundation – Contribution towards general running costs.

Hemby Charitable Trust – Contribution towards Gateway award.

Henry Smith Charity – Contribution towards activities, personal development and running costs.

LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust – Contribution towards life skills courses for people with learning disabilities

Mencap for Treat me Well – Funding for treat me well group activity and support in 2021.

National Lottery Community Fund – Contribution towards salary costs of the information and advice manager.

National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy) – To support adults with learning difficulties by providing provision of information, support, and advocacy services.

NHS Wirral CCG – Funding to deliver relationships and sexuality education for people with a learning disability and professionals.

P H Holt Foundation – Contribution towards running costs

Postcode Neighbourhood Fund – Contribution towards general running costs.

Price Parry for crossbow – To pay for the cost of running Crossbow in a new venue and with a new member of staff.

Royal Mencap Society – To deliver 'Let's get digital' programme of digital skills training for people with a learning disability.

Screwfix Foundation – To part fund the installation of a Changing Places toilet

St James Place Charitable Fund – Contribution towards gateway holiday treats

Steve Morgan Foundation – Contribution towards CEO salary

Steve Morgan Foundation- DCMS – Community match funding from DCMS for Covid recovery plan.

Tesco Bags for Help – Contribution towards running costs.

WBC for Ventilation – To pay for the cost of installing ventilation units in the office for improved Covid safety.

Wirral Borough Council – Contribution towards cost of living support.

11. Operating Lease Commitments

Financial commitments under non-cancellable operating leases relating to the lease of 42-44 Market Street and Sharp Rental. New agreement was signed October 2022. Plus, two photocopiers over five years. This will result in the following payments falling due at 30th September 2023.

		2023	2022
		£	£
Premises	Within one year	10,000	-
		10,000	-
Photocopiers	Within one year	2,653	1,084
	Due 1 to 2 years	1,841	1,084
	Due 2- 5 years	4,316	271
	Total	**18,810**	**2,439**

12. Related Party Transactions

There were no material related party transactions during the year which require disclosure (2022: none).

13. Guarantees

As at 30th September 2023, 235 members had given a guarantee of £1 each in the event of the company winding-up, total: £235 (2022: 246 members £246).

WIRRAL MENCAP

England & Wales - Charity number 1153742

Accounts

WIRRAL MENCAP

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Company Number: 08668735
Charity Number: 1153742

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The trustees are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 30th September 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Wirral Mencap is a registered charitable company working with and for people with a learning disability and their families. The organisation is based in Birkenhead but works across Wirral.

Wirral Mencap exists to advance equality for people with a learning disability and their families through campaigning, raising awareness, providing information and opportunities. It is our view that to achieve our aims we need to be person centred and work in partnership with other Charities/Organisations that support people with a learning disability.

During the financial year 2021-22, the charity's objectives and activities were guided by a new 5-year Strategic Plan for 2020- 2025 which was developed in consultation with members, beneficiaries and local professionals.

The aims for the period were:

1. To champion equality and promote independence so that people with a learning disability reach their full potential
2. To provide knowledge and build confidence to improve personal well-being, resilience and future planning
3. To connect people to their community and others to reduce social isolation and develop personal relationships.
4. To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The last twelve months have presented both challenges and opportunities for Wirral Mencap. The stop/start covid restrictions at the beginning of the year and the long-term effects of the pandemic plus other global factors which will affect our economy, have implications for our members, their families, carers, and the trustees.

The cost of living and energy crisis has and will continue to affect many of the people we support. It has meant an increasing need for and use of our Information Advice and Advocacy service. We have risen to this challenge in many ways including running workshops and working with an increasing number of agencies. We now have disability advocates and trainers and the Make it Better Group visited Parliament which was a great success.

It has also had repercussions on our fundraising efforts. Community fundraising has been difficult this year. These problems have been compounded by losing two fundraisers during the year.

We have had to reassess our strategy and have just recruited a new fundraiser who will look at new streams such as corporate sponsorship.

There have been some positive impacts of the pandemic. Wirral Mencap are now more visible within the community and are now working with more than 20 local groups, thus working in a more strategic way. We have also been able to re-start our Crossbows club, moving to new premises with growing numbers.

During the summer we had a very successful awayday, which was a great opportunity for the trustees to meet the staff and look at ways in which we as a board can be most effective. As a result, we now have sub-groups to look at the most important issues, such as governance and membership.

These sub-groups then report back to the full board meetings. It is a good way to utilise board members skills and where appropriate include staff and members. Looking forward there are still challenges ahead. We need to recruit staff bringing us back up to previous staffing levels. We need to increase volunteering and fundraising activities, particularly as 2023 is our 60th anniversary. Linked to this we are updating our website making it easier for people to get involved with the organisation.

Wirral Mencap continues to work to advance the health and wellbeing and education of people with a learning disability, their families, and carers, by providing accessible services and facilities. We endeavour to advance human rights, citizenship and community development and promote equality and diversity.

1.1 Information, Advice & Advocacy Service

The Information, Advice & Advocacy Service (IA&A) provides direct support to people with a learning disability and their families through 1:1 case work, information events and workshops as well as working strategically with the local authority and other organisations to improve services and promote inclusion.

The service supported **270** individuals/families through casework. **146** of these were new issues this year, the rest were ongoing from the previous year. **1,374** individual actions were undertaken to support these families including providing support with meetings and forms, planning for the future, navigating and accessing local services, both statutory and voluntary, and providing information on, and support to access, a range of services such as housing, social care and planning for the future.

Through a partnership with other local advice-giving organisations, officially known as *Ask Us Wirral*, **70** individuals/ families also accessed specialist welfare benefits advice. A further **116** families/ individuals were referred on to another service or organisation in this period.

We held **2** large events. Benefits to Employment was our first in person event since Covid restrictions lifted. **53** people attended. Our second event, Have Fun, Keep Well, was attended by **97** people.

Six workshops were delivered to a total of **34** people. Two workshops catered for people with a learning disability and covered independent living and simple ways to save on bills. Parents and carers had the same workshops and the ever-popular wills and trusts workshops.

Other highlights in this year include

- Our first full year as the IA &A Service has increased our casework capacity enormously. 1,374 individual actions undertaken on behalf of beneficiaries this year compared to 665 last year.
- Both information events were well attended and well received, exceeding targets set of 50 people per event.
- Steering Group has blossomed in number and activity. Now have 4 parent/ informal carer members, 4 who have a learning disability and 2 associate members. Some members have been representing the service at networks and meetings.
- We have improved our capture of the work undertaken by our self-advocates so we can now identify that we have 52 individual advocates who have each participated in at least one activity aimed at improving services for people with a learning disability. This has included a walk about and way finding at Arrowe Park Hospital to improve patient experience.
- Links with local college and special schools have been developed and strengthened leading to a pilot workshop delivered by a staff lead and a Learning Disability Trainer on Independent Living. College and schools are keen to run the workshop as part of their Prep for Life courses, creating paid work opportunities for our LDTs.
- Further paid work opportunities being created for LDTs through development of workshops 'Simple Ways to Save on Bills' in partnership with Energy Projects Plus.

1.2. Projects:

Project	Overview	Achievements
Gateway Award (Commissioned Day Service)	A personal development programme with five modules: hobbies, lifestyle, fitness, volunteering, and challenge. The award has three levels: Bronze (Year 1), Silver (Year 2), Gold (Year 3). Participants attend Wirral Mencap for one day per week to complete the modules. Participants pay for this service via a personal budget/ direct payment.	• 47 people accessed the Gateway Award (day service model): - 11 people completed their bronze award - 5 people completed their silver award - 16 people achieved their gold Award- - A new cohort of 14 started the programme in September 2022-bigger cohort as we have two bronze days Activities included Taekwondo, drama, dance, photography, arts and crafts and boccia.
Summer Club	Summer Club runs in the six weeks school holiday. During Summer Club, participants access a range of activities in the community. It is run by Gateway Award staff and participants pay for the serviced via a personal budget/direct payment	• 15 people accessed Summer Club -Summer Club ran on a Wednesday and Friday for 6 weeks during July and August Activities included, drama, drumming, museum visit, arts and crafts and a narrowboat trip

Open-access services	Below are our services open to anyone with a learning disability for free. Some people take up our services and some people just come in for some guidance and signposting. For details of each programme see below.	• 43 PDPs were completed for new people assessed for Wirral Mencap personal development or social/activity services of which 22 signed up to new activities - Gateway, Crossbow, Lunch Club, courses.
Gateway Award (Independent)	A free version of the awards programme outlined above for people who do not have funding to access the 'Day Service' model. Participants complete the award independently with the support of family/ support staff and our part-time coordinator.	• There are currently 30 people signed up to the Independent Gateway Award, not all have been active during the last year, but most have interacted with us to some degree. I am in the process of signing off awards for most of the gold and silver participants though a few still have to complete sufficient volunteering. Not everyone has been able to resume their volunteer roles as some organisations have been slow to take back their volunteers • 14 people are working towards their Bronze Award, 4 towards their Silver and 9 towards Gold. • Activities included walking, boccia, cycling, football, line dancing, singing in a signing choir, photography, making Lego models, Comic Con, playing the drums and ukuleles. • 17 updated PDPs completed, and 27 outcomes recorded for achievements. • 10 people made a Myth Buster video for LD week and described all the activities that they are involved with.
Volunteering for All	A service that supports people with a learning disability to find meaningful volunteering opportunities in their community, either independently, with their support staff/carers or with a volunteer buddy (see below).	• 5 people were supported into volunteering placements including at Make it Happen and working as admin support at Wirral Mencap. • 12 people attended the mock interview prep session (18 expressed an interest but not all were unable to attend on the day) and 10 came to actual mock interviews at ABL health in Birkenhead in July. 2 people had a further Teams meeting with ABL and we are hoping to be able to work with them to make their services (smoking cessation) more accessible to people with learning disabilities.

		• 1 person has since got a paid role with them. • One person applied for a job and was called for interview. They didn't get the job but it was an achievement to get that far.
Buddy Scheme	This programme matches people with a learning disability with trained volunteer buddies. The aims of the project are to reduce isolation and improve access to community opportunities.	• There were 4 active buddy pairs this year, all continuing to support people who were feeling lonely and isolated either on the phone or in person or helping members to access volunteering/activities. Although we still need volunteers to act as buddies, the need is not as great as it was as people are able to access social activities once again.
Courses / Health Club	Specific courses delivered to meet the identified learning needs of people with a learning disability and those who support them. Health club one-hour weekly session and addresses a range of health issues. It is hosted with the support of a local Community Learning Disability Nurse (NHS Cheshire and Wirral Partnership).	• Health Club – avg 5-6 attendees. Health club has been running successfully in person at The Bloom Building every week. -Regular visits from the Community Learning Disability Teams Health Facilitator -The Windows Project delivered a series of workshops on writing poetry -Health Champions visit to The Stein Centre to test out and give feedback on VR Headsets. Headsets to be used for people who feel nervous about going to health appointments. <u>Courses (attendance in brackets)</u> • In Person Cookery Couse -January 2022 (6) -April 2022 (7) -September 2022 (7) • Money Skills (5) -Basic money skills, how to use debit card and managing money. • Gardening at Make Hamilton (8) -How to maintain a garden, cultivate small plants and herbs, how to harvest and store crops. • Include IT (6) -Basic Computer course offering learning on how to create a strong password, staying safe online and social media

		• Floristry (5) -Four sessions designing round table centre floral designs using tray, frog, fix, oasis, foliage and flowers. Theme: the five senses. • Movie Makers (6) - Three webinars provided by Let's Get Digital teaching staff and members how to make a film. Advice on how to choose a subject, shoot an interview - subject, background, lighting, and editing. • My Favourite Thing-Digital media computer course (9) • Literacy with Lesley One of our volunteers Lesley, has been running bespoke 1:1 literacy session. The sessions involve an initial assessment and Lesley then provides sessions each week to provide support with reading and writing. She has worked with 5 people in total and is currently providing weekly sessions to 3. Total number of course hours delivered:227 Total number of individuals who have accessed a course: 65
Social Clubs	• Crossbow Social Club (at Liberty Centre Birkenhead). • Monday Lunch Club (at Market Street premises).	• Crossbow Club continues to be supported by a smaller but committed team of volunteers. • Numbers have grown and are close to the limit of the venue's capacity. There are on average around 30 people with learning disabilities attending on a weekly basis. • There are about 50 on the Lunch Club list at Bloom Building and between 15 and 20 people attend each week. Between 2 and 4 people who are unable to attend in person join us on Zoom. A highlight was when a group from LFC Foundation joined us and brought the cup – Liverpool supporters were delighted to have their photo taken with it.

1.3. Additional activities

Project	Our response
Crockpot	We received a donation of crockpots to be gifted to people to use at home to help with their cooking skills. To receive one of the crockpots, the person had to attend a slow cooker session to show them how to use it and help them cook independently at home. We ran two sessions in September 2022 and 14 people attended.
Digital Champions	RMS Let's Get Digital initiative - training people with a learning disability to help others who also have a learning disability to improve their digital skills. Two independent online courses with support via Aspire Website: How to be a Digital Champion and Zoom Expert. Eventually leading to face-to-face technical help sessions. As part of the initiative, we received 6 digital cameras. Our digital champions have taken photographs of courses and helped support others with technology.
Walk and Talk	Started as a walking group to help get people ready for the Seaside Walk in September 2022. This has now evolved into a Walk and Talk group. The group meet every Tuesday at Birkenhead Park Café for a walk around the park and then return to the café to have a drink and a chat. Great way to get people exercising but also to help people socialise. Regular attendance of 4-5 people with the hope to grow in 2023.

1.4. Other schemes of work

Relationships and Sexuality:
As a result of receiving funding last financial year, we were able to continue our work of delivering relationship courses for people with a learning disability. The courses covered all aspects of relationships from friends and dating, how to stay safe in relationships, decision-making, consent and sexual wellbeing.

Between October 2021 and January 2022 we delivered the following courses;

Course	Attendance
Friends and Dating	15
Staying Happy, Staying Safe	12
Being Good Boyfriends or Girlfriends	16
You Being You	6
Sex and Sexual Well-being	10

We also delivered the following professionals training:

2x train-the-trainer course for paid or unpaid carers/supporters and self-advocates to become peer educators in supporting people with learning disabilities to have safe relationships. (18 attended)

Full day Sex and Relationships training for anyone who supports or provides services for people with a learning disability (13 attended)

1.5. Strategic/ partnership work

Our fourth Strategic Objective is:

To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

We have been working towards this strategic aim through building relationships with external organisations, seeking opportunities to collaborate and working with them, and people with lived experience, to improve their services and accessibility for people with learning disabilities.

An important part of this work is valuing the contribution made by people with lived experience. Our Learning Disability Advisors continue to play an important part in this work in both a paid and volunteer capacity. Paid work is dependent on there being funded work available.

Here are some ways that we did that in this reporting year:

- Continue to be the local lead for the Treat Me Well Campaign. This is a group of people with a learning disability, local organisations and professionals, the hospital and carers that meet monthly to talk about how to improve the care and treatment of patients at hospital.
- Supporting the Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) Patient Experience Strategy. Represented on all 5 Promise Groups and people with a learning disability sharing their experiences and giving feedback at Walk About and Awareness Raising events at Arrowe Park Hospital.
- Supported Mencap national campaigns and activities. Completed 35 questionnaires for the Mencap BIG Survey. Took part in the Craftivism activities celebrating Mencap's 75th year. We created over 50 pieces of bunting to be included in the visit to parliament. Engaged with the Mencap social media campaign with our own Wirral Mencap 'Myth Buster' videos.
- 4 Learning Disability Advocates joined national Mencap for an afternoon tea in the Houses of Parliament. They were impressive advocates for Wirral Mencap and for people with a learning disability.
- Supported Wirral Borough Council's public consultation for the Wirral Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. Reviewed and improved the Easy Read version of the questionnaire. Submitted a large number of questionnaires from Wirral Mencap members warranting mention in the final report.
- 8 Learning Disability Advocates tested the accessibility of Virtual Reality equipment intended to help people with health procedures. The group gave feedback on the easy ready documentation.
- CEO recently invited to join the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Health Inequalities Core20+ 5 Action Group as lead for Learning Disabilities one of the plus 5 priorities for Wirral. Opportunities for people with learning disabilities to get involved will come in the next financial year.
- The senior team at Wirral Mencap attend a wide range of strategic groups and partnership forum meetings working with local authority, NHS providers and other organisations from the Voluntary Community Services sector. We are involved with 20 action/ discussion groups and forums.

- This means we are in a position to influence and inform professional practice and make services more inclusive and accessible for people with a learning disability. For example, we are on the Local Authority's All Age Disability Partnership Board. We are working with Adult Social Services to improve how they deliver a Direct Payments offer and improve employment prospects for people with a learning disability. We attend the Supported Living Forum and Parent Carer Participation Wirral.

1.6. Volunteers

It was a tough year for volunteering again. Unfortunately, the Volunteer Co-ordinator and Club Leader recruited in June 2021 left in December 2021. Volunteering opportunities remained sporadic, and the impact of Covid-19 flare ups were ongoing and unpredictable, so the decision was taken to hold off recruiting a replacement. The position remains vacant.

Despite there being no one in post the volunteer support for the Crossbow Club continues, backed up by the regular volunteers from the Liberty Centre.

As well as regular support for Crossbow Club we have recruited new volunteers to help with Lunch Club, fundraising and the new Walk 'n' Talk group. One volunteer is providing weekly one to one literacy support for four people with a learning disability.

Three of our volunteers with a learning disability have returned to their roles as office volunteers with the support of our Personal Development Mentor and Office Manager. They are carrying out various administrative tasks including data entry.

We currently have 61 volunteers registered as 'active' with us in a variety of roles. Plans to increase activity levels during the next financial year will mean more opportunities to engage for existing volunteers and more scope to recruit others.

1.7. Fundraising

The aims of the fundraising strategy for the financial year October 2021 to September 2022 were to generate income to meet the projected deficit, diversify income streams and raise the profile of Wirral Mencap in the area.

The resignation of our Fundraiser at the start of the 2021-22 financial year and the arrival of the new Covid variant Omicron continued to curtail our community fundraising activity. We recruited another full time Fundraiser who started in April 2022. The post had been vacant since October 2021, and they faced a huge challenge in building back momentum in our events and community fundraising activity.

Wirral Mencap Seaside Walk was a huge success again this year. We had a great deal of participation from our membership and the event proved very popular. With money coming in into the new financial year the final total was over £3,000. Other events included a Bananas Bingo Night (£312) and the Learning Disability Week Tea Party (£340.16)

We were grateful for a £60 000 gift from the will in this year.

Three applications for funding totally £44 595 were submitted later in the year to September 2022. Outcomes are not yet known, and income may come in the next financial year.

Weekly attendance at the Networx 4 Business continues to be beneficial. There was little opportunity for people to support Wirral Mencap's own fundraising activity however the Networx Group supported several fundraising activities and events including their own Comedy Bingo Night and their very first Golf Day.

Additional support from businesses included raffle prize donations, in kind donations, charity rates for services and support, corporate sponsorship for the Wirral Mencap Seaside Walk and a £500 a month regular donation from a Networx member for website development and marketing.

The drastic reduction in community fundraising activity will have several outcomes for Wirral Mencap.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income in the year was £311,926 (2021: £291,082) of which £150,720 (2021 £203,472), related to funding for projects upon which restrictions are placed.

Total expenditure in the year was £338,023 (2021: £293,345), creating a deficit for the year of £26,097 (2021: deficit £2,263).

At 30th September 2022 the charitable company's reserves stood at £201,891 (2021: £227,988) of which £49,511 (2021: £86,986) represent restricted funds

Risk Management

The committee examines the major risks that the charitable company faces each year and has developed and continues to develop systems to monitor and control these risks to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity both now and in the future.

The main risk to the organisation is financial. Generating unrestricted income through community fundraising has been challenging. It will take time to grow the supporter base and to build up community activity to previous levels.

Longer term, more developmental funding opportunities were slow to emerge after the pandemic. Trust and Foundation funding applications made in the first quarter of the year for £38 500 were unsuccessful. The outcome from other applications totalling a further £141,998.00 were not known at the end of the financial year.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charitable company to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves; at a level which will allow the charity to cover redundancy costs and continue its activities for six to twelve months should no further funding be received.

At the end of the financial year the unrestricted funds totalled £152,247 (2021: £140,611) net of fixed assets. The charitable company's policy requires £17,300 redundancy provision, £2,439 lease commitment and £74,914 to £149,828, totalling £94,653 to £169,567.

PLANS FOR FUTURE

Progress on objectives set for year two of the 5- year strategy has been positive despite staff changes during the year.

Most activity and impact have been in the following:

- growing and developing our information and advice service
- advocating and supporting people to express wishes, views, and feelings
- providing independent information and advice on rights, roles, and responsibilities to enable people to make informed choices
- delivering personal development opportunities and well-being activities
- creating and identifying safe places for everyone to socialise and make friends
- supporting people with a learning disability with friendships and relationships and to develop social skills
- continuously reviewing monitoring and evaluating impact to ensure relevance

In year 3 the plan is to continue with the existing programme delivery and services. Recognising the need to expand the reach of those services to new beneficiaries we have developed a communications strategy, reviewed the membership offer and worked on a new website. Development work for the website will be completed early in year 3 and the plan is to have any membership changes introduced for the 2023-24 membership renewal cycle.

During the next financial year, the organisation will continue to diversify and re-establish fundraised income generation with the appointment of a Sole Fundraiser. The most recent Fundraising Strategy recognises the need to grow the supporter base, explore different ways of bringing in unrestricted income including digital fundraising and third-party fundraising events.

The intention is to carry on working with organisations and service providers and to seek further, longer term opportunities to generate income from this work.

The current premises lease for Market Street has been extended to October 2024. With formal arrangements for remote working now in place our requirements for physical space have changed. The Board have created a Premises Sub-group to focus on this and make recommendations during year 3.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 29th August 2013 (Company number 08668735) and registered as a charity on 9th September 2013 (Charity number 1153742).

The Governing Instruments under which the charitable company operates comprise the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1st October 2009 and revised by special resolution on 18th February 2016 developed by the Royal Mencap society.

Members' Liability

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the Association undertakes to contribute the assets of the Society, in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member or within one year of ceasing to be a member for debts and liabilities of the Society contracted before he or she ceases to be a member such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

The board of Trustees, who are also the Directors, are appointed by the members in accordance with procedures set out in the Memorandum and Articles.

Trustees are appointed by the membership at the annual general meeting. The board may from time to time co-opt a person (who may or may not be a member) to the board either to fill a vacancy or as an addition member of the board. Co-opted members must not form more than one-third of the board in number, and the total number must not exceed twelve.

The trustees develop the strategy for the organisation and oversee its management. They ensure that decisions are taken in the best interests of the beneficiaries. The day-to-day decision-making is delegated to the Chief Executive with any significant decisions being taken to the Committee at board meetings. The board of Trustees meet 12 times a year to make key decisions regarding the organisations present and future activity, and to offer guidance and support to the staff team

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name	Wirral Mencap
Company Number	08668735
Charity Number	1153742
Registered Office	42-44 Market Street Birkenhead Merseyside England CH41 5BT
Trustees	The trustees, who are also the company directors, that served during the year were as follows:

T Beck	
K Corker	(Resigned 24th February 2022)
J Evans	
J Jones	(Resigned 31st January 2022)
J Mahmood	(Resigned 19th January 2022)
S Neville	
C Newton	
G Seller	
A Troxler	

Company Secretary	S Nicholson
Independent Examiner	Mrs Paula Sanchez, ACCA LCVS 151 Dale Street Liverpool L2 2AH

Bankers	Lloyds Plc P.O. Box BX1 1LT

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

C. Newton

.....

C Newton
Trustee

Date: 20.1.23

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue as a going concern;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

By the Order of the board,

C. Newton

.....

C Newton
Trustee

42-44 Market Street
Birkenhead
Merseyside
Englan
CH41 5BT

Date: 20.1.23

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF WIRRAL MENCAP

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 30th September 2022, which are set out on pages 17 to 30.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a 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 the 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.

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting 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.

Name: **Mrs Paula Sanchez**
Relevant professional qualification or body: **ACCA**
Address: **c/o LCVS 151, Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH**
Dated: 24th January 2023

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Income and endowments from:		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	3a	66,585	-	66,585	12,883
Charitable activities	3b	84,512	150,720	235,232	274,361
Other trading activities	3c	9,978	-	9,978	3,427
Investments	3d	131	-	131	411
Total income		**161,206**	**150,720**	**311,926**	**291,082**
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		17,457	-	17,457	25,181
Charitable activities	4	132,371	188,195	320,566	268,164
Total expenditure		**149,828**	**188,195**	**338,023**	**293,345**
Net income/(expenditure), net movement in funds		**11,378**	**(37,475)**	**(26,097)**	**(2,263)**
Total funds brought forward	9, 10	141,002	86,986	227,988	230,251
Total funds carried forward	8-10	**152,380**	**49,511**	**201,891**	**227,988**

The notes on pages 19 to 30 form part of these accounts.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities of the charitable company.

WIRRAL MENCAP

Company Number: 08668735

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

	Notes	30th September 2022		30th September 2021	
Fixed assets		£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	5		7,464		10,166
Current assets					
Debtors	6	3,221		946	
Cash at bank and in hand		193,155		217,801	
		196,376		218,747	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(1,949)		(925)	
Net current assets			194,427		217,822
Total assets less current liabilities			**201,891**		**227,988**
Funds:					
Unrestricted funds	8, 9		152,380		141,002
Restricted funds	8, 10		49,511		86,986
			201,891		**227,988**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

For the period covered by these accounts the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are the directors of the company, acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees on .....20:1:23.....

.....

C Newton
Trustee

1. Limited Liability

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Each member's liability is limited to £1.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) effective 1st January 2019.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Going Concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees are confident that the levels of liquidity and free reserves will not affect the charity's operations. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Funds Accounting

Unrestricted funds are the charity's free reserves available for the trustees to distribute in accordance with the charitable company's charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by the donor. All restricted funds are accounted for as restricted income and expenditure for the purposes is charged to the fund.

Income recognition

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

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exception of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accrual's basis except for grants receivable, which are recognised on the date on which their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Income from other trading activities relates to fundraising events and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Income from investment relates to bank interest received and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities. Support and governance costs are applied to unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions, as specified by the donor.

Expenditure on raising funds relates to costs incurred in fundraising events including a fundraiser salary and other costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities relate to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charitable company. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charitable company.

Fixed Assets

Capital expenditure of £500 and above is stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life as below:

Leasehold Improvements	25% per annum straight line basis
Motor Vehicle	25% per annum reducing balance basis
Fixtures & Fittings	25% per annum reducing balance basis

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Taxation

Income and gains are exempt from taxation as they are received and applied for charitable purposes only. The charitable company benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Income and endowments from

	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
a. Donations and legacies	£	£	£	£
Donations	66,585	-	66,585	12,883

Income from donations and legacies for 2021 related wholly to unrestricted funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
b. Charitable activities	£	£	£	£
Club activities income	67,328	-	67,328	60,362
Contract income	1,713	-	1,713	6,482
ESF Community Grant	-	-	-	3,797
Henry Smith Charity	-	-	-	25,000
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	5,004
Kickstart and Access to Work	14,216	-	14,216	-
LCVS Skelton Charitable fund	-	-	-	1,000
Member's Subs	1,155	-	1,155	1,045
Mencap for Treat me Well	-	-	-	1,900
National Lottery Community Fund	-	9,903	9,903	2,600
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	97,346	97,346	48,105
NHS Wirral CCG	-	-	-	24,485
Price Parry for crossbow	-	-	-	5,000
Royal Mencap Society	-	4,227	4,227	2,000
Screwfix Foundation	-	-	-	5,000
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	26,667	26,667	31,167
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	11,577	11,577	43,414
Tesco Bags for Help	-	1,000	1,000	-
Training income	100	-	100	3,000
WBC for Ventilation	-	-	-	5,000
	84,512	**150,720**	**235,232**	**274,361**

Income from charitable activities in 2021 comprised £70,889 unrestricted funds and restated £203,472 related to restricted funds

c. Other trading activities	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events income	**9,978**	**-**	**9,978**	**3,427**

Income from other trading activities for 2021 related wholly to unrestricted funds

d. Investments	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	**131**	**-**	**131**	**411**

Income from investments for 2021 related wholly to unrestricted funds

4. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct Charitable Expenditure	Support & Governance Costs	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Relief of people with learning disabilities, to provide help and support and provide facilities for recreation and leisure time	221,119	99,447	**320,566**	**268,164**

a. Analysed as follows:

Direct charitable expenditure:	2022 £	2021 £
Staff salary costs	145,586	125,367
Pension	2,112	2,255
Minibus expenses	3,511	3,034
Building running costs	24,554	17,470
Activities and events costs	26,696	23,523
Equipment	2,604	991
Training	2,890	901
Travel expenses	365	101
Volunteer expenses	323	744
Recruitment and DBS fees	10,034	3,162
Depreciation	2,444	3,258
	221,119	**180,806**

Support & Governance costs:	2022 £	2021 £
Staff salary costs	74,570	59,443
Pension	883	621
Office costs	10,090	13,276
Consumables	1,918	839
Insurance	801	1,873
Marketing	3,700	3,106
Registrations and subscriptions	4,297	5,537
Bank and credit card charges	587	199
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	214	-
Payroll fees	1,283	1,408
Accountancy fees	1,060	925
Depreciation	44	131
	99,447	**87,358**
Total expenditure on charitable activities	**320,566**	**268,164**

£188,195 (2021: £203,113) of the above expenditure relates to restricted funding.

b. Staff Costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	223,016	198,969
Social security costs	11,424	10,115
Pension	3,407	3,118
	237,847	**212,202**

c. Particulars of employees:

Average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2022	2021
Charitable activities	**10**	**9**

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

The Trustees are not remunerated for their services and are not included in the above number of employees.

No out of pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2021: £nil).

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements	Motor Vehicle	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
Cost:	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st October 2021	13,800	39,052	8,456	61,308
Additions in the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals in the year	(-)	(-)	(1,200)	(1,200)
Balance at 30th September 2022	**13,800**	**39,052**	**7,256**	**60,108**
Depreciation:				
Balance at 1st October 2021	13,800	32,102	5,240	51,142
Charge for the year	-	1,738	750	2,488
Disposals in the year	(-)	(-)	(986)	(986)
Balance at 30th September 2022	**13,800**	**33,840**	**5,004**	**52,644**
Net Book Value:				
Balance at 30th September 2022	**-**	**5,212**	**2,252**	**7,464**
Balance at 30th September 2021	-	6,950	3,216	10,166

6. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Debtors	1,349	-
Prepayments	1,872	946
	3,221	**946**

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	**1,949**	**925**

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

2022	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	133	152,247	152,380
Restricted Funds			
Department of Transport	5,213	-	5,213
Henry Smith Charity	2,118	-	2,118
Mencap for treat me well	-	824	824
National Lottery Community Fund	-	9,903	9,903
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	7,174	7,174
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	5,000	5,000
Royal Mencap Society	-	3,967	3,967
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	-	2,500	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	5,019	5,019
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	1,793	1,793
Tesco Bags for Help	-	1,000	1,000
	7,331	**42,180**	**49,511**
Totals	**7,464**	**194,427**	**201,891**

2021	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	391	41,367	41,758
Crossbow Club	-	41,360	41,360
Gateway Award	-	57,884	57,884
	391	**140,611**	**141,002**
Restricted Funds			
Department of Transport	6,950	-	6,950
ESF Community Grant	-	1,210	1,210
Henry Smith Charity	2,825	-	2,825
LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust	-	1,000	1,000
Mencap for treat me well	-	1,900	1,900
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	25,779	25,779
NHS Wirral CCG	-	19,636	19,636
P H Holt Foundation	-	3,000	3,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	5,000	5,000
Royal Mencap Society	-	2,000	2,000
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	-	2,500	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	5,186	5,186
WBC for Ventilation	-	5,000	5,000
	9,775	**77,211**	**86,986**
Totals	**10,166**	**217,822**	**227,988**

9. Unrestricted Funds

		Movements in the Year		
2022	Reserves at Beginning of year	Income	Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	**141,002**	**161,206**	**(149,828)**	**152,3802**

2021	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	48,531	28,002	(34,775)	41,758
Crossbow Club	39,191	2,173	(4)	41,360
Gateway Award	55,902	57,435	(55,453)	57,884
	143,624	**87,610**	**(90,232)**	**141,002**

General Fund is used to finance the charitable company's general activities as outlined in the Trustees' Report.

Crossbow Club - is a social club for adults with a learning disability. It runs on Wednesday evenings from a community venue in Birkenhead. It is a relaxed, informal club and gives people from across Wirral the opportunity to meet with friends on a regular basis.

The club is run entirely by volunteers and has been operating for more than 50 years regularly attracting more than 70 attendees.

Gateway Award - is a multi-activity awards programme for people with a learning disability. Similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, it offers bronze, silver and gold levels. The Gateway Award empowers people to experience new things, gain confidence, increase independence, meet new people, have fun and get fit. The award can be accessed as part of a weekly group programme, or independently.

10. Restricted funds

2022	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year Income	Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Department of Transport	6,950	-	(1,737)	5,213
ESF Community Grant	1,210	-	(1,210)	-
Henry Smith Charity	2,825	-	(707)	2,118
LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust	1,000	-	(1,000)	-
Mencap for Treat me Well	1,900	-	(1,076)	824
National Lottery Community Fund	-	9,903	(-)	9,903
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	25,779	97,346	(115,951)	7,174
NHS Wirral CCG	19,636	-	(19,636)	-
P H Holt Foundation	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Price Parry for Crossbow	5,000	-	(-)	5,000
Royal Mencap Society	2,000	4,227	(2,260)	3,967
Screwfix Foundation	5,000	-	(-)	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,500	-	(-)	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	5,186	26,667	(26,834)	5,019
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	11,577	(9,784)	1,793
Tesco Bags for Help	-	1,000	(-)	1,000
WBC for Ventilation	5,000	-	(5,000)	-
	86,986	**150,720**	**(188,195)**	**49,511**

2021	Reserves at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Reserves at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Department of Transport	9,267	-	(2,317)	6,950
ESF Community Grant	-	3,797	(2,587)	1,210
Henry Smith Charity	46,559	25,000	(68,734)	2,825
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	5,004	(5,004)	-
John Moores Foundation	2,404	-	(2,404)	-
LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust	-	1,000	-	1,000
Mencap for Treat me Well	-	1,900	-	1,900
National Lottery Community Fund	18,878	2,600	(21,478)	-
National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)	-	48,105	(22,326)	25,779
NHS Wirral CCG	-	24,485	(4,849)	19,636
P H Holt Foundation	3,000	-	-	3,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	5,000	-	5,000
Royal Mencap Society	-	2,000	-	2,000
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	-	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,500	-	-	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	519	31,167	(26,500)	5,186
Steve Morgan Foundation (DCMS)	-	43,414	(43,414)	-
WBC for Ventilation	-	5,000	-	5,000
Will Charitable Trust	3,500	-	(3,500)	-
	86,627	**203,472**	**(203,113)**	**86,986**

Description of Funds
These are monies given to the charitable company to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes, as follows:

Department of Transport – For the purchase of a new minibus, to be used in the delivery of Wirral Mencap Services as well as lending to third party organisations at the discretion of the Trustees and subject to licensing and insurance conditions.

ESF Community Grant- To support Volunteering for All project

Henry Smith Charity – Contribution towards activities, personal development and running costs.

HMRC Job Retention Scheme – Contribution towards salary of furloughed staff

John Moores Foundation - Contribution towards 'Relationships Project'

LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust- Contribution towards life skills courses for people with learning disabilities

Mencap for Treat me well- Funding for treat me well group activity and support in 2021

National Lottery Community Fund- – Contribution towards salary costs of the information and advice manager.

National Lottery Community Fund (Advice and Advocacy)- To support adults with learning difficulties by providing provision of information, support and advocacy services.

NHS Wirral CCG- Funding to deliver relationships and sexuality education for people with a learning disability and professionals.

P H Holt Foundation– Contribution towards running costs

Price Parry for crossbow- To pay for the cost of running Crossbow in a new venue and with a new member of staff

Royal Mencap Society -To deliver 'Let's get digital' programme of digital skills training for people with a learning disability

Screwfix Foundation- To part fund the installation of a Changing Places toilet

St James Place Charitable Fund – Contribution towards gateway holiday treats

Steve Morgan Foundation – Contribution towards CEO salary

Steve Morgan Foundation- DCMS- Community match funding from DCMS for Covid recovery plan.

Tesco Bags for Help – Contribution towards running costs

WBC for Ventilation- To pay for the cost of installing ventilation units in the office for improved Covid safety

Will Charitable Trust – Contribution towards the refurbishment of gateway room

11. Operating Lease Commitments

Financial commitments under non-cancellable operating leases relating to property lease of 42-44 Market Street and Sharp Rental. New agreement signed October 2022. This will result in the following payments falling due at 30th September 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Within one year	1,084	11,084
2- 5 years	1,355	2,438
	2,439	**13,522**

12. Related Party Transactions

There were no material related party transactions during the year which require disclosure (2021: none).

13. Guarantees

As at 30th September 2022, 246 members had given a guarantee of £1 each in the event of the company winding-up, total: £246 (2021: 270 members £270).

WIRRAL MENCAP

England & Wales - Charity number 1153742

Accounts

WIRRAL MENCAP

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Company Number: 08668735
Charity Number: 1153742

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The trustees are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 30th September 2021.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1st January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Wirral Mencap is a registered charitable company working with and for people with a learning disability and their families. The organisation is based in Birkenhead but works across Wirral.

Wirral Mencap exists to advance equality for people with a learning disability and their families through campaigning, raising awareness, providing information and opportunities. It is our view that to achieve our aims we need to be person centred and work in partnership with other Charities/Organisations that support people with a learning disability.

During the financial year 2020-21, the charity's objectives and activities were guided by a new 5-year Strategic Plan for 2020- 2025 which was developed in consultation with members, beneficiaries and local professionals.

The aims for the period were:

1. To champion equality and promote independence so that people with a learning disability reach their full potential
2. To provide knowledge and build confidence to improve personal well-being, resilience and future planning
3. To connect people to their community and others to reduce social isolation and develop personal relationships.
4. To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The dominant issue for individuals, families, communities and the majority of organisations from the statutory, private or voluntary/community/faith sectors in the last 12 months has been the Covid 19 pandemic. During this period, we have experienced two national lockdowns and early in the year restrictions imposed through the regional tier system.

The negative impact of the pandemic would have been far more severe had not been for the dedication, commitment and hard work of the paid staff and volunteers, we are lucky enough to have as part of our team. Many aspects of our services and activities had already been modified, when the pandemic began, in the second half of the previous year.

During this year we continued to refine and develop many aspects of our work and be far more flexible in how we operate. There are further details of these activities and services later in this report. Throughout this year our number one priority has always been the safety and well-being of everyone associated with Wirral Mencap.

The pandemic has had a very serious impact on the lives and welfare of the majority of the population. However, in many cases, the impact has been more severe on people with a

learning disability and their families/carers. Many people with a learning disability and their families/carers have also successfully risen to the challenges presented by the pandemic, but others have found life increasingly difficult. This has put more pressure on our services and activities. We have tried at all times to meet the needs of these individuals and families/carers. However, restrictions on how we can operate, and staff being forced to isolate due to Covid, has meant we have not always been able to meet these demands. We are constantly looking at how we can improve our services during the pandemic, and beyond, to meet these needs.

The Covid 19 pandemic has also had serious repercussions on our fundraising efforts, especially community fundraising. Although, we have continued to successfully access funding through grants/trusts, some corporate activities and donations/legacies, there has been a severe reduction in funding through community activities. There are further details about this later in the report and the wide ranging negative impact the pandemic has had across every aspect of our organisation.

On a more positive note our new Strategic Plan was approved. This sets out our broad strategic priorities, aims and objectives for the next five years. How we move forward in meeting these aims and objectives is to a certain extent dependent on how quickly we can return to some sort of 'normality' as we hopefully overcome Covid 19. The Plan is designed to be a 'living document' which will be reviewed and adapted to internal and external changes. Despite all the difficulties the pandemic has presented, we feel we are in a positive position to progress our Strategic Plan and move forward as an organisation.

1.1 Information, Advice & Advocacy Service

The Information, Advice & Advocacy Service (IA&A) provides support to people with a learning disability and their families through 1:1 case work, information events and workshops.

From April 2021 the Information & Advice project secured funding from the National Lottery for four years. As a result, the service has been able to develop into the IA&A service, recruit a full-time caseworker, improve the events and workshops offer, and work more strategically with the local authority and other services to improve services.

From 1st October 2020 to September 30th 2021 the service supported **164** individuals/families through casework. **83** of these were new issues this year, the rest were ongoing from the previous year. **714** individual actions were undertaken to support these families including providing support with forms, planning for the future, navigating and accessing local services, both statutory and voluntary, and providing information on, and support to access, a range of services such as housing, social care and planning for the future.

Through a partnership with other local advice-giving organisations, officially known as *Ask Us Wirral*, **36** individuals/ families also accessed specialist welfare benefits advice via Zoom, telephone or face to face at Market Street where the option was available and necessary. A further **28** families/ individuals were referred on to another service or organisation in this period.

No large events were held this year due to ongoing uncertainty with Covid restrictions. **Five** workshops were delivered to a total of **34** parents and carers. One workshop covered

strategies to recognise and manage stress in the caring role; two workshops offered information on wills and trusts, and two on preparing for independent living.
Other highlights in this year include

- Recruited a new full time caseworker who started at the end of July.
- 2 months' extra casework time, generated 256 more individual actions taken to support people with their issues this year than last year.
- recruited a steering group for the Information, Advice and Advocacy Service
- alerted the local authority to a problem with their blue badge application online – no one has called with a problem since they modified the wording on website
- working with local authority and group of advocates to coproduce new and improved processes and information on direct payments
- approached by local authority to work with them on quality assurance of supported living providers
- recruited a supported living provider to pilot the Residential Visiting Advocacy (RVA) service for next year

1.2 Projects:

Project	Overview	Achievements
Gateway Award (Commissioned Day Service)	A personal development programme with five modules: hobbies, lifestyle, fitness, volunteering and challenge. The award has three levels; Bronze (Year 1), Silver (Year 2), Gold (Year 3). Participants attend Wirral Mencap for one day per week to complete the modules. Participants pay for this service via a personal budget/ direct payment.	• 26 people accessed the Gateway Award (day service model): - 7 people completed their bronze award - 9 people completed their silver award - 0 people achieved their gold Award-*This is due to the gold groups getting an extra year added due to missing activities because of lockdowns.* - A new cohort of 9 started the programme in September 2021. Activities included, Taekwondo, drama, dance, photography, arts and crafts and boccia.
Open-access services	Below are our services open to anyone with a learning disability for free. Some people take up our services and some people just come in for some guidance and signposting. For details of each programme see below.	• 22 new people assessed for Wirral Mencap personal development or social/activity services and another 6 were sent information. • When the country started to come out of lockdown and we had additional staff, there was a significant rise in referrals into the organisation.
Gateway Award (Independent)	A free version of the awards programme outlined above for people who do not have funding to access the 'Day Service' model. Participants complete the award independently with the support of family/ support staff	As the country has only opened up in parts during this reporting year, the amount of people signing up to this activity based scheme has been limited. • There are 25 people currently signed up to the Independent Gateway Award. Not all have been active during the last year but

	and our part-time coordinator.	most have interacted with us to some degree. A couple have completed sufficient activities to achieve their award this year but most are still working towards it as activities and volunteering opportunities have been limited for many. 13 are working towards their Bronze including 4 new people during the last financial year. 3 are working towards their Silver and 9 on Gold. Activities included walking, boccia, cycling, dancing, singing, photography, glitter art (and won a prize at the Awards Evening). One person has been writing his autobiography.
Volunteering for All	A service that supports people with a learning disability to find meaningful volunteering opportunities in their community, either independently, with their support staff/carers or with a volunteer buddy (see below).	• 8 people were supported into volunteering placements including at Bren Bikes in Chester, helping out church coffee mornings, gardening, charity shops. • 15 people attended 'How to be a good volunteer' courses which ran in January, April (on Zoom) and June (in person) 2021. There were 3 sessions - what volunteering is and how to prepare to be a volunteer, how to complete an application form and mock interviews.
Buddy Scheme	This programme matches people with a learning disability with trained volunteer buddies. The aims of the project are to reduce isolation and improve access to community opportunities.	• There were 7 active buddy pairs during this time • Buddies supported people who were feeling lonely and isolated either on the phone or in person, some helped members to access volunteering.
Courses / Health Club	Specific courses delivered to meet the identified learning needs of people with a learning disability and those who support them. Health club one-hour weekly session and addresses a range of health issues. It is hosted with the support of a local Community Learning Disability Nurse (NHS Cheshire and Wirral Partnership).	• Health Club – average 5/6 attendees. Health club ran online between Oct 2020 and April 2021, when it was suspended. This was due to a loss of staff member and dwindling attendance. It was re-launched in person in August 2021, coinciding with a Diabetes awareness project and had an average of two attendees between Aug and Oct 2021 <u>Courses (attendance in brackets)</u> Cookery – we moved this online when the second wave hit Liverpool in late September. (8) Social Media – online – February (6)

		'How to use the internet' – in-person – March (7) Cookery – in-person – March (7) Courses had a break between April and August due to staff recruitment. We ran two whole courses between August and end Sept 2021 – making up 20 hours of provision and a further six hours of two further courses started before the end of September. We had to run some sessions in a hybrid online/telephone/in-person fashion due to varying covid-related factors. Out and About Photography – hybrid – (6) Summer Day Trip organising course – hybrid – (10) All participants went on to study a further course with Wirral Mencap in the Autumn, whether In Person Cookery, Zoom Cookery, Creative Digital Media Skills or Include IT. We also ran courses on volunteering and relationships but these are picked up in their respective reporting areas.
Social Clubs	• Crossbow Social Club (at Charing Cross Methodist). • Crossbow Annual Holiday. • Monday Lunch Club (at Market Street premises).	• Crossbow Club was fully closed until a very successful re-launch in September 2021 at a new venue. Numbers were kept low to start to open up carefully. • There was no Crossbow holiday in 2021 • During September 2021 we made plans to re-open Lunch club in person and this happened in October.

1.3 Services during the continuing Covid-19 pandemic

At the start of this reporting year we were heading into the second and hardest-hitting wave of the virus. Many of our members had only recently started venturing out and gaining confidence.

- Gateway day service continued to run at the new socially distanced venue.
- We moved our courses and health club back online which are recorded above.
- We remained in contact via phone, email and Zoom as best we could
- 5 to 6 telephone buddy relationships continued through this second lockdown, with two still going strong at the end of this reporting year.

1.4 Additional activities

Project	Our response
Zoom Activities/courses	- Bingo –led by Julie (12-14 people attend regularly) - Yoga – led by Ashlea (10 people on average) - Chill and Chat led by Ashlea and then Julie (5-7 people on average) - Woman's Group – Sometimes 4-5 people, sometimes no one. - Line Dancing – member led by Anna - Relaxation – member led by Sarah (5-12 attendees each week)
1:1 Zoom training	It became clear in October that we would not be able to host our annual Christmas party and so we started inviting as many people as we could to the office to have 1:1 training on how to use Zoom. We provided this training to 18 people between October and January. We were also able to provide some of them with tablets so they can access our services at home.
Wirral Mencap Party Planning Committee and events	A committee was formed to organise a Halloween party in October 2020, off the success of this the committee went on to take the lead in organising our annual Christmas party (online), a Valentines party, a St Patricks Day party and an Easter Afternoon Tea party.

1.5 Volunteers

It was a tough year for volunteering with there being very sporadic opportunities available, especially given the ever-changing regulations. With restrictions easing over the summer months we recruited a Volunteer Co-ordinator and Club Leader to give impetus to our volunteer programme and relaunch the very popular Crossbow Club.

We were very pleased to host an outdoor event to re-engage our volunteers and to celebrate their contributions, even during these times. We held this event during Volunteers Week in June 2021 and it was attended by 19 volunteers.

Priority was given to relaunching Crossbow at the start of the new financial year and preparations for that included Refresher Volunteer Training sessions for 5 existing Crossbow Volunteers and a clearing up operation at the new Crossbow Club venue with 9 volunteers helping.

1.6 Other schemes of work

Relationships and Sexuality:
Through 2020 we carried out research with Meet'n'Match Friendship and Dating Agency. The aim was to establish need for more relationships work in Merseyside and the potential for a dating agency. All this work finally came to fruition in January 2021 when a report on the research was published. With these findings both Wirral Mencap and Meet'n'Match were successful in applying for funding from NHS England (for Cheshire and Mersey). Each organisation got nearly £25,000 which allowed Meet'n'Match to set up a branch of their agency in Wirral. Our role was to provide a range of training and courses to people with a learning disability and people that support people with learning disabilities.

The funding started in February 2021 and between then and September 2021:

- Recruited 3 x Learning Disabilities Advisors that had gone through the Train the Trainer course under the previous funding. They will go on to lead or support on all the

courses for people with a learning disability. One of them had a learning disability, one is a parent carer and one is a retired Learning Disabilities Nurse.
- Ran a full 8 week course for people with a learning disability covering all aspects of relationships from friends and dating, to healthy behaviours, decision-making, consent and sexual wellbeing
- Hosted a regional Supported Loving Network Meeting in Crewe (Cheshire) with 35 attendees
- Written and delivered 3 x online half-day courses, reaching (45 attendees in total)
- Provided training and resources to the teaching staff at the main college
- Delivered a workshop for sociology degree students
- Organised 2 x Train the Trainer courses which were filled to capacity (to be delivered in next reporting year)

1.7 Strategic/ partnership work

Our fourth Strategic Objective is:
To collaborate, inform and share best practice to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve services

We have been working towards this strategic aim through building relationships with external organisations, seeking opportunities to collaborate and working with them, and people with lived experience, to improve their services and accessibility for people with learning disabilities.

An important part of this work is valuing the contribution made by people with lived experience so Wirral Mencap created a paid position called a Learning Disability Advisor. This is an open and casual vacancy as work is dependent on there being funded work available.

Here are some ways that we did in this reporting year:

- Formed the Make it Better (MIB) group. A group of people with a learning disability, carers and Wirral Mencap staff that want to work with external organisations to make things better for people with a learning disability.
- MIB group worked with Primary Care Wirral to co-design and deliver a four-part training course on 'Health Equality for people with a learning disability'. This was attended by over 100 professionals from across the GP setting, including doctors, nurses, administrators and social prescribing. It received positive feedback.
- Worked with Wirral Borough Council to make their town planning regeneration project (Re-Imagining Birkenhead 2020-2040) consultation more accessible. The MIB group suggested a tour of the city centre to give the designers, architects and council workers more perspective. The tour went ahead and was received well.
- Continue to be the local lead for the Treat Me Well Campaign. This is a group of people with a learning disability, local organisations and professionals, the hospital and carers that meet bi-monthly to talk about how to improve the care and treatment of patients at hospital.
- Hosted focus groups for research company CANDDID (Centre for Autism, Neuro-Diversity and Intellectual Disability) which is part of the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP) to help them with funding bids for mental health and diabetes research, with a view to be co-production partners on any successful bids

- Worked with the CWP learning disability nurses to co-design and deliver a Diabetes Type-2 awareness project in the Wirral day-services. This was a paid position for our LDA's.
- Off the back of us seeking advice about having paid LDAs, Royal Mencap Society asked us to be the co-delivery partners on the roll-out of their Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training pilot. Locally this meant working with Be Well Learning. This led to over 34 hours of paid LDA time (this financial year and next) and is leading to more work for them in the future. It also led to other opportunities with the local health and social care organisations they delivered the training to.
- Co-write a bi-monthly health newsletter with CWP that goes into our newsletter and distributed to all providers.

We have been able to generate some income through the above work.

Work/Collaborator	Dates	Amount	Further information
Age UK/CAB – LD awareness training	February 2021	£80	
Health Equality for PWLD in Primary Care Training – 4 modules over 8 online 1hr sessions	Concept and create Dec – April Delivery April –May	£1,800	About £300 was paid back out in vouchers to the volunteers that helped as thanks
Meet'n'Match Office Rent	May – Sept	£450	£90 per month to March 2022
CWP NHS Trust; diabetes Type-2 awareness project (co-design partners)	June to October 2022	£5,707	£3,707 to pay the Learning Disability Advisors
Royal Mencap Society, Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training Pilot (co-delivery partners)	July-December (this income just covered July-August)	£695	£323 to pay the Learning Disability Advisors
Wirral Met Collage, consultation and provision of RSE resources	September	£100	Had previously paid £1,200 for the delivery of training

This totals £8,832 of which £4,030 is ring-fenced to pay people with lived experience and £4,802 is unrestricted income for Wirral Mencap.

1.8 Fundraising

The aims of the fundraising strategy for the financial year October 2020 to September 2021 were to generate income to meet the projected deficit, diversify income streams and raise the profile of Wirral Mencap in the area.

We recruited a full time Fundraiser in November 2020. The post had been vacant since March. Unfortunately, the Covid pandemic and a new set of government restrictions

continued to curtail our community fundraising activity. Regular events including the Comedy Night and the Santa's Grotto at Gordale were prevented from going ahead.

However, with a new Fundraiser in post, a new plan and several digital fundraising initiatives using digital giving and online platforms were introduced to fill some of the gaps. A suite of digital giving products was set up, including PayPal, Ebay, Amazon Smile, Amazon Wish List, Facebook Birthday Fundraisers, Facebook donation tools, Charity Car. Early in the year Rotary Club NW, Rotary Club Birkenhead, Birkenhead Lions, Wallasey Lions and Wirral Lions made donations to the Wirral Mencap Christmas party totalling £1,050. The Rotary Club of Birkenhead made an additional donation of £500 in May 2021. A successful Crowdfunder campaign through the Aviva Community Fund achieved £2,162.70 to relaunch Crossbow Club.

We had trial a Virtual Talent Competition. Everything including the Awards Evening was delivered online. There was a lot of participation from our members and the event raised £831.

Fundraising activity at the Learning Disability Week celebrations in Hamilton Square in June raised £375.78.

We were able to arrange an in person fundraiser on the 12th September – Wirral Mencap Seaside Walk. Again we had a great deal of participation from our membership and the event proved very popular. It raised £346.55 in sponsorship money with more to come in after the end of the financial year.

We received a total of £3,977.25 in general donations during the year. Some funds from membership renewals. Thank you to everyone who made additional donations with their membership renewal. Other donations came from volunteers Jane Kearley and Jill Troxler who organised their own events to fundraise on our behalf. Thank you both so much for your support.

We were grateful for £518.06 in memoriam donations this year. Backdated Gift Aid claims totalling £4,246.72 were secured.

Applications to Trusts and Foundations were key to ensuring the continuation of projects and services. In total £484,096.65 was secured this financial year, including one large grant for 4 years from National Lottery. This long term funding for our Information and Advice Service has allowed us to enhance this provision with an additional full time case worker and create capacity to develop further our advocacy work. It also provides continuity for the next 4 years, enabling us to look forward with more clarity, certainty and confidence than this time last year.

The following grants were received during September 2020 to October 2021:

Funder	Date	Amount	Project/ activity
ESF(Workers Education 383)	10/09/2020	£3,797	to support Volunteering for All project
LCVS - Skelton Charitable Trust	20/10/2020	£1,000	life skills courses for people with a learning disability
National Lottery Community Fund	16/12/2020	£2,600	Top up funding from National Lottery Covid Emergency funding
Steve Morgan Foundation DCMS	04/01/2021	£43,414	Community Match Funding from DCMS for Covid recovery plans

RMS Let's get digital	11/01/2021	£2,000	to deliver a programme of digital skills training for people with a learning disability
NHS Wirral CCG - Relationships	18/01/2021	£24,485	funding to deliver relationships and sexuality education for people with a learning disability and professionals
Mencap for Treat me Well	11/02/2021	£1,900	to support the Make it Better Group's involvement in the Treat Me Well campaign.
National Lottery Reaching Communities	23/03/2021	£390,000	to deliver Information, Advice and Advocacy project over the next 4 years
ScrewFix Foundation for Changing Places	23/03/2021	£5,000	to part fund the installation of a Changing Places toilet
WBC for ventilation	30/04/2021	£5,000	to pay for the cost of installing ventilation units in the office for improved Covid safety
Price Parry for Crossbow	08/09/2021	£5,000	to pay for the cost of running Crossbow in a new venue and with a new member of staff

Weekly attendance at the Networx 4 Business remained online while lockdown restrictions remained. Face to face meetings resumed as soon as was permitted and with the Fundraiser attending a different meeting – Wirral Mencap was present at three group meetings. There was little opportunity for people to support Wirral Mencap's own fundraising activity however the Networx Virtual Gin and Beer Tasting event well supported by the Networx 4 Business members raised £1,800 to be shared between the three charities in the group.

When restrictions eased support from the Networx 4 Business members resumed. Additional support from businesses included raffle prize donations, in kind donations and corporate sponsorship for the Wirral Mencap Talent Show and Seaside Walk. We recruited two new board members from the Networx 4 Business group.

The drastic reduction in community fundraising activity will have several outcomes for Wirral Mencap. The amount of unrestricted funding has dropped significantly and it will take some time to build up momentum and volunteer support again.

When feasible we would want to repeat the Wirral Mencap Talent Show – ideally as an in person event – and the Seaside Walk. Both would enhance our programme of fundraising events in the future.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income in the year was £291,082 (2020: £256,528) of which £203,472 (2020 £145,620), related to funding for projects upon which restrictions are placed.

Total expenditure in the year was £293,345 (2020: £247,104), creating a deficit for the year of £2,263 (2020: surplus £9,424).

At 30th September 2021 the charitable company's reserves stood at £227,988 (2020: £230,251) of which £86,986 (2020: £86,627) represent restricted funds

Risk Management

The committee examines the major risks that the charitable company faces each year and has developed and continues to develop systems to monitor and control these risks to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity both now and in the future.

The main risk to the organisation is financial. Opportunities to generate unrestricted income through our community fundraising have completely disappeared. It will take time to grow alternative activities such as digital fundraising and to bring back momentum on community activity. Longer term, more developmental funding opportunities were not available at the height of the pandemic however securing 4 years of funding from National Lottery to develop the advocacy side of the Information and Advice Service has brought some certainty and confidence in the future.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charitable company to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves; at a level which will allow the charity to cover redundancy costs and continue its activities for six to twelve months should no further funding be received. The relatively high level of reserves is intended to provide continuation and security for the organisation in light of:

- Henry Smith core costs funding ended in March 2021
- Uncertain future plans and costs for future premises and premises maintenance.

At the end of the financial year the unrestricted funds totalled £140,611 (2020: £143,102) net of fixed assets. The charitable company's policy requires £14,717 redundancy provision, £13,522 lease commitment and £35,526 to £65,051, totalling £63,765 to £93,290.

PLANS FOR FUTURE

Progress on objectives set for year one of the 5- year strategy has been excellent. Most activity and impact has been in the following:

- advocating and supporting people to express wishes, views and feelings
- providing independent information and advice on rights, roles and responsibilities to enable people to make informed choices
- challenging, informing and educating to improve accessibility and service
- echoing the needs and concerns of the Learning Disability Community
- working with individuals and organisations to develop employability skills
- supporting people with a learning disability with friendships, relationships and developing social skills

In year 2 the plan is to continue with the existing programme delivery and services. Recognising the need to expand the reach of those services to new beneficiaries we will develop a communications strategy – with particular focus on improving the website and reviewing membership.

During the next financial year, the organisation will continue to diversify and re-establish fundraised income generation with the appointment of a new Community Fundraiser. The impact of the pandemic means we will need to explore different ways of bringing in unrestricted income especially digital donations and fundraising events.

For the new financial year and beyond we have secured National Lottery grant funding of £397,709 for 4 years from April 2021. In the next financial year – Community Fundraising activity will be supplemented by engaging the services of a Grants and Foundations Fundraiser with the aim of replacing the Henry Smith funding that ended in March 2021. The intention is to carry on working with organisations and service providers and to seek further, longer term opportunities to generate income from this work.

The current premises lease for Market Street runs to October 2022. With formal arrangements for remote working now in place we will need to re-evaluate our requirements for physical space and whether to extend the existing lease again or to move premises.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 29th August 2013 (Company number 08668735) and registered as a charity on 9th September 2013 (Charity number 1153742).

The Governing Instruments under which the charitable company operates comprise the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1st October 2009 and revised by special resolution on 18th February 2016 developed by the Royal Mencap society.

Members' Liability

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the Association undertakes to contribute the assets of the Society, in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member or within one year of ceasing to be a member for debts and liabilities of the Society contracted before he or she ceases to be a member such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

The board of Trustees, who are also the Directors, are appointed by the members in accordance with procedures set out in the Memorandum and Articles.

Trustees are appointed by the membership at the annual general meeting. The board may from time to time co-opt a person (who may or may not be a member) to the board either to fill a vacancy or as an addition member of the board. Co-opted members must not form more than one-third of the board in number, and the total number must not exceed twelve.

The trustees develop the strategy for the organisation and oversee its management. They ensure that decisions are taken in the best interests of the beneficiaries. The day-to-day decision-making is delegated to the Chief Executive with any significant decisions being taken to the Committee at board meetings. The board of Trustees meet 12 times a year to make key decisions regarding the organisations present and future activity, and to offer guidance and support to the staff team

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name	Wirral Mencap
Company Number	08668735
Charity Number	1153742
Registered Office	42-44 Market Street Birkenhead Merseyside England CH41 5BT
Trustees	The trustees, who are also the company directors, that served during the year were as follows:

T Beck	(Appointed 14th September 2021)
K Corker	(Resigned 18th January 2022)
J Evans	(Appointed 14th September 2021)
J Jones	(Resigned 14th January 2022)
J Mahmood	(Resigned 19th January 2022)
C Newton	
S Neville	(Appointed 14th September 2021)
G Seller	
A Troxler	
R Turton	(Resigned 17th April 2021)

Company Secretary	S Nicholson (Appointed 2nd February 2020)
Independent Examiner	Mr. Graham Wright BA(Hons) FCA DChA LCVS 151 Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH
Bankers	Lloyds Plc P.O. Box BX1 1LT

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

.....G Seller.....
G Seller
Trustee

Date: ..1..February 2022.

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue as a going concern;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice (Sorp 2015) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1st January 2015).

By the Order of the board,

.....

G Seller
Trustee

42-44 Market Street
Birkenhead
Merseyside
Englan
CH41 5BT

Date: 1/12/22

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF WIRRAL MENCAP

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 30th September 2021, which are set out on pages17 to 29.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a 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 the 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.

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting 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.

Name: **Mr. Graham Wright**
Relevant professional qualification or body: **FCA DChA**
Address: **c/o LCVS 151, Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH**
Dated: 16 February 2022

WIRRAL MENCAP
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
Income and endowments from:		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	3a	12,883	-	12,883	23,324
Charitable activities	3b	70,889	203,472	274,361	221,638
Other trading activities	3c	3,427	-	3,427	10,819
Investments	3d	411	-	411	747
Total income		**87,610**	**203,472**	**291,082**	**256,528**
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		25,181	-	25,181	13,693
Charitable activities	4	65,051	203,113	268,164	233,411
Total expenditure		**90,232**	**203,113**	**293,345**	**247,104**
Net (expenditure)/ income, net movement in funds		**(2,622)**	**359**	**(2,263)**	**9,424**
Total funds brought forward	9, 10	143,624	86,627	230,251	220,827
Total funds carried forward	8-10	**141,002**	**86,986**	**227,988**	**230,251**

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities of the charitable company.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

	Notes	30th September 2021		30th September 2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		10,166		13,555
Current assets					
Debtors	6	946		2,298	
Cash at bank and in hand		217,801		215,323	
		218,747		217,621	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(925)		(925)	
Net current assets			217,822		216,696
Total assets less current liabilities			**227,988**		**230,251**
Funds:					
Unrestricted funds	8, 9		141,002		143,624
Restricted funds	8, 10		86,986		86,627
			227,988		**230,251**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

For the period covered by these accounts the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are the directors of the company, acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees on ....11/2/22.....

.....

G Seller
Trustee
11 February 2022

1. Limited Liability

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Each member's liability is limited to £1.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Wirral Mencap meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Going Concern

The Charitable Company has not been significantly impacted financially by Covid-19, due to receiving emergency funding from three funders. At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charitable Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees have therefore adopted the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Funds Accounting

Unrestricted funds are the charity's free reserves available for the trustees to distribute in accordance with the charitable company's charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by the donor. All restricted funds are accounted for as restricted income and expenditure for the purposes is charged to the fund.

Income recognition

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

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exception of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accruals basis except for grants receivable, which are recognised on the date on which their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Income from other trading activities relates to fundraising events and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Income from investment relates to bank interest received and is recognised when the amount is certain.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities. Support and governance costs are applied to unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions, as specified by the donor.

Expenditure on raising funds relates to costs incurred in fundraising events including a fundraiser salary and other costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities relate to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charitable company. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charitable company.

Fixed Assets

Capital expenditure of £500 and above is stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life as below:

Leasehold Improvements	25% per annum straight line basis
Motor Vehicle	25% per annum reducing balance basis
Fixtures & Fittings	25% per annum reducing balance basis

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Taxation

Income and gains are exempt from taxation as they are received and applied for charitable purposes only. The charitable company benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Income and endowments from

	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021
a. Donations and legacies	£	£	£	£
Donations	12,883	-	12,883	23,324

	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
b. Charitable activities	£	£	£	£
Big Lottery Fund Grant - Reaching Communities	-	-	-	11,277
Club Activities income	60,362	-	60,362	73,012
Contract income	6,482	-	6,482	1,454
ESF	-	3,797	3,797	-
Henry Smith Charity	-	25,000	25,000	50,000
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	5,004	5,004	8,017
John Moores Foundation	-	-	-	10,000
LCVS Skelton Charitable fund	-	1,000	1,000	-
LCR Cares	-	-	-	5,000
Member's Subs	1,045	-	1,045	1,145
Mencap for Treat me Well	-	1,900	1,900	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	2,600	2,600	26,120
National Lottery Reaching Communities	-	48,105	48,105	-
NHS Wirral CCG	-	24,485	24,485	-
Price Parry for crossbow	-	5,000	5,000	-
P H Holt Foundation	-	-	-	3,000
RMS Lets get digital	-	2,000	2,000	-
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-
St James Place Charitable Fund	-	-	-	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	31,167	31,167	17,500
Steve Morgan Foundation – Covid Fund	-	-	-	8,706
Steve Morgan Foundation-DCMS	-	43,414	43,414	-
Training income	3,000	-	3,000	407
WBC for Ventilation	-	5,000	5,000	-
Will Charitable Trust	-	-	-	3,500
	70,889	**203,472**	**274,361**	**221,638**

c. Other trading activities	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events income	**3,427**	**-**	**3,427**	**10,819**

d. Investments	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	**411**	**-**	**411**	**747**

4. Expenditure on: charitable activities

	Direct Charitable Expenditure £	Support & Governance Costs £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Relief of people with learning disabilities, to provide help and support and provide facilities for recreation and leisure time	180,806	87,358	**268,164**	**233,411**

a. Analysed as follows:

Direct charitable expenditure:	2021 £	2020 £
Staff salary costs	125,367	120,111
Pension	2,255	1,912
Minibus expenses	3,034	2,662
Building running costs	18,135	17,382
Activities and events costs	22,858	30,994
Equipment	991	1,957
Training	901	301
Travel expenses	101	964
Volunteer expenses	744	106
Recruitment and DBS fees	3,162	2,667
Depreciation	3,258	4,344
	180,806	**183,400**

Support & Governance costs:	2021 £	2020 £
Staff salary costs	59,443	36,973
Pension	621	742
Office costs	13,276	1,972
Consumables	839	1,915
Insurance	1,873	2,385
Marketing	3,106	1,111
Registrations and subscriptions	5,537	2,587
Bank charges	199	466
Payroll fees	1,408	761
Accountancy fees	925	925
Depreciation	131	174
	87,358	**50,011**
Total expenditure on charitable activities	**268,164**	**233,411**

£203,113 (2020: £140,306) of the above expenditure relates to restricted funding.

b. Staff Costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	198,969	158,937
Social security costs	10,115	7,923
Pension	3,118	2,873
	212,202	**169,733**

c. Particulars of employees:

Average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2021	Restated 2020
Charitable activities	**9**	**6**

Prior year has been restated to correct prior period miscalculation in the average number of employees.

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

The Trustees are not remunerated for their services and are not included in the above number of employees.

No out of pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2020: £nil).

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements	Motor Vehicle	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost:				
Balance at 1st October 2020	13,800	39,052	8,456	61,308
Additions in the year	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30th September 2021	**13,800**	**39,052**	**8,456**	**61,308**
Depreciation:				
Balance at 1st October 2020	13,800	29,785	4,168	47,753
Charge for the year	-	2,317	1,072	3,389
Balance at 30th September 2021	**13,800**	**32,102**	**5,240**	**51,142**
Net Book Value:				
Balance at 30th September 2021	**-**	**6,950**	**3,216**	**10,166**
Balance at 30th September 2020	-	9,267	4,288	13,555

6. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Debtors	-	715
Prepayments	946	1,583
	946	**2,298**

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	**925**	**925**

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	391	41,367	41,758
Crossbow Club	-	41,360	41,360
Gateway Award	-	57,884	57,884
	391	**140,611**	**141,002**
Restricted Funds			
Department of Transport	6,950	-	6,950
ESF	-	1,210	1,210
Henry Smith Charity	2,825	-	2,825
LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust	-	1,000	1,000
Mencap for treat me well	-	1,900	1,900
National Lottery Reaching Communities	-	25,779	25,779
NHS Wirral CCG	-	19,636	19,636
P H Holt Foundation	-	3,000	3,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	5,000	5,000
RMS Lets get Digital	-	2,000	2,000
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	-	2,500	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	5,186	5,186
WBC for Ventilation	-	5,000	5,000
	9,775	**77,211**	**86,986**
Totals	**10,166**	**217,822**	**227,988**

9. Unrestricted Funds

		Movements in the Year		
	Resources at Beginning of year	**Income**	**Expenditure**	**Resources at End of Year**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
General Fund	48,531	28,002	(34,775)	41,758
Crossbow Club	39,191	2,173	(4)	41,360
Gateway Award	55,902	57,435	(55,453)	57,884
	143,624	**87,610**	**(90,232)**	**141,002**

General Fund is used to finance the charitable company's general activities as outlined in the Trustees' Report.

Crossbow Club - is a social club for adults with a learning disability. It runs on Wednesday evenings from a community venue in Birkenhead. It is a relaxed, informal club and gives people from across Wirral the opportunity to meet with friends on a regular basis.

The club is run entirely by volunteers and has been operating for more than 50 years regularly attracting more than 70 attendees.

Gateway Award - is a multi-activity awards programme for people with a learning disability. Similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, it offers Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. The Gateway Award empowers people to experience new things, gain confidence, increase independence, meet new people, have fun and get fit. The award can be accessed as part of a weekly group programme, or independently.

10. Restricted funds

	Resources at Beginning of year	Movements in the Year: Income	Movements in the Year: Expenditure	Resources at End of Year
	£	£	£	£
Department of Transport	9,267	-	(2,317)	6,950
ESF	-	3,797	(2,587)	1,210
Henry Smith Charity	46,559	25,000	(68,734)	2,825
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	5,004	(5,004)	-
John Moores Foundation	2,404	-	(2,404)	-
LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust	-	1,000	-	1,000
Mencap for Treat me Well	-	1,900	-	1,900
National Lottery Community Fund	18,878	2,600	(21,478)	-
National Lottery Reaching Communities	-	48,105	(22,326)	25,779
NHS Wirral CCG	-	24,485	(4,849)	19,636
P H Holt Foundation	3,000	-	-	3,000
Price Parry for Crossbow	-	5,000	-	5,000
RMS Lets get digital	-	2,000	-	2,000
Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	-	5,000
St James Place Charitable Fund	2,500	-	-	2,500
Steve Morgan Foundation	519	31,167	(26,500)	5,186
Steve Morgan Foundation – DCMS	-	43,414	(43,414)	-
WBC for Ventilation	-	5,000	-	5,000
Will Charitable Trust	3,500	-	(3,500)	-
	86,627	**203,472**	**(203,113)**	**86,986**

Description of Funds
These are monies given to the charitable company to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes, as follows:

Big Lottery Fund Grant – Reaching Communities – To deliver information and advice through one-to-one case work, information events, workshops and newsletters.

Department of Transport – For the purchase of a new minibus, to be used in the delivery of Wirral Mencap Services as well as lending to third party organisations at the discretion of the Trustees and subject to licensing and insurance conditions.

ESF- To support Volunteering for All project

Henry Smith Charity – Contribution towards activities, personal development and running costs.

HMRC Job Retention Scheme – Contribution towards salary of furloughed staff

John Moores Foundation - Contribution towards 'Relationships Project'

LCR Cares – Contribution towards salaries

LCVS Skelton Charitable Trust- Contribution towards life skills courses for people with learning disabilities

Mencap for Treat me well- Funding for treat me well group activity and support in 2021

National Lottery Community Fund- – Contribution towards salary costs of the information and advice manager.

National Lottery Reaching communities- To support adults with learning difficulties by providing provision of information, support and advocacy services.

NHS Wirral CCG- Funding to deliver relationships and sexuality education for people with a learning disability and professionals.

P H Holt Foundation– Contribution towards running costs

Price Parry for crossbow- To pay for the cost of running Crossbow in a new venue and with a new member of staff

RMS Lets get digital-To deliver a programme of digital skills training for people with a learning disability

Screwfix Foundation- To part fund the installation of a Changing Places toilet

St James Place Charitable Fund – Contribution towards gateway holiday treats

Steve Morgan Foundation – Contribution towards CEO salary

Steve Morgan Foundation- DCMS- Community match funding from DCMS for Covid recovery plan.

Steve Morgan Foundation – Covid Fund – Contribution towards salary costs of the information and advice manager.

WBC for Ventilation- To pay for the cost of installing ventilation units in the office for improved Covid safety

Will Charitable Trust – Contribution towards the refurbishment of gateway room

11. Operating Lease Commitments

Financial commitments under non-cancellable operating leases relating to property lease of 42-44 Market Street and Sharp Rental. This will result in the following payments falling due at 30th September 2021. (2020: £15,720)

	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	11,084	5,720
2- 5 years	2,438	10,000
	13,522	**15,720**

12. Related Party Transactions

There were no material related party transactions during the year which require disclosure (2020: none).

13. Guarantees

As at 30th September 2021, 270 members had given a guarantee of £1 each in the event of the company winding-up, total: £217 (2020: 344 members £344).