

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Charity Number: 1155364**

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**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	<b>1155364</b> (England and Wales)
<b>REGISTERED ADDRESS</b>	Staffordshire Women's Aid PO Box 2387 Stafford Staffordshire ST16 3WS
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Claire Rowcliffe – Chair Karen Morrey – Vice Chair Linda Horne – Treasurer Sue Shirt Trish Rowlands
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Lawton Bradford Accountants Chartered Certified Accountants and Statutory Auditors 7 Marconi Gate Staffordshire Technology Park Stafford ST18 0FZ
<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>	Dickie James (Ms) - resigned 01 March 2023 Charlotte Almond – appointed 01 March 2023
<b>BANKERS</b>	Unity Trust Bank PLC PO Box 7193 Planetary Road Willenhall WV1 9DG

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**TRUSTEE'S REPORT**  
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The Trustees present their Annual Report and audited Financial Statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, 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 in October 2019.

The Trustees named on Page 1 have served throughout the year. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the Constitution of the Charity. There must be at least 3 charity Trustees. The Board of Trustees is authorised to recruit and appoint new Trustees to fill vacancies as and when necessary. The charity Trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required.

As from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014, Staffordshire Women's Aid began operating as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, although the organisation has been a registered charity since 25th November 1976.

#### **INVESTMENT POWERS**

The Constitution authorises the Trustees to make and hold investments using the general funds of Staffordshire Women's Aid. The Charity's policy is to invest any surplus funds in low-risk deposit account investments to ensure that funds invested are in a liquid form to facilitate easy access for meeting variations in funding stream income.

The Trustees continue to review the charity's investment policy on an on-going basis.

For the year ended 31 March 2023, the Charity invested £271,497 (2022-£270,276) in deposit accounts, earning interest totaling £2,298 as shown in note 5. The return on the investment has achieved our objective of generating funds without undue risk.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

To relieve the distress and increase the safety of women and children who have suffered or are exposed to domestic and sexual violence and abuse, by the provision of support, advice, temporary accommodation and any other services or activities which may relieve their circumstances, and where required, we will support men in the same situation.

To relieve any woman or child in necessitous circumstances who may be temporarily homeless by making grants of money or providing or paying for items services or facilities and by the preservation and protection of their mental and physical health in such ways as shall relieve their need.

To educate the public in the causes and effects of domestic and sexual violence and the prevention thereof and to undertake or contribute to research into such matters and / or publish the useful results of such research.

The Trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission's guidance to report on public benefit and the Charity's aims and objects are consistent with this guidance. During the year, all the activities described in this report were undertaken for public benefit.

#### **OUR VISION**

A world where any form of Violence Against Women and Girls, and all forms of domestic and sexual violence are no longer tolerated.



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**OUR MISSION**

To empower victims to become survivors, to live safely and to thrive.

**OUR VALUES**

Passion, Empowerment and Trust

**OUR SOCIAL OBJECTIVES**

1. To Increase the safety of victims of domestic and sexual violence, including children and young people, whether current, recent, or historical.
2. To meet the immediate and longer term practical and emotional needs of victims of domestic and sexual violence.
3. To empower those who have suffered, or are at risk of experiencing, domestic and sexual violence/and abuse to:
  - Have choices and understand their rights.
  - Improve their physical and mental wellbeing.
  - Build confidence, aspirations, skills, and independence.
4. To ensure that those impacted by domestic and sexual violence and abuse are given a voice in our communities.
5. To educate, campaign, and raise awareness of domestic and sexual violence, and the widespread phenomenon of violence against women and girls, and its impact on individuals and communities.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CHARITY**

The Board of Trustees provides governance and strategic management to Staffordshire Women's Aid. The recruitment process for Trustees aims to build a Board that has a strong commitment to the Vision, Mission and Values of the organization, with a range of managerial and governance skills, an appropriate understanding of the legal responsibilities of Trusteeship and experience in making decisions as part of a Board. Recruitment of Trustees involves openly advertising for places on the Board linking into our own Volunteer Project and a range of local volunteer infrastructure organisations. An application pack is sent out to prospective Trustees, and a successful application will be followed by an interview with the Chair and another Trustee, or the Chief Executive Officer. A successful candidate following interview will be asked to attend at least 3 board meetings, which represents a probationary and induction period. During this period, induction and training of new Trustees is carried out in accordance with the organisation's Trustee and Recruitment Policy. If this process is successful, and it is agreed by the Board, the probationary trustee is invited to become a full trustee. During the year, the Board recruited 2 potential new Trustees who are currently within their probationary period. The charity seeks to represent strong women's leadership through an all women Board of Trustees, as well as volunteer and staff team.

Major risks have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

The Trustees delegate day to day responsibility for running the organisation to its Chief Executive Officer who provides leadership and strategic management, and who is supported by a management and administrative team. A range of free, user-led, specialist support is provided by a team of staff and volunteers, who also train and raise awareness within communities.

In March, after more than 25 years, Dickie James stepped down from her role as CEO of Staffordshire Women's Aid. Dickie worked tirelessly to support victims of abuse in Staffordshire, and leaves behind a strong and committed organisation. The Trustees would like to acknowledge Dickie's fantastic contribution to the Charity, and thank her for all she has done to support women and children living with, fleeing or recovering from domestic and sexual violence.

Following a thorough recruitment process the Board of Trustees were pleased to appoint Charlotte Almond as the new CEO for the coming year.

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**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

During the year we are proud to have continued our work supporting those living with, fleeing, or recovering from the impact of domestic and sexual violence in Staffordshire. Forty-six years on we remain a grass roots, user-led organisation, placing at the heart of our work the experiences of those we support.

The Trustees consider the performance of the Charity to be in line with its charitable objects, vision, mission, values and social objectives, and to be most satisfactory as outlined below:

**24-Hour Helpline**

The Helpline provides emotional support and specialist information, advice, and guidance on a range of issues for victims of domestic and sexual violence and abuse 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. In addition, the helpline co-ordinates all referrals (self-referrals, agency referrals, email, telephone) into our services. One of the most important functions of the helpline is that, when our refuge is full, we assist women fleeing domestic violence who contact us to secure alternative refuge provision, this can be anywhere in the country and takes several hours to arrange. During the year we have continued to publicise the Helpline number through local community networks, businesses, publicity material and social media.

Our highly trained, committed team of volunteers gave 2,078 hours of their time to run the helpline during 2022/23 providing a lifeline for victims of abuse in our community. In June we were delighted to be awarded **Volunteer Team of the Year** in recognition of their hard work and dedication supporting the community. We are incredibly proud of our Helpline volunteers, they represent the very core of what we stand for - listening, believing and giving victims a voice. The Trustees acknowledge and appreciate the hard work which goes into keeping this vital service running, and express their gratitude to all those who freely volunteer their time to support this service and our community.

**During 2022/23 we responded to 2,120 calls via our 24-Hour Helpline.**

**Refuge Accommodation**



Our refuge exists for women and children who are no longer safe in their own homes. We believe that a refuge should provide an environment in which women and children are able to access the choices and facilities which enable them to make the complex journey from Victim to Survivor. Alongside high quality, appropriate accommodation, this can only be possible with intense specialist support which is designed to meet the very diverse needs of the women and children using it. As a result, refuge's not only save lives, they change lives.

**Forward House Refuge** provides safe accommodation for women and children who need to flee their homes because of domestic violence. All our accommodation is self-contained, which means families have their own flat as well as access to communal facilities, such as the Children's playroom.

We also provide a range of safe **Dispersed Refuge Accommodation** within the community for those fleeing domestic violence, including male victims. The self-contained nature of our accommodation means it is possible for us to accommodate victims with a more diverse range of needs, who may otherwise be excluded or unable to access communal refuges.

Our specialist Support Practitioners provide practical and emotional support, and work to re-build the confidence and self-esteem which so many women and children lose because of domestic violence. They provide specialist support to help women recover from the abuse they have experienced, secure suitable long-term accommodation and build their skills and resilience for independent living, enabling them, and their children, to thrive. We are grateful for funding from the Nationwide Building Society which enabled us to provide this specialist support to families staying in our dispersed



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refuge accommodation.

The **Resettlement Service** helps women to move into safe, long-term accommodation following Refuge. The resettlement worker will support them through all the practical tasks of moving into a new home, including accessing grants for furniture or white goods. The resettlement worker will also help women access local schools and groups for their children. Resettlement work will continue for about 8 weeks after a woman has left the refuge to ensure they are not left feeling isolated and have settled well into their new home.

We would like to express our thanks for the support we have received from local community groups in organizing days out and for funding parties, celebrations, meals and other activities, including our Breakfast Club, for women and children at our refuge. Such positive activities are often denied to women and children when living with an abusive relationship. We are particularly grateful to the Arts Council England who funded an arts project for the women and children at Forward House Refuge to commemorate the Queens Jubilee. The women and children attended a series of therapeutic workshops to design a living piece of art that was installed in the garden at ForWard House Refuge. We then held a special tea party enabling families to celebrate the Jubilee. It is important to recognise that because they are living in refuge, the opportunities for women and children to access other celebrations as part of the Queen's Jubilee was significantly reduced. This project enabled the residents to make connections with each other and reduce feelings of isolation. It also helped create positive, happy memories, which is particularly important for children, and is key in helping to build emotional resilience in young people.

During 2022/23 we received 420 referrals for refuge space. Of this, we accommodated 25 women and 55 children within our range of refuge accommodation, with 26 women and their children successfully completing service and resettling in long-term accommodation. In addition, we secured refuge for a further 145 families from Staffordshire.

***"Women's Aid has saved my life. I started my journey in the refuge ForWard House and from day one the support I had was absolutely brilliant, so much so if it wasn't for the team I genuinely wouldn't be alive today. I've come across so many barriers along my journey but the one constant was the Refuge team. The workshops at Women's Aid including power to change, well-being Wednesday and BBO have been life changing for myself. Without your support I wouldn't be the woman I am today and know my boundaries and my rights. My confidence is down to all the staff who are a part of Staffordshire Women's Aid."***

#### **Women's Homelessness and Resettlement Service**

The Homelessness and Resettlement Service is funded by Stafford Borough Council, Cannock Chase District Council and South Staffordshire District Council. A dedicated domestic abuse practitioner acts as a single point of contact for the Housing Options Teams across all 3 local authorities.

The aim of the role is to achieve solutions for women at risk of homelessness or homeless due to domestic and/or sexual violence. The Homelessness and Resettlement role includes regular meetings with the housing team, joint working, and exchange of knowledge. Its aim is to build close working partnerships focusing upon the needs of victims, seeking solutions such as speedier access to refuge, safety measures and other accommodation and support solutions. As well as working intensively with victims of domestic abuse presenting to housing team as homeless, the project also works with the housing team and other homelessness agencies to provide appropriate support for female rough sleepers living with domestic/sexual abuse. It aims to engage this particularly vulnerable cohort in specialist support via the partnership since female rough sleepers are significantly less likely to approach SWA for support through established referral pathways such as the 24-hour help line.

There have been 80 referrals into this service in 2022/23. All women were offered advice, safety planning, signposting, multi-agency working and support in securing safe accommodation.

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**Survive Sexual Assault and Abuse Service** provides a free, non-judgmental, and confidential service for adults, both male and female, children over the age of 4, and close family members/significant others who have been affected by sexual assault or abuse at any point during their lives across Staffordshire. Victims can seek support whether they report the crime to the police or not.

*During the year we have successfully supported 654 men, women, trans adults and children aged between 4 - 78 years old through the ISVA, CHISVA and Family Support Service.*

**ISVA and CHISVA Service**

Our **Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA)** and **Children's Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (CHISVA)** provide practical help, advice, and emotional support to victims of sexual violence and abuse. This also includes support to navigate the criminal justice system for those victims who have reported to the police.

We have continued to offer support sessions by telephone, video call and face to face. This has helped service users determine the type of support they would like, and enabled greater accessibility to our service for those who work, have caring responsibilities or who don't want to come to our resource centre/have a home visit. We have also provided one to one support to children and young people in over 50 schools and colleges across Staffordshire.

**The Family Support Service**

This service provides practical and emotional support to people who have been impacted by any form of sexual abuse against a close family member or significant other. It helps to meet the needs of victims and their families, providing accurate information on criminal justice processes, victims' rights and referring to other agencies as appropriate.

**Partnership Working in the Survive Sexual Assault and Abuse Service**

We regularly attend both the RASSO strategic and scrutiny meetings alongside partner agencies. In addition, we also meet with the Police, Victim Gateway, and other providers to improve partnership working to ensure the best possible response to victims of sexual violence in Staffordshire. Other partnership work includes:

- Working in partnership with Midlands Foundation Partnership NHS Trust and North Staffordshire Combined NHS Trust on a new Pathfinders Project for Adult Survivors of Sexual Assault and Abuse with Complex Trauma Related Mental Health Needs.
- Participation in the West Midlands National ISVA Framework Implementation Group.
- Attendance at the CPS ISVA Forum and quarterly meetings with the RASSO prosecutor.
- Participation in the West Midlands CPS VAWG scrutiny panel reviews.

***"Your services were absolutely amazing. I worked closely with my ISVA, and she was absolutely brilliant. I am very thankful for the support provided by Women's Aid and would recommend your support to anyone who needed it."***

***"I am still using an ISVA and Staffordshire Women's Aid for support after 2 years; I will never be able to thank them enough."***



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## **SWA Counselling Services**

We have continued to further develop and deliver our **Counselling Service** this year to victims of domestic and sexual violence. Counselling is an important part of the recovery process for victims of abuse, enabling service users to acknowledge their experiences and express their feelings in a safe and supported environment. We have continued to offer counselling through face-to-face appointments and remote appointments by telephone or zoom. Whilst most service users want face to face appointments, some prefer the option of remote counselling. The flexibility of remote counselling reduces travelling and the difficulties of getting to appointments, especially for those in work or those who have caring responsibilities.

Due to the continued high demand for counselling, and despite increasing provision, we have continued to hold a waiting list throughout the year. The waiting time for adults is four months and for children and young people it is three months. We have introduced a number of measures to manage the waiting list and to ensure that service users are not left feeling unsupported. Helpline volunteers provide regular welfare calls to those on the waiting list offering emotional support and assessing if risks/needs have changed. We have also introduced an online self-help program called Taste of Recovery that we offer to those on the waiting list as an extra support whilst waiting for counselling.

*During the year our team of qualified counsellors provided therapeutic counselling to 416 adults and 79 children.*

We are extremely grateful to The National Lottery Community Fund, the Staffordshire Commissioner and the Ministry of Justice for funding our Counselling Service and helping us respond to the needs of victims of domestic and sexual violence in our community.

### **Fast Track Counselling**

The Fast Track counselling service, funded by G4S, provides a dedicated counselling service to anyone who attends the SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) based in Stoke-on-Trent. All service users attending the SARC are able to access immediate trauma counselling for up to ten sessions. For service users who require more than ten sessions, their counselling continues through SWA's counselling service.

### **HMP Drake Hall**

We are very pleased to have been able to continue our work in Drake Hall Prison offering weekly counselling sessions to women who have experienced domestic or sexual abuse.

Our partnership with Drake Hall has allowed us to continue to support their charity shop, which is run by the women, for the women in Drake Hall Prison. We are able to supply the charity shop with our surplus donations, and any funds raised are then donated to SWA. This way of working alongside Drake Hall has enabled us to raise awareness of our work within the prison and become more visible to those women who are vulnerable and impacted by violence against women.

### **Student Placements**

During the year we recruited and trained 4 counselling students on placement with us from Keele University and Buxton & Leek College. They have proved to be an invaluable addition to our counselling service providing up to twenty-four counselling sessions a week to our service users. Three of our students from previous years continue to work for us as fully qualified counsellors.

"The Counselling Service helped me so much, everyone has been so professional and empathetic. It was reassuring to speak to someone with no emotional attachment to myself and just be able to talk openly and not feel judged or belittled. Brilliant service, thank you!"

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We offer the following range of community-based services for women, delivered in safe, trauma informed environments which aim to combat gender inequality, which is, in our view, both the cause and consequence of violence against women and girls.

### **Group Work**

Over 400 women accessed one of our groups or workshops in 2022/23 to aid recovery, improve well-being and build self-esteem and skills, including:

**Power to Change** is an educational programme for women who have experienced violence and abuse. The programme focusses on assertiveness techniques, establishing boundaries and assessing abusive and healthy relationships as well as building self-esteem, confidence, and self-determination.

***"This course has definitely opened my eyes and given me direction, my confidence has grown."***

**Our Well-Being Group**, delivered in partnership with MPFT, has been co-designed with service users and is tailored to the needs of women who have experienced domestic and/or sexual violence and abuse. It provides guided, self-help techniques and tools to improve mental health and well-being and is delivered alongside Peer Volunteers.

In addition to the structured group work programmes above, we have also delivered a range of group activities and workshops at our Women's Centre to help reduce isolation and improve women's confidence, health and well-being, including:

- **Coffee Mornings** where women can drop in and participate in a range of different activities. This group encourages peer support, empowerment and self-resilience and helps to develop and shape future service provision.
- **Winter Warmth Event** providing information regarding energy saving tips, cooking on a budget, preparing for winter blackouts, accessing warm spaces and explaining the government winter fuel concessions.
- **Digital and Financial Drop-Ins and Employability Workshops**

### **Legal Clinic**

Our partnership with Staffordshire University and Lewis Rogers Solicitors continues to provide a free, confidential, legal advice clinic once a month for victims of domestic and sexual violence and abuse.

In 2022/23, 34 women accessed the Legal Clinic for a range of issues, including Divorce, Child Contact, Family Law and Injunctions.

### **BES – Building Better Opportunities**

Building Better Opportunities Stafford & South Staffordshire is a jointly funded project by The National Lottery Community Fund and European Social Fund, aimed at supporting people living in Stafford and South Staffordshire who are out-of-work. The initiative is led and developed by Business Enterprise Support.

We have continued to offer the Building Better Opportunities project throughout the year supporting women into education, training, and employment. This also involves raising self-esteem and aspirations through structured group work and tailored 1-1 support.



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During 2022/23 we received 35 referrals to BBO for individual 1-1 support and 14 referrals for BBO group work.

**FITS for the Future Project**

The FITS project is a new addition to our range of women's community services funded by The Santander Foundation. This project has been developed in response to the particular needs of women at risk of, living with or recovering from Violence Against Women and Girls to improve their personal independence, employability, financial resilience, and digital resources. The project started in the summer and provides tailored 1-1 support to meet service users identified needs to combat the impact of financial and economic abuse. In addition, we also deliver structured group work programmes allowing women to build their digital and financial skills, covering topics such as money management, budgeting skills and online banking. We also support women to access free IT training to improve their basic computer skills and have established links with local schemes that distribute reconditioned IT equipment. The Trustees would like to thank The Santander Foundation for their support in funding this project to meet the needs of women in our community.

In 2022/23, 36 women were supported through the FITS project.

**Smallwood Grants**

Staffordshire Women's Aid is an approved Community Grant Partner for the Smallwood Trust. This means we are able to provide grants of up to £1,000 to help women overcome financial adversity and improve their well-being. Through this project we have been able to assist 47 women accessing our services to improve their financial stability and relieve hardship during the year. In December, we were pleased to secure continuation funding for this project for a further 3 years. The new funding also enables us to support women to access employability interventions to improve their financial independence. The Trustees would like to thank the Smallwood Trust for their continued support in helping women overcome financial adversity, this support is even more important at the moment given the cost of living crisis affecting so many of the women we work with.

**Research, Training and Awareness Raising**

Alongside the provision of front-line services, we aim to create positive change in our communities through training, research, awareness raising and preventative education.

Over the year we have successfully continued to deliver a range of awareness raising activities, research and training as follows:

- Six CPD accredited Sexual Violence Multi-Agency Training Days to 76 delegates.
- Four Sexual Violence Awareness Raising webinars to 153 delegates.
- Three SSCB Multi-Agency Level 3 Sexual Abuse Training Days to 84 delegates.
- Two CPD accredited Domestic Violence Training Days to 16 delegates.
- Two Expect Respect Healthy Relationship Webinars to 31 delegates from educational establishments.
- Healthy Relationship Workshops to 232 students at Stafford Grammar School and Lichfield Grammar School
- In partnership with Staffordshire University, we carried out a community research and consultation project to better understand the needs of Sexual Assault and Abuse Victims from Black and Ethnic Minority Communities in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
- We ran a public awareness raising campaign during Sexual Violence Awareness Week in February, this included a social media campaign raising awareness of sexual abuse and the support provided by Survive as well as attending events at Keele University and Stafford College
- We held a candlelit vigil to mark International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls in Market Square Stafford.



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**Women's Foodbank**

Sadly, we continued to see a significant need for the Food Bank from women accessing our services over the last year. Our Food Bank provides food, toiletries, personal hygiene products, clothes, and baby equipment. We have also had several women in the last year who have been unable to buy birthday gifts for their children due to increasing levels of poverty. As a result, we have also started to provide birthday gifts for children.

Through our Food Bank we were also able to distribute Festive Hampers, Christmas gifts and Easter Eggs to families we support. In addition, during the summer we partnered with Signpost Services and Rising Brook Church to deliver a Uniform Bank distributing new and second-hand school uniforms to local families in the community. It is thanks to the generosity of local businesses, community groups and individuals that we have been able to continue to provide this invaluable service over the last year.

During 2022/23 we have supported 1,129 women and families through our Food Bank.

**Volunteer Project**

Staffordshire Women's Aid was established by a group of committed volunteers, and volunteers are still at the heart of what we do. Without their support, we would not be able to offer many of the services that we currently do. Our Board of Trustees also give of their time on a voluntary basis to help provide governance and oversight to our charity. During the year we recruited and trained 15 new volunteers to help run the helpline, legal clinic, group programmes and activities, resettlement support and the Food Bank. We value the time and dedication of all our volunteers, who each bring different skills and experiences to their roles.

Our highly trained and committed team of volunteers gave 2078 hours of their time during 2022/23

**THE IMPACT WE HAVE MADE ON LIVES**

We have been able to measure the difference our work makes during the year using Women's Aid's On Track Outcomes measuring tool. On-Track is an evidence-based tool for supporting and measuring change, and compliments our approach to service delivery which is victim centred, strengths based and outcome focused. It enables support practitioners, alongside their service users, to measure changes throughout their support journey. This not only empowers service users to identify individual progress, it also enables us to track how far we are progressing towards overall service outcomes.

During 2022/23:

- 96% of service users felt safer after using the service
- 95% of service users felt they were better able to access other services
- 94% of service users felt they were able to live more independently
- 96% of service users felt they had improved physical and mental health
- 97% of service users reported a significant increase in confidence and self-esteem

**STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE YEAR**

Following the loss of a long-term local authority funded contract in 2018/19, we have worked hard to recover from the significant loss of income and capacity, to build our financial resilience, and to transform our offer to the communities we serve and move into new growth. Central to our business objectives was to diversify our income streams, reducing over-dependence on one funder, and to develop new ways of achieving our social objectives. The Trustees are pleased to report that over the last 3 years we have achieved this, and our financial turnover has increased, alongside our offer to the local community. At the same time, demand for our services has increased very significantly following the Covid-19 pandemic, and alongside the cost-of-living crisis. The needs of our beneficiaries have also changed and become more complex and wide-ranging.

We aim to build on this growth in income and demand through our new three-year Business Plan developed this year following our internal strategic review Shaping Our Future Together. It is our aim to respond to the changing

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needs of our beneficiaries, and to remain strong and resilient as an organisation.

The Board of Trustees identified the following Business Objectives which will underpin our strategy over the next 3 years:

1. Research, monitor and respond to the changing environment in which we operate, and the changing needs and challenges our beneficiaries face.
2. Implement robust monitoring systems to ensure that we can measure performance and the real impact of our work.
3. Develop resource and infrastructure in line with our business needs, investing in our board, staff, and volunteers to ensure excellence in governance, practice and service delivery.
4. Increase the range of services we offer through development of a Women's Centre model.
5. Diversify our income streams to develop a more financially sustainable organisation.

As a Charity, we believe that we have a duty to demonstrate that our organisation and its work is endorsed by external quality standards so that our service users, staff and stakeholders can feel confident in our approach. We also recognise that there is always more to learn, therefore we take a pro-active approach towards the continuous improvement our services.

In December we were delighted to be awarded the Lime Culture Quality Standards for Independent Sexual Violence Adviser Services. We are incredibly proud to have achieved the Quality Standards in recognition of our work supporting victims and survivors of sexual violence/abuse in Staffordshire. The team worked really hard, and their outstanding commitment, knowledge and professionalism was highlighted by the accreditation team. In addition, we were also part of a national project, funded by DCMS, to develop a trauma informed kite mark for the specialist VAWG sector.

During the year we have worked in partnership with Midlands Foundation Partnership NHS Trust and North Staffordshire Combined NHS Trust on a new Pathfinders Project for Adult Survivors of Sexual Assault and Abuse with Complex Trauma Related Mental Health Needs. The project aims to make a significant difference to the accessibility of mental health services for Survivors of sexual abuse by creating delivery partnerships so survivors can access the right care in the right setting.

**PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**  
**Future Challenges and Developments**

The Board of Trustees are pleased to report that continuing steady growth will help the charity continue with increased sustainability in the next 12 months, and a wider reach in our local communities to those who need our support. The Business Plan will continue to monitor this, as well as identify new risks and challenges.

Unfortunately for many women and children, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and rising economic uncertainty means they are even more vulnerable to violence and abuse. As a result, demand for all our services has increased over the last 3 years. In addition, when analysing service user needs since April 2019, we can see a sharp increase in the number of service users presenting with complex and multiple needs. To help us meet the increased demand for services, and the increasing range of complex and multiple needs, we have identified the need to expand our existing Women's Centre model. As such, we will be moving to new premises next year within Stafford town centre. The new Women's Centre will increase the number of rooms available to deliver specialist, trauma informed support, providing an environment that is sensitive to the wide range of needs and experiences of the women we work with. This will enable us to respond to increased numbers of service users as well as broaden the range of therapeutic services/interventions that we are able to offer.

The contract for our Sexual Assault and Abuse Service, Survive, funded by the Staffordshire Commissioner, ends next year and will be going out to competitive tender. The service has revolutionized, and grown considerably, since its inception three years ago to meet the growing and changing needs of victims of sexual violence in Staffordshire. The Trustees very much hope we are successful in retaining this important service.



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**TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

It is the charity's aim to continue to thrive and work alongside our communities, adapting our responses in a changing financial and social climate, always led by our Vision, Mission, Social Objectives and Values.

**Related Parties**

**Staffordshire Women's Aid is a fully affiliated member of the Women's Aid Federation of England.**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Total incoming resources for the year ended 31 March 2023 were £1,470,357 showing a upturn of 3.16% against the previous year of £1,425,339. The upturn was due to a new contract with Santander Foundation. There was also a significant increase in funds generated through community fundraising.

Total resources expended in the year amounted to £1,379,110 compared to £1,298,939 in the previous year, an increase of 5.81%.

As a consequence of this there was a surplus of resources in the year of £91,247, which has resulted in total funds and net assets carried forward at 31st March 2023 of £654,591, of which £75,448 is restricted and £40,000 designated.

We would like to express our appreciation to all of our funders and supporters who enable us to continue our important work across Staffordshire. They enable the charity to achieve its objectives in ways which change the lives of those we support.

In addition, we would like to acknowledge the numerous donations made by individuals and community groups, either financial or in the form of food, clothing and other such items which help us support women and children. We would also like to acknowledge the time and care taken by individuals and community groups to make a difference to the women and children through, for example, wrapping and delivering Christmas gifts and preparing welcome bags for the Refuge residents, making one off donations and helping us run Breakfast Club and the Pantry. It is difficult to quantify the importance of such community support, but we know it means a great deal to the women and children we exist to support.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Board of Trustees use a Risk Register, and its monitoring covers a range of key issues, including financial, organisational, operational and legal risks, and aims to ensure that the organisation takes and monitors actions to reduce identified risks as far as possible. The organisation also has a Business Continuity Policy which aims to ensure that in an unusual event that might impact upon our ability to deliver our services and run the organization, we have contingency plans in place.

**RESERVES POLICY**

It is the aim of Staffordshire Women's Aid to maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to at least three months unrestricted expenditure, which was £344,777 in the year 2022-2023. The organisation and its Trustees are pleased to announce that we had succeeded in achieving this with the measures implemented in last year's accounts.

We will continue to work towards the same success in 2023-24 by implementing the following as part of our Finance and Fundraising Strategy:

- Continue to invest in our Fundraising Function so that we can maximise potential income.
- In recognition of the risk of depending upon statutory funding, we will use our skills in more diverse ways, and so attract funding from a wider range of sources. This has meant a significant increase in income from training delivery and from specialist projects.
- Seek new ways of using our expertise and knowledge to develop women's community services.
- Make every effort to maximise assets and streamline outgoing costs.

By implementing this strategy, we are aiming to achieve a position of being able to maintain unrestricted funds at a level equating to the costs of covering management, administration, and support for at least three months by the financial year ending March 2024.

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in

accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (New United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- b. Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102).
- c. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- d. State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- e. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**APPROVAL:**

**7 December 2023**

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on .....

And signed on behalf by



.....  
**Claire Rowcliffe (Chair)**



.....  
**Linda Horne (Treasurer)**



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Staffordshire Women's Aid (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, The Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charity has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 13 the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

As part of the planning process:

- We enquire of management the systems and controls the charity has in place, areas of the accounts most susceptible to the risk of irregularities and fraud, and any instances of or suspected fraud.
- We obtain an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the charitable company.
- We consider the incentives and opportunities that exist in the charity, including the extent of management bias, which presents potential for irregularities and fraud to occur, and tailor our risk assessment accordingly.
- Using our knowledge of the charitable incorporated organisation, together with discussions held with the charity at the planning stage, we form a conclusion on the risk of misstatement due to irregularities including fraud and tailor our audit procedures accordingly.

The key procedures we undertake to detect irregularities including fraud during the audit include:

- Identifying and testing journal entries and the overall accounting record, in particular those that were significant and unusual.
- Reviewing the accounts disclosures and determining whether accounting policies have been appropriately applied.
- Reviewing and challenging assumptions and judgements used by management, including any significant accounting estimates.
- Assessing the extent of compliance with relevant laws and regulations.
- Testing key income lines, including cut-off, for evidence of management bias.
- Assessing the validity of the classification of income, expenditure, assets and liabilities between Restricted and Unrestricted Funds.
- Obtaining third party confirmation of material bank balances.
- Documenting and verifying all significant related party balances and transactions.
- Reviewing documentation such as the charity board minutes, correspondence with solicitors, for evidence of irregularities including fraud.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

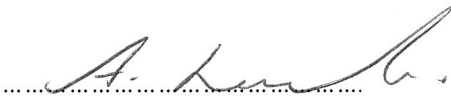


**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance/auditor-s-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-fi/description-of-the-auditor%E2%80%99s-responsibilities-for>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Adele Elizabeth Lawton (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Lawton Bradford Accountants Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Registered Auditors  
7 Marconi Gate  
Staffordshire Technology Park  
Stafford  
ST18 0FZ

Date 13/12/2023



**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	3	65,564	-	-	65,564	79,470
Other Income	4	7,040	-	-	7,040	650
Income from investment	5	2,298	-	-	2,298	1,117
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>	6	<u>1,191,024</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,431</u>	<u>1,395,455</u>	<u>1,344,102</u>
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<u>1,265,926</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,431</u>	<u>1,470,357</u>	<u>1,425,339</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Cost of generating funds	7	16,761	-	-	16,761	16,356
Expenditure on charitable activities	8	<u>1,119,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>243,117</u>	<u>1,362,349</u>	<u>1,282,583</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>1,135,993</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>243,117</u>	<u>1,379,110</u>	<u>1,298,939</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		129,933	-	(38,686)	91,247	126,400
Transfer between funds	17	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>89,933</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>(38,686)</u>	<u>91,247</u>	<u>126,400</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		<u>449,210</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>114,134</u>	<u>563,344</u>	<u>436,944</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>539,143</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>75,448</u>	<u>654,591</u>	<u>563,344</u>

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the surplus for the above year.

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Charity Number: 1155364

		<u>Total Funds</u> <u>2023</u> £	<u>Total Funds</u> <u>2022</u> £
	Note		
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	13	8,574	10,419
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	14	84,505	260,836
Cash at bank and in hand		702,356	505,279
<b>Total current assets</b>		786,861	766,115
<b>Creditors amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	(140,844)	(213,190)
<b>Net current assets</b>		646,017	552,925
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		654,591	563,344
<b>Net assets</b>	16	654,591	563,344
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds		539,143	449,210
Designated Fund		40,000	-
	17	579,143	449,210
Restricted funds			
Charity restricted funds	17	75,448	114,134
<b>Total funds</b>		654,591	563,344

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 7/12/2023

Signed on its behalf of the Board of Trustees



.....  
 Claire Rowcliffe (Chair)

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

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>		
Net income / (expenditure)	91,247	126,400
Depreciation Charge	5,031	5,086
Interest from investments	(2,298)	(1,117)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	176,331	(127,164)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>(72,346)</u>	<u>107,546</u>
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>	197,965	110,751
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b>		
Interest received	2,298	1,117
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<u>(3,186)</u>	<u>(8,265)</u>
<b>Net cash (outflow)/inflow on investing activities</b>	(888)	(7,148)
<b>Net increase in cash</b>	<u>197,077</u>	<u>103,603</u>
Cash at bank at beginning of year	<u>505,279</u>	<u>401,676</u>
Cash at bank at end of year	<u>702,356</u>	<u>505,279</u>

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**1 Statutory Information**

Staffordshire Women's Aid adopted a Charitable Incorporated Organisation Structure on 16 January 2014. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities is to support victims of domestic and sexual violence.

**Accounting Policies**

**2 Accounting convention**

The charity constitutes a public benefit as defined by SORP FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and reporting for 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 (Charities SORP FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical costs convention and give a true and fair view.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

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

**Income recognition**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities where the charity is legally entitled to the income and any conditions for receipt are met and the amount can be measured with reasonable accuracy. Donated facilities and goods are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example, the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and goods. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

**Going Concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern

**Expenses recognition**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

The Charity became Smallwood Trust grant partner for distribution of grants to the service users.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Assets under the value of one hundred pounds are treated as repairs and written off in the year of purchase.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of Fixed Assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Furniture and Equipment, 20% per annum straight line and Office Equipment, 33% per annum straight line.



**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

## **2. Accounting Policies continued**

### **Taxation**

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable entity for tax purposes

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

### **Accrued income**

Accrued income represents revenue earned but not invoiced on 31 March 2023. When it is invoiced, it is credited to the accrued income account.

### **Deferred Income**

Deferred income represents revenue collected but not earned as of 31 March 2023. This primarily comprises restricted fund income. When earned it is credited to the Income and expenditure account.

### **Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year**

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

### **Operating Lease commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

### **Financial instruments**

The charity only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade debtors, other debtors, trade creditors and other creditors.

### **Trustee and related party transactions**

No members of management received any remuneration during the year in their capacity as trustee.

No Trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

### **Going concern accounting policy**

At the time of approving the financial statements the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2. Accounting Policies continued**

**Government grants**

Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met, then these amounts are deferred.

**Grant making**

The Charity became Smallwood Trust grant partner for distribution of grants to the service users. The grants distributed as per the grant agreement with Smallwood Trust. The income and expenditure are recorded as restricted in the financial statements.

Total grants paid to individuals for the year ended 31 March 2023 were £29,001 (31 March 2022: £33,561).

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

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

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are depreciation, accruals, and deferred income.

**3 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations	65,564	-	65,564	79,470
	<u>65,564</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,564</u>	<u>79,470</u>

Included in donations was £24,725 donated goods at fair value (2022 £22,263)

**4 Other Income**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
DA Counsultancy	6,240	-	6,240	-
Women's Aid - Honourarium	800	-	800	650
	<u>7,040</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,040</u>	<u>650</u>

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**5 Income from investments**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Deposit account interest	2,298	-	2,298	1,117
	<u>2,298</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,298</u>	<u>1,117</u>

**6 Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable grants and donations	84,999	166,674	251,673	275,800
Central and local government grants and service level agreements	833,813	37,757	871,570	787,267
Training income	3,139	-	3,139	2,570
Counselling income	-	-	-	37,075
Rent	260,695	-	260,695	227,532
Resident contribution to services	8,378	-	8,378	13,858
	<u>1,191,024</u>	<u>204,431</u>	<u>1,395,455</u>	<u>1,344,102</u>



**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**6 Income from charitable activities continued**

Analysis of charitable grants and donations received, included in the above, are as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Deamon Solutions Limited	2,381	-	2,381	-
BBC Children in Need			-	19,919
AVA (Against Violence and Abuse)	20,000		20,000	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	75,674	75,674	75,255
Staffordshire & Stoke-On-Trent-Together Active	5,000	-	5,000	-
The Community Foundation for Staffordshire	3,200	-	3,200	-
Santander UK foundation Limited	12,950	25,000	37,950	75,000
Keele University	1,554		1,554	-
St Luke Church Cannock	1,172	-	1,172	-
Midlands Express	1,000	-	1,000	-
Sarce Surge Fund	-	-	-	31,501
Smallwood Trust (Grant for Women)	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
Smallwood Trust (Grant management fee)	2,100	4,000	6,100	4,000
Cannock Chase Churches Housing Coalition	20,000	-	20,000	-
Comic Relief	-	-	-	15,500
The Neighboury Forum	1,000	-	1,000	-
Barton Social Club	5,000	-	5,000	-
Waistrose limited	1,000	-	1,000	-
Sandon Hall	2,350	-	2,350	-
H & J Speake Limited	1,160		1,160	-
British Enterprise Services (BBO)	-	32,000	32,000	22,500
Ground Work	-	-	-	2,125
Brocton Golf Club	5,132	-	5,132	-
	<u>84,999</u>	<u>166,674</u>	<u>251,673</u>	<u>275,800</u>

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**6 Income from charitable activities continued**

Analysis of central and local government grants and service level agreements received, included in the above, are as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Stafford Borough Council (SLA)	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Stafford Borough Council (Refuge)	229,173	-	229,173	223,583
Stafford Borough Council (Domestic Abuse)	9,485	-	9,485	14,228
South Staffordshire District Council (Domestic Abuse)	11,857	-	11,857	2,371
Cannock Chase Council	14,227	-	14,227	3,557
Community Based SV Counsellor	21,593	-	21,593	-
Community Based DV Counsellor	17,802	-	17,802	-
OPCC AAC	12,186	-	12,186	-
OPCC CHISVA	18,466	-	18,466	-
Ministry of Justice Covid Grants	-	-	-	79,152
Staffordshire County Council	-	-	-	500
Cannock Chase Council (Homelessness)	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Cannock Chase District Council (Service charge reimbursed)	5,586	-	5,586	5,275
G4S counselling and SARC Surge Fund	52,325	-	52,325	-
MOJ Core grant Additional Funding	4,490	-	4,490	-
MOJ counsellor	20,437	-	20,437	-
Staffordshire Commissioner of Police, Fire and Rescue, and Crime (Counselling)	41,701	-	41,701	41,701
Staffordshire Commissioner of Police, Fire and Rescue, and Crime (Sexual Abuse and Assault service)	317,555	-	317,555	334,333
Staffordshire Commissioner of Police, Fire and Rescue and Crime (NHS Prevention Project)	36,930	-	36,930	24,810
Staffordshire Commissioner of Police, Fire and Rescue, and Crime	-	37,757	37,757	37,757
	<u>833,813</u>	<u>37,757</u>	<u>871,570</u>	<u>787,267</u>

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
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**7 Expenditure on raising funds**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	7,294	-	7,294	3,244
Support costs	9,467	-	9,467	13,112
	<u>16,761</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,761</u>	<u>16,356</u>

**8 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Women's Community Services	265,372	213,552	478,924	441,417
Survive Sexual Abuse Service	452,171		452,171	334,332
Refuge and Dispersed Accomodator	369,739	564	370,303	443,435
Smallwood Trust Grant	-	29,001	29,001	33,561
Govenance costs	31,950	-	31,950	29,838
	<u>1,119,232</u>	<u>243,117</u>	<u>1,362,349</u>	<u>1,282,583</u>

All grants paid under the grant agreement with Smallwood Trust, were paid to individuals. Refuse and dispersed accomodation costs include £24,725 donated goods at fair value.

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Expenditure on charitable activities, included in the above, are as follows:

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Rent and rates	180,311	3,462	183,773	177,197
Telephone, printing and stationery	17,012	28	17,040	16,745
Software licences	428	-	428	220
Websites, Subscriptions and Publicity	7,320	3,537	10,857	6,240
Equipment and repairs	32,895	-	32,895	39,568
Lighting and Heating	6,994	750	7,744	7,845
Insurance	6,241	-	6,241	5,517
Contracted Out Services	106,113	-	106,113	113,285
Salaries	672,021	195,076	867,097	785,081
Women's subsistence	27,177	-	27,177	24,721
Smallwood Grants	-	29,001	29,001	33,561
Office costs	9,107	-	9,107	7,402
Training	2,385	1,900	4,285	10,398
Depreciation	5,040	-	5,040	5,085
Recruitment and staff welfare	8,404	5,280	13,684	15,066
Volunteer expenses	4,729	4,083	8,812	4,753
Sundries	9	-	9	-
Trustee expenses	680	-	680	60
Consultancy	1,779	-	1,779	1,663
Auditors remuneration	3,600	-	3,600	3,000
Professional fee	416	-	416	-
Staff costs	26,571	-	26,571	25,175
	<b>1,119,232</b>	<b>243,117</b>	<b>1,362,349</b>	<b>1,282,583</b>

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
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**9 Trustee expenses**

No remuneration or benefits were paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023 or for the year ended 31 March 2022.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	<u>680</u>	<u>60</u>

3 Trustees were reimbursed for Board meeting expenses and one Trustee received flowers to a value of £25.

**10 Fees for audit of the accounts**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Auditors fee	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,000</u>

**11 Operating lease commitments**

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	-	-
Within two to five years	<u>250,350</u>	<u>108,676</u>
	<u>250,350</u>	<u>108,676</u>

Operating lease costs during the year were £37,134 (2022: £37,134).

**12 Staff costs**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	821,302	737,254
Social security costs	73,375	62,213
Pension	<u>17,173</u>	<u>15,123</u>
	<u>911,850</u>	<u>814,590</u>

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

	2023	2022
Fundraising	-	-
Governance	3	3
Charitable activities	<u>35</u>	<u>33</u>
	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>

No employee received remuneration in excess of £60,000

Total key management personal remuneration and benefits for the financial year totalled £45,908.

The charity has two defined contribution pension schemes, a 'money purchase' pension scheme, to which the charity does not contribute, and an auto-enrolment scheme, starting from 1 October 2015 for all eligible employees, to which the charity does contribute. The pension cost to the charity of the auto-enrolment pension for 2023 was £17,173 (2022: £15,123).

Included in other creditors are pension liabilities of £188 relating to employee contributions and £3,271 relating to auto-enrolment scheme contributions.

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**13 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Furniture and equipment</b>	<b>office equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2022	79,463	18,425	97,888
Additions	1,570	1,616	3,186
Disposal	(66,282)	(13,599)	(79,881)
At 31 March 2023	<u>14,751</u>	<u>6,442</u>	<u>21,193</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2022	71,760	15,709	87,469
Charge for year	3,052	1,979	5,031
Disposal	(66,282)	(13,599)	(79,881)
At 31 March 2023	<u>8,530</u>	<u>4,089</u>	<u>12,619</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
At 31 March 2022	<u>7,703</u>	<u>2,716</u>	<u>10,419</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>6,221</u>	<u>2,353</u>	<u>8,574</u>

**14 Debtors and prepayments**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	36,354	177,585
Prepayments	9,961	9,114
Accrued Income	<u>38,190</u>	<u>74,137</u>
	<u>84,505</u>	<u>260,836</u>

**15 Creditors and accruals**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	60,608	59,848
Other creditors	6,311	4,219
Accruals	6,054	8,770
Taxation and social security	17,461	16,438
Deferred income	<u>50,410</u>	<u>123,915</u>
	<u>140,844</u>	<u>213,190</u>

Deferred income reflects grants received in advance for costs and services to be delivered in the next financial year.

**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
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**16 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restrict ed Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	8,574	-	-	8,574
Current assets	671,413	40,000	75,448	786,861
Current liabilities	(140,844)	-	-	(140,844)
	<u>539,143</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>75,448</u>	<u>654,591</u>

**17 Movement in funds**

	At 01.04.22 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfer Between funds £	At 31.03.23 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
General funds	449,210	1,265,926	(1,135,993)	(40,000)	539,143
Designated funds	-	-	-	40,000	40,000
	<u>449,210</u>	<u>1,265,926</u>	<u>(1,135,993)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>579,143</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
PADA PAWS project	484	-	-	-	484
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	75,674	(75,674)	-	-
Santander Foundation	75,000	25,000	(42,160)	-	57,840
Nationwide Building Society	22,317	-	(22,317)	-	-
Staffordshire Commissioner of Police, Fire and Rescue and Crime	9,439	37,757	(37,757)	-	9,439
Business Enterprise Service (BBO)	208	32,000	(32,208)	-	-
Smallwood Trust (Grant for Women)	5,019	30,000	(29,001)	-	6,018
Smallwood Trust (Management Fee)	1,667	4,000	(4,000)	-	1,667
	<u>114,134</u>	<u>204,431</u>	<u>(243,117)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75,448</u>
	<u>563,344</u>	<u>1,470,357</u>	<u>(1,379,110)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>654,591</u>

Apart from the Unrestricted Funds, which are used for its day-to-day activities, the other funds consist as part of the Board's free reserves are the Designated Funds. These are reserves that have been ring fenced for the refurbishment of the new headquater (SWA Women's Centre), although the Trustees Board have discretion at any time to transfer the reserves back to the unrestricted category. It is envisaged that the designated fund will be utilised over the next 12 to 18 months.



**STAFFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S AID**  
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**18. Restricted Funds**

**PADA Paw**

The funding received to help pay for pet accommodation for women that stay in the Refuge.

**The National Lottery Community Fund**

The funding received provides a Counselling Service for victims of domestic and sexual violence.

**Santander Foundation**

The Santander Foundation wants to support UK charities in providing people with the digital confidence, knowledge, and skills to enable them to make better, more informed decisions about money and have access to financial services.

**Staffordshire Commissioner Police | Fire and Rescue | Crime**

The provision of a service to provide ISVA services for victims of sexual abuse.

**Business Enterprise Services (BBO)**

Partnership with British Enterprise Services (Building Better Opportunities) to support women to access training, education and/or employment.

**Smallwood Trust (Delivery of a women's grants programme)**

The funding received is for the management and distribution of grants to women in need of financial support due to domestic and sexual violence.

**Nationwide Building Society**

The funding received is to provide a resettlement project to support families moving into long term secure housing after leaving the refuge.

**19. Related party transactions**

There are no related party transactions during the year (2022: £ nil).

