

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE000698 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1155463

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
Dudley Voices for Choice

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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Dudley Voices for Choice

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

TRUSTEES

Mrs C Ochel
Mrs A Parkes
Mrs A Evett (resigned 25.9.21)
Mr J A A Cokeley (resigned 25.9.21)
Mrs A Ochel
Mr S Nickolls (appointed 27.9.22)
Ms S A Richardson (appointed 27.9.22)

CHIEF OFFICER

Mrs S Offley

REGISTERED OFFICE

DY1 Building
Stafford Street
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 1RT

**REGISTERED COMPANY
NUMBER**

CE000698 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER**

1155463

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

BANKERS

The Co-Operative Bank
P/O. Box 250
Skelmersdale
Wigan
Greater Manchester
WN8 6WT

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects of the charity are to promote social inclusion among individuals with disabilities and learning disabilities living in England in particular but not exclusively within Dudley Metropolitan Borough who are socially excluded from society, or parts of society by:

1. Providing a local network group that encourages and enables participation more effectively in the wider community.
2. Increasing, or co-ordinating, opportunities for people to engage with service providers; to enable those providers to adapt services to better meet their needs.
3. Raising public awareness of the issues affecting the needs of people with disabilities and learning disabilities.
4. Providing workshops, forums, advocacy and general support.

Nothing in the constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the charitable incorporated organisation for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit

The objects of the charity are to promote social inclusion among individuals with disabilities and learning disabilities.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Trustees Foreward

A year disrupted by Covid 19, trustees are happy to report that DVC has continued not only to successfully support people with a learning disability and autism through a pandemic but to also maintain existing and develop new programmes.

The team has continued to drive the engagement element of the 'Regional Transforming care project' with the model achieving recognition as an example of excellent practice.

Work has continued with a range of partners such as universities, hospitals and GP's alongside other public and private organisations to promote the engagement of people with learning disabilities and autism to make improvements for services for all.

The team is re-establishing local networks following pandemic disruption and is slowly re-introducing face to face meetings whilst maintaining the use of zoom to keep people connected.

Adaptions have been made to ensure training programmes continue to be delivered remotely and the lottery funded self advocacy network project has remained active and continues to develop the skills of the link workers.

The demand for services that DVC offers is continuing to increase and we are in the process of recruiting additional support staff to ensure a positive response to demand. We are also recruiting additional trustees to expand the skill base of the team in response to the growth of business.

The trustees wish to thank and congratulate our staff team for continuing to develop our services and maintain such high standards during this challenging year. We look forward to facing exciting challenges in 2022/23 and continuing to make a positive difference to the lives of people with a learning disability and autism across the Black Country and West Midlands.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Chief Officer Annual Review Financial Year 2021/2022

COVID 19 has continued to dominate the way in which we have been allowed to work and develop the charity.

Our response has remained the same in that the people we work with are always at the forefront of everything we do.

Working in unique and person-centred ways we have supported people with learning disabilities and autistic people to be a part of new projects from design to delivery. We have done this using technology and have continued to learn and develop all our skills.

We have designed and co-developed several new training programmes including showing others how to make information accessible to everyone.

The family peer worker team was developed and is now live with parents supporting other parents with people who are in secure hospitals or at risk of admission.

The team continue to be independent critical friends on CeTRs and CTRs to support patients to be a part of their admissions and discharge plans.

We have made sure all COVID 19 information is clear and shared with people in the community.

We have continued to share experiences with all three local universities. Supporting learning disability nurses, student social workers and student psychologists.

Our team continues to grow along with demand for support, our trainees programme has supported 4 people to gain their entry level 3 in customer care.

Our plans for exiting covid 19 have been challenged with lockdowns lifted then restated but each time responded to in ways that suit what needed to be done to keep people safe.

This year we were finalists in three categories at The National Learning Disabilities and Autism awards.

We are over halfway through the lottery project and now looking towards self-sustainable ways to continue the West Midlands Self Advocacy Network.

The self-advocates continue to guide and share their ideas to shape future for their charity so that opportunities can be found and developed to make things happen.

We are looking forward to re-introducing our work back into the community and continuing to grow and make our communities a place for everyone.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2022 shows income for the year of £279,534 (2021 - £181,736) and expenditure for the year of £185,293 (2021 - £125,290). This gave a net surplus of income over expenditure for the year of £94,241 (2021 - £56,446).

The charity's total funds at the end of the year were £394,251 (2021 - £300,010). This included unrestricted funds of £202,675 (2021 - £132,401) and restricted funds of £191,576 (2021 - £167,609).

The increase in income, net surplus and restricted funds this year is due to the money received from the National Lottery, as mentioned above and as can be seen in note 11 of the accounts.

Reserves policy

The reserves policy is to retain sufficient funds to meet the ongoing liabilities of the charity together with funds for the development of the charities objectives.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (last amended 24 January 2014).

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

As set out in the charity's constitution, new trustees are appointed by the board of trustees.

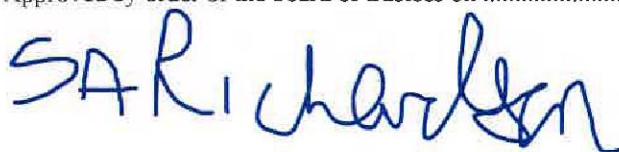
Organisational structure

The charity is run by a board of trustees who are responsible for the overall strategic management of the organisation. The body of trustees consists of a minimum of three trustees.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees receive a full copy of the constitution, a copy of the latest trustees report and accounts and any other information necessary for them to undertake their role within the charity.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "SARichardson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'S' and 'R'.

.....
Mrs C Ochel - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Dudley Voices for Choice

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Dudley Voices for Choice ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCCA which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr C A Beale
FCCA
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Date:

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	100	-	100	1,291
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable		164,766	97,380	262,146	171,767
Other trading activities	3	17,287	1	17,288	8,678
Total		<u>182,153</u>	<u>97,381</u>	<u>279,534</u>	<u>181,736</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Direct costs		131,737	41,465	173,202	113,687
Support costs		11,446	645	12,091	11,603
Total		<u>143,183</u>	<u>42,110</u>	<u>185,293</u>	<u>125,290</u>
NET INCOME		38,970	55,271	94,241	56,446
Transfers between funds	12	31,304	(31,304)	-	-
Net movement in funds		70,274	23,967	94,241	56,446
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		132,401	167,609	300,010	243,564
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>202,675</u>	<u>191,576</u>	<u>394,251</u>	<u>300,010</u>

Balance Sheet
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	2,793	-	2,793	2,167
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	23,767	48,983	72,750	20,595
Cash at bank and in hand		177,608	142,593	320,201	284,609
		201,375	191,576	392,951	305,204
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(1,493)	-	(1,493)	(7,361)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		199,882	191,576	391,458	297,843
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		202,675	191,576	394,251	300,010
NET ASSETS		202,675	191,576	394,251	300,010
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				202,675	132,401
Restricted funds				191,576	167,609
TOTAL FUNDS				394,251	300,010

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:



 Mrs C Ochel - Trustee


 SA RICHARDSON

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Government grants are recognised at the point that they are receivable and there is reasonable assurance that the company will comply with the conditions attached to them. They are valued at the consideration received or to be received.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Computer equipment - 33% on cost

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Donations	100	1,291
	<u>100</u>	<u>1,291</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Other income	17,288	8,678
	<u>17,288</u>	<u>8,678</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	Grants receivable	Total activities
	£	£
Grants	262,146	171,767
	<u>262,146</u>	<u>171,767</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Dudley MBC	164,766	72,422
National Lottery Community Fund	97,380	96,344
Furlough grants	-	3,001
	<u>262,146</u>	<u>171,767</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	1,642	1,486
	<u>1,642</u>	<u>1,486</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	103,235	72,933
Social security costs	1,173	297
Other pension costs	1,157	887
	<u>105,565</u>	<u>74,117</u>

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

	31.3.22	31.3.21
Number of employees	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

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

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,291	-	1,291
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	75,423	96,344	171,767
Other trading activities	8,678	-	8,678
Total	<u>85,392</u>	<u>96,344</u>	<u>181,736</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Direct costs	68,747	44,940	113,687
Support costs	10,130	1,473	11,603
Total	<u>78,877</u>	<u>46,413</u>	<u>125,290</u>
NET INCOME	6,515	49,931	56,446
Transfers between funds	31,996	(31,996)	-
Net movement in funds	38,511	17,935	56,446
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	93,891	149,673	243,564
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>132,402</u>	<u>167,608</u>	<u>300,010</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2021	6,138
Additions	2,268
At 31 March 2022	8,406
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2021	3,971
Charge for year	1,642
At 31 March 2022	5,613
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022	2,793
At 31 March 2021	2,167

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Trade debtors	18,427	13,910
Other debtors	2,074	1,434
Prepayments and accrued income	48,983	-
Prepayments	3,266	5,251
	72,750	20,595

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	5,796
Social security and other taxes	-	814
Pension creditor	744	-
Accruals and deferred income	749	751
	1,493	7,361

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	132,401	38,970	31,304	202,675
Restricted funds				
Shine 2017	1,048	-	(1,048)	-
Regional Forums	6,139	-	(6,139)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	160,422	55,271	(24,117)	191,576
	<u>167,609</u>	<u>55,271</u>	<u>(31,304)</u>	<u>191,576</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>300,010</u>	<u>94,241</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>394,251</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	182,153	(143,183)	38,970
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Community Fund	97,381	(42,110)	55,271
	<u>279,534</u>	<u>(185,293)</u>	<u>94,241</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>279,534</u>	<u>(185,293)</u>	<u>94,241</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	93,891	6,514	31,996	132,401
Restricted funds				
Shine 2017	1,048	-	-	1,048
Regional Forums	6,139	-	-	6,139
National Lottery Community Fund	142,486	49,932	(31,996)	160,422
	<u>149,673</u>	<u>49,932</u>	<u>(31,996)</u>	<u>167,609</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>243,564</u>	<u>56,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,010</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	85,392	(78,878)	6,514
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Community Fund	96,344	(46,412)	49,932
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>181,736</u>	<u>(125,290)</u>	<u>56,446</u>

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

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	93,891	45,484	63,300	202,675
Restricted funds				
Shine 2017	1,048	-	(1,048)	-
Regional Forums	6,139	-	(6,139)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	142,486	105,203	(56,113)	191,576
	<u>149,673</u>	<u>105,203</u>	<u>(63,300)</u>	<u>191,576</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>243,564</u>	<u>150,687</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>394,251</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	267,545	(222,061)	45,484
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Community Fund	193,725	(88,522)	105,203
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>461,270</u>	<u>(310,583)</u>	<u>150,687</u>

Purpose of Funds

Unrestricted General Fund

This fund represents the free funds of the charity that are not designated for particular purposes.

Restricted Funds

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Shine 2017

This money was raised from Shine 2016 ticket sales and was intended to be used for the Shine 2017 festival. A SHINE event will now be happening in 2021 as we were unable to source a suitable venue. Money from this restricted fund will be used for this purpose as previously mentioned.

Regional Forums

This money is to be used for the work of regional forum only. The regional forum is a collective group of self-advocacy groups from across the West Midlands. The money is to be used to support the forums which includes paying for meeting rooms, support staff and expenses incurred by the group.

National Lottery Community Fund

This money is to be used for West Midlands regional self advocacy work. The grant is to be paid half yearly until July 2022.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

14. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The charity is controlled by the trustees as listed in the Report of the Trustees.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	100	1,291
Other trading activities		
Other income	17,288	8,678
Charitable activities		
Grants	262,146	171,767
Total incoming resources	279,534	181,736
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	103,235	72,933
Social security	1,173	297
Pensions	1,157	887
Rent	6,000	3,750
Autism Cafe	2,400	-
Literature	38	8
Training	57,129	35,042
Room hire	270	-
App	1,800	770
	173,202	113,687
Support costs		
Other		
Insurance	289	385
Telephone	1,125	1,487
Printing and stationery	1,025	573
Sundry expenses	1,051	359
Resources, repairs & renewals	438	1,216
Travelling	651	1,548
Internet and IT costs	2,483	1,527
Meeting refreshments	500	153
Subscriptions	942	1,115
DBS checks	380	344
Payroll services	275	660
Accountancy	700	750
Mileage	590	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,642	1,486
	12,091	11,603
Total resources expended	185,293	125,290
Net income	94,241	56,446