

St
Martin
in
the
Fields

Charity

Annual Report 2023/4



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Please note, whilst all the stories in this report are true, individuals' names and images have been changed to protect their privacy.

Find out more about the work of St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity:

 www.smitfc.org

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St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity
5 St Martin's Place
Trafalgar Square
London, WC2N 4JJ

Charity no.: 1156305/261359

Our Vision:

Everyone has a safe place to call home and the support they need to keep it.

Our Goal:

Homelessness is prevented. When it does occur, people receive the best possible support that enables them to secure and keep a safe place to live.

Our Purpose:

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity works to end homelessness in three key ways:

■ Providing Funding

Giving essential grants both directly to people experiencing homelessness and to some of the unique and vital projects supporting them into safe and secure homes.

■ Supporting Frontline Workers

Connecting the UK-wide community of often over-worked and under-resourced staff, as they work together tirelessly to alleviate homelessness.

■ Advocating for change

Using the insights we gain from working with these groups to build support for solutions to homelessness amongst the public, funders and policymakers.



CEO's Foreword

I was delighted to join St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity in June 2024.

The charity is doing vital work but sadly in an even more challenging context – homelessness is rising across the UK with records being broken for rough sleeping and the numbers of people in temporary accommodation. However, I am pleased to be able to report that, with your continued support, we have been able to make a difference. Throughout this report, you will see what we have achieved.

I pay tribute to my predecessor Tim Bissett, who over 10 years grew the charity to reach more people and to tackle homelessness in new and different ways – helping individuals directly into new accommodation, supporting and championing frontline workers and helping charities and projects tackle key issues causing or as consequences of homelessness across the UK.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the wide range of partners we are privileged to work with and the support of those who fund and donate to us, particularly through our cherished partnership with BBC Radio 4. Together we are able to ensure that thousands of people across the UK have a safe place to call home.

Thank you

“That ability to work with our younger people longer term is not actually a luxury, it’s a necessity, and I think the value of funding such as the Frontline Fund means that that can happen. I know from talking to the younger people, that they feel valued as a person and that makes such a huge difference, knowing that you’re going to be able to sustain that work over a period of time”

**Alv Hirst,
Caring in Bristol**

“I can’t put into words how my life has been improved moving to independent living and having long term secure accommodation... It has given me the stable base to rebuild my life on and have just started employment. I cannot say thank you enough.”

Emergency (VRF) grant recipient

Year in Numbers

Grants Awarded to Individuals through the VRF

Number of emergency grants awarded:

4,508
(£1,780,676)



Average (median) emergency grant awarded:

£444.87

Number of grants for Preventing Eviction:

728
grants



Grants for Moving into New Accommodation:

3,780
grants



Grant processing time:

75%

of payments were made within 5 days from application submission



“Knowing he had a stable home of his own was very important, as the insecurity and instability of temporary accommodation was causing him a lot of anxiety.”
Frontline worker and emergency grant applicant, Gloucestershire

Grants Awarded to Projects/Organisations

6 ongoing grants to projects

based across the four nations of the UK, providing access to healthcare, legal advice and mental health support to help people move on from homelessness.

3 new grants to organisations

and charities testing new approaches to providing support around tackling mental health and homelessness together.

3 research and development grants

to identify and pilot initiatives to understand their impact and scalability towards preventing and resolving homelessness.

Supporting Frontline Workers

Training Programme:

937* frontline workers

benefited from our training programmes across the four nations of the UK.

71

UK wide events delivered by frontline partners for 1,331 frontline workers to meet, learn and support each other

Annual National Frontline Network Conference:

350 attendees
9 sessions
27 speakers

“The training I did, was on working with looked after and adopted children, complex trauma and art therapy, and this was hugely useful because basically everyone that I work with here has been through some sort of complex trauma.”

Training Programme participant

* some frontline workers may have participated in more than one opportunity

Our Reach

At St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity, our work, and the impact of that work, covers the whole of the UK. Frontline workers across the country make use of our VRF emergency grants for their clients, helping over 7,500 people this year. We have nine Frontline Network local partners from all four nations who share knowledge, best practice and support for each other. We additionally provide funding towards the All in For Change Programme which works with the Scottish Government. We also have six organisations that we fund through the Frontline Fund across the UK and three funded through the Mental Health Fund.

Frontline Network partners:

1. **Scottish Frontline Network**
Cyrenians
2. **Frontline Network Wales**
Cymorth Cymru
3. **Coventry Frontline Network**
Coventry Citizens Advice
4. **Northern Ireland Frontline Network**
Homeless Connect
5. **Pan-London Migrant Frontline Network**
Praxis
6. **Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Frontline Network**
Streetlife Trust
7. **Leeds Women's Homelessness and Housing Frontline Network**
Basis Yorkshire in partnership with Together Women and Leeds Women's Aid
8. **South Yorkshire Frontline Network**
Depaul UK
9. **Brighton and Hove Frontline Network**
Justlife
10. **All in for Change**
Cyrenians, Homeless Network Scotland and Scottish Community Development Centre

VRF grants breakdown:

A	East of England	£145,584
B	East Midlands	£220,505
C	London	£70,371
D	North East	£84,612
E	North West	£259,594
F	South East	£50,144
G	South West	£310,345
H	West Midlands	£245,105
I	Yorkshire & Humber	£177,230
J	Scotland	£64,692
K	Northern Ireland	£59,428
L	Wales	£92,567

Frontline Fund

- Caring in Bristol
- TGP Cymru
- ▲ Legal Services Agency
- + akt
- 🏠 Pathway
- ★ Extern
- ✕ The Connection at St Martin's

Mental Health Fund

- ◆ Rowan Alba in Edinburgh
- MAC UK in London and Kent
- * Plattform in Newport and Cardiff

Providing Funding:

Individual Emergency Grants

We provide small emergency grants (through our Vicar's Relief Fund) to provide immediate assistance to those at risk of losing their homes, or those who need to move into new homes that are safe and suitable for their current needs.

By addressing financial barriers directly, we prevent homelessness before it starts or resolve it quickly when it does happen. This allows people to maintain or regain their independence and stability.



Gail's Story

In her late 60s, Gail found herself immobile and recovering from cancer – this after decades of living under her husband's constant coercion and threats of violence.

Gail was in poor health with chronic respiratory disease, diabetes, neuropathy and arthritis. She was also recovering from breast cancer, used a mobility scooter, had an oxygen cylinder and had to sleep in a hospital bed.

West Mercia Women's Aid was able to work closely with a local housing provider to find Gail safe, independent accommodation that eventually became a permanent home for herself and her dog. The initial cost to secure the housing though was beyond Gail's means.

An emergency VRF grant, applied for via West Mercia Women's Aid, paid her first month's rent in advance on a property, where she could finally start her physical and emotional recovery.

Gail has reconnected with her children and grandchildren and has settled well into the community. With the stress of living with abuse now removed, her health has improved and she is using her oxygen cylinder and mobility scooter far less than when she was first referred for help and support. We wish Gail a successful and happy continued recovery with her family in her own home.

“The VRF has been fantastic in providing deposits that enable women to make their escape and move into safety and comfort, so that we can support them in their ongoing recovery.”

CEO, West Mercia Women's Aid

Providing Funding:

Funding Effective Tailored Support

We've continued to fund six projects through our Frontline Fund, within charities working regionally, across the four nations of the UK, to provide specialist support to people experiencing homelessness. The charities were selected as they support our vision of everyone having a safe place to call home and the support they need to keep their home.

These charities, with our help, are developing and providing services tackling key issues and challenges facing people experiencing homelessness, such as legal support, counselling, support for young people, including specialised support for trans and non-binary young people, and people who have recently left prison.

Spotlight on Extern

Extern is a leading social justice charity across the island of Ireland who speak up for and support children, young people, individuals, and families each year to overcome challenges, empower positive change and support family unity.

We support their work in Northern Ireland offering counselling to people, who often are unable to access mainstream services due to having been engaged within the criminal justice system.

From January to December 2023, **113 people were involved in 702 counselling sessions**

through Extern. 78% of whom showed significant mental health improvements and 35% achieved improved housing outcomes.

"[it has] allowed me to chat about things openly and comfortably that I've never been able to speak about before. I feel my counsellor made me feel relaxed to address certain traumas I've had in my life, and she's given me ways to help improve day to day life and deal with these".

Recipient of Extern's counselling service.

Spotlight on Pathway

Pathway is the UK's leading homeless healthcare charity, working with partners to improve the health and wellbeing of people experiencing homelessness by developing and sharing best models of care, increasing specialist skills of workers in healthcare, influencing policy and reducing stigma in healthcare against people experiencing multiple exclusion.

With our support, they have been able to provide the legal advice needed in securing more stable outcomes for outpatients and help improve even more lives across the UK.

From January to December 2023, Pathway, with involvement from Praxis (an immigration advice charity and a Frontline Network partner of St Martin's Charity), **responded to 137 legal enquiries from people in hospital**

seeking immigrations advice. 40 of them involved longer term casework. In 15 out of 16 of the completed cases reported, it had led to improved outcomes specific to immigration and housing.

"One of the benefits of having this relationship with the Pathway teams is that it provides us with referrals for people who are often some of the most marginalised, and some of the least able to access immigration advice services. Working with the Pathway teams allows us to support clients in a holistic way. We can provide immigration advice, but then we can work with the Pathway teams and also look at housing issues that somebody might have."

Daniel Ashwell, Advice Services Manager, Praxis

Spotlight on The Connection at St Martin's – tackling rough sleeping where it is highest

Rough sleeping across the UK is at an all-time high, with Westminster having the highest number of people sleeping rough compared to other local authorities in the UK. Data from CHAIN for 2023/4, registered 2,102 people sleeping rough in Westminster, which is 18% of all those registered across London.

So, we've continued to contribute towards the work of the Connection at St Martin's in the centre of London, to deliver vital services to help keep people safe and support them to move-on from and sustain life away from sleeping rough. With our help, The Connection have been able to:

1. **Provide 1,230 health appointments** for people sleeping rough, including dentistry, podiatry, substance use, access to a TB van, Homeless Health Service (provided by the NHS) and counselling.

2. **Provide intensive and personalised support** to 146 people facing challenges including substance use, health problems and financial inclusion to support them on their journey to find a place they can call home.

3. **Support 80 people** to directly access new accommodation.

4. **Provide 202 psychological interventions** for clients, as well as 234 support sessions to Connection staff, in the form of training, reflective spaces, and consultation to support learning and drive changes in practice.



Evie's Story

We supported Caring in Bristol to deliver Project Z to support young people facing multiple housing difficulties.

"My life has changed drastically since walking through those doors three years ago. I now have a safe space and a stable environment to be in. I've gained confidence. I've figured out the career path I want to go down."

"When I think about the future, I feel confident in it and strong in it and that I am on the right path to kind of getting where I need to be and where I want to be."

Evie, Project Z participant

Meeting Mental Health Needs

The findings of our annual Frontline Worker Surveys highlighted the need for focused mental health support for people experiencing homelessness and was reflected in our discussions with other organisations in the sector. So, we established the Mental Health Fund to provide multi-year grants to three organisations to develop innovative specialist and targeted support around mental health and homelessness outside healthcare settings.

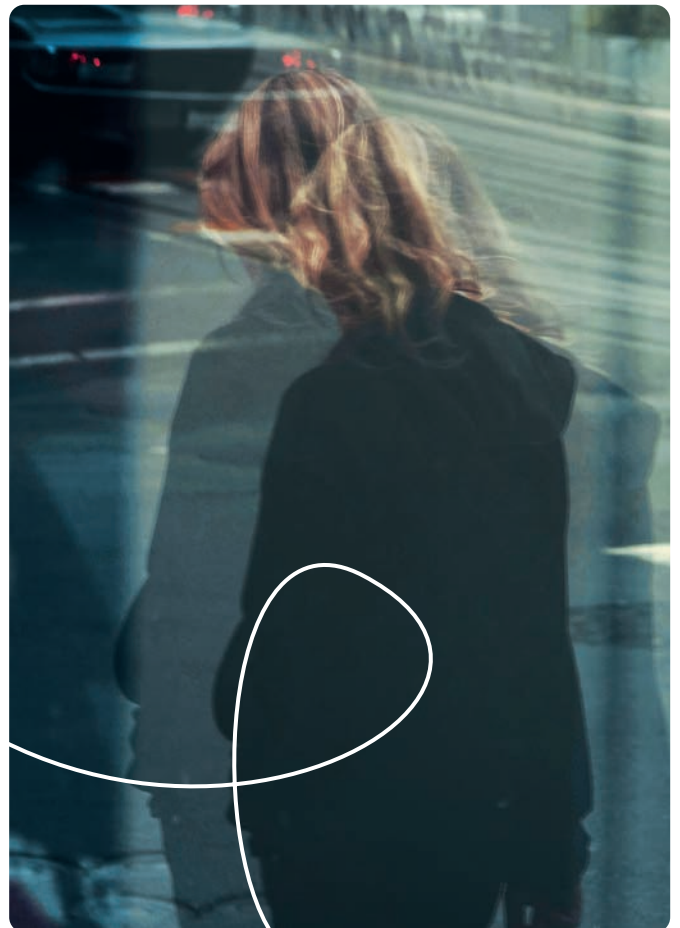
We are funding:

- **Rowan Alba (Scotland):** to embed a clinical psychologist in two supported accommodation services to deliver mental health support to people with long-term experience of homelessness and trauma.
- **MAC-UK/Look Ahead (London and the Southeast):** to provide an integrated team of psychologists, practitioners, youth workers, and academics in two of Look Ahead's supported accommodation services for homeless young people aged 16-25.
- **Platform (Wales):** to provide one-to-one coaching support (including advocacy and connection to relevant services and community resources) for people transitioning from 24 hour staffed mental health crisis houses, back into the community.

Spotlight on MAC UK

In the first six months of receiving funding and support, MAC UK focused on activities to create sustainable processes with Look Ahead to provide longer-term support for young people to improve their mental health by:

- Investing in relationships and building trust and understanding with the young people, Look Ahead staff and management. This included creating learning spaces for training staff in Look Ahead teams and improved understanding and relationships across departments.
- Developing an employment framework and recruiting youth consultants, enhancing co-production and employment opportunities for young people.
- Identifying gaps in mental health support and recognising staff strengths in building therapeutic relationships with young people.



Funding Learning-led Solutions

The results from our annual Frontline Worker Survey highlight the changing needs of those experiencing homelessness. This year, we have therefore supported the testing of three projects designed to meet these needs.

Two of the projects were focused on testing new ideas to evaluate their effectiveness in supporting more people to find or keep a safe home. The third was to further test and learn about a programme that has been proven to be successful elsewhere.

1. Homelessness Practice Incubator

Homeless Link have been identifying potential solutions to homelessness which could be further tested and / or scaled with investment. This has involved them scoping, gathering, exploring and developing resources around innovative, emerging, promising and evidence-based practice which has potential to achieve long-term impact. The aim of the project is to work alongside organisations to learn from, and test, the implementation of these practices. They have captured learning throughout the process, which can be used to develop a strategy and approach to deploy innovative solutions in homelessness service design and delivery in England.



One example is modular housing which is quick to build, relatively cheap and easily replicable, so can start to address the issue of a lack of suitable and affordable housing.

2. Frontline Worker Wellbeing Pilot

Our annual Frontline Worker Survey has consistently highlighted that low wellbeing and burnout of frontline staff is a significant barrier to staff retention and provision of effective support to people experiencing homelessness.

In response to this, we invested in a research project to trial an easy-to-implement and low-cost way to increase frontline staff wellbeing which was specifically designed to support those working in frontline roles.

The trial involved sharing relatable stories, with the aim of increasing workers' perception of social support and connection within their professional community. Participants were encouraged to read as well as share their own similar stories. By promoting shared experience and understanding, the project aimed to increase the resilience and wellbeing of frontline staff.

This trial engaged 400 frontline workers from across the UK, and across a range of organisations involved in homelessness support. The first phase of the project ended in July 2024. The final phase of data collection took place in August – October 2024. The results will be used to inform next steps.



3. Personal Futures

This project, a randomised control trial, was developed to understand the impact and potential effectiveness of a personal, direct cash transfer for participants who are at risk of homelessness.

The trial operated in Swansea, Edinburgh and Glasgow, North Lanarkshire and Oxford. It offered people experiencing homelessness a grant paid directly to their bank account, to enable them to meet their own needs without any conditions on how the money is spent.

81 people participated in the trial, with 34 being given a cash transfer.

Participants felt the transfer had made a difference. They described how it had created a foundation for them to build on, and changed their attitude. They also described improved feelings of happiness and wellbeing as a result of some of the changes they had been able to make, for instance being able to communicate more regularly with their family, or being able to make long-term choices, or leave situations they were unhappy with.

The study faced challenges at three key stages: recruitment, retention and attrition. These challenges meant that we have not yet been able to draw definitive statistical conclusions from the data available.



Plans are being developed to expand and strengthen the trial incorporating lessons learnt.

// I think that cash... sort of created a foundation, you know, in my bank account, which... I don't want it to erode away completely."

**Cash Transfer recipient,
Personal Futures
Programme**



Working with frontline workers to deliver effective solutions

We continue to support and champion frontline workers, their roles and value. We know that key to helping someone out of homelessness or to prevent it in the first place, is having a skilled, experienced, empathetic and effective frontline worker. They will reach out, engage, build a supportive relationship and work with other agencies to ensure they provide the support their clients need. Too often, however, frontline workers are undervalued and lacking support.

To ensure that people experiencing homelessness get access to the support they need, we empower and work with frontline workers so they are best able to support those they are working with.

We support frontline workers to build their skills and knowledge to deliver effective support. We also create more opportunities for sharing knowledge about what works, ensuring that practices are continuously developed, shared and implemented.

The Frontline

We partner with a network of nine organisations (as shown on page 5) across the four nations of the UK to provide training, networking and knowledge sharing opportunities through thematic and geographically placed local networks. We also work with them to use their knowledge to influence decision makers and funders in their region.

This year, our local network partners delivered:

71 Partner facilitated events with 1,331 staff attending.

These events focused on providing opportunities for staff to connect and share best practice.

Examples of the topics covered are:

- **Cuckooing, Adult Exploitation and Home Invasions**, delivered by Basis of the Leeds Women's Homelessness and Housing Frontline Network,
- **Dealing with Changes to Asylum Policy on Homelessness**, hosted by Praxis of the Pan-London Migrant Frontline Network.

The Frontline Network Annual Conference

ran in June 2023 with a theme of 'working together'. 27 speakers from the four nations delivered nine sessions on a range of themes and a panel discussion with decision makers from across the four nations.

Key topics covered in the conference were Immigration, Housing Legislation, Temporary Accommodation and Wellbeing, provided by leading homelessness organisations including Cymorth Cymru, Groundswell, Homeless Connect, Homeless Link, and specialist organisations such as Just Life and Praxis.

350 people attended

of which 65% attended the conference for the first time.

94%

of conference attendees who gave feedback rated the event as good or excellent.

90% of people agreed

or strongly agreed that they learnt from the event, and that it was relevant to their work.



“ I found the event to be very informative and I will be reporting back to my colleagues on the event. We are a small team, and it would have been great for us all to be able to attend. The fact that we can access slides is invaluable to us.”

2023 Frontline Network Conference participant

Training

We offer a training programme to frontline workers who operate in often incredibly challenging situations, where they are short of time and resource to be able to support the people that they work with. Topics are informed directly by frontline workers via feedback from our annual conference and annual Frontline Worker Survey findings to ensure we offer the content they need in ways that work for them.

Frontline workers are responding to the evolving needs of the people they are working with, which can be multiple and complex. To address this need, our training programme offers a training fund, a suite of free training events conducted by external training providers and subsidised places to accredited training with Homeless Link and the Chartered Institute of Housing. This is supporting frontline staff across the UK to further their understanding, be upskilled and develop new knowledge and skills to effectively undertake their roles. This means better support and outcomes for those facing and experiencing homelessness.

Frontline workers trained

50 grants awarded for 422 people to receive training

80 frontline workers received training for a level 3 accredited qualification

435 frontline staff participated in outsourced training

1. Training grants:

We awarded 50 training grants, allowing 422 staff to attend various training sessions to support their personal professional development.

2. Subsidised accredited training:

We are committed to supporting frontline workers to gain recognition for their work, and to have the knowledge and skills needed to provide services that work for people experiencing homelessness. We provided subsidies for five cohorts for a total of 80 frontline workers to undertake training for a Level 3 accredited qualification in homelessness services developed by Homeless Link and the Chartered Institute of Housing to help raise standards across the sector.

3. Outsourced training:

We commissioned 38 free online training sessions, covering topics like Universal Credit, mental health, substance misuse, and housing legislation, reaching 435 staff across the UK.

“What we want our service users and young people to have is the most skilled person in front of them, to give them the best quality service. You have to think proactively about your training programme as an organisation, and about how you can take your workers to the next level. I think what the training fund represents is an opportunity for the whole industry to think about how we are training our workers, what we're training them in and what we want them to take out into the workforce.”

Rob Swarbrick, Day Centre Manager at Streetlife



“ We need big structural changes, including increased availability of social housing, funding of public services, and a transformation of attitudes towards homeless and multiply marginalised people. This is more than individual organisations can achieve alone and requires coordinated collective demands from the sector.”

Frontline Worker, Manchester

Influencing:

Amplifying voices of frontline workers

Our annual Frontline Worker Survey, which ran from January to February 2024, was completed by 1,050 frontline workers. It provides a snapshot of UK wide homelessness sector experiences, highlighting the complex challenges frontline staff are working in, alongside successes in supporting individuals out of homelessness.

We used this information to amplify the voices of frontline workers to inform practice, funding decisions, and policy change to improve homelessness services.

Key Findings

The findings show that at a time when homelessness is on the increase, support workers face multiple challenges when trying to secure the required support and accommodation.

Increased demand for services:

93%

of frontline workers found it difficult or very difficult to obtain private rented accommodation for the people they support.



Limited availability of housing:

91%

of frontline workers found it difficult or very difficult to obtain social housing for the people they support.

“There is so little accommodation in this area across the board that when options do become available, competition is so high that people fall between the cracks.”

Frontline Worker, North West

There are significant burnout and wellbeing concerns from frontline workers:

51%

of workers reported always or often feeling at risk of burnout, with 81% in total experiencing this feeling at least sometimes.



64%

of frontline workers felt that their role had a negative impact on their wellbeing, up from 58% in 2022.

In addition, frontline workers are facing economic struggles:

52%

said they were struggling to pay their bills at least some of the time.

23%

worry about becoming homeless themselves.



44%

said they struggled to pay their housing costs at least some of the time.

47%

reported spending their own money on work-related costs at least sometimes.

“Pay in the sector continues to be very low. Working in the sector has meant that I’ve had to put lots of other things in my life on hold as it simply does pay enough – for example, delaying having children. I find it difficult to imagine that I could afford to support children on my income and I think it’s likely one day soon I will have to choose between continuing to work in the sector and taking these next steps in my life.”

Frontline Worker, London

We shared the report and key findings with organisations across the sector. We also used key findings to inform the general public about the challenges faced by staff working to help people away from homelessness and some of the innovative ways they are providing the required support.

We will continue to use the findings to inform and influence decision makers in central and local government.

Influencing Across the Four Nations

With our support, some of our Frontline Network Partners have also influenced key policy areas, including homelessness prevention and temporary accommodation, by engaging with decision makers and contributing to significant reports and recommendations.

Cymorth Cymru were able to hold a round of **Frontline Network Wales** meet-ups and gathered feedback from frontline workers to submit a response directly to the White Paper on Ending Homelessness in Wales from the Frontline Network Wales.

Homeless Connect who facilitate our **Frontline Network Northern Ireland**, Housing Rights and the Chartered Institute of Housing gave evidence to the Communities Committee NIFHA on housing and homelessness related issues. A written brief was put to the committee and emphasised the need to shift to a housing first culture; for legislative reform; and more affordable housing.

Praxis, who facilitate the **Pan-London Migrant Frontline Network**, hosted an event with speakers from the Greater London Authority (GLA) and Chartered Institute of Housing to discuss the likely impact of Streamlined Asylum Processing on the refugee community. The discussions from this event were shared by GLA to the Life off the Streets Executive Board who in turn wrote to the Home Office to raise these concerns.

Our Generous Donors

None of this work would be possible without the generosity of our donors, who support our mission of everyone having a safe place to call home.

For 97 years, BBC Radio 4 and St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity have partnered to support people affected by homelessness.

We are so grateful to everyone who donated to us especially during these tough economic times. Without the support of our amazing supporters we would not have been able to continue our vital work with people who are facing homelessness. Our Christmas Appeal in 2023, A Journey Home, raised over £2 million, we cannot thank everyone enough for supporting this appeal.



Donations	£4,304,251
Legacies	£577,424
Grants Received	£236,762

“Homelessness is sadly continuing to rise across the UK with rough sleeping numbers at record levels. Winter brings added pressure to those experiencing financial hardship which is why Julia Rausing Trust is once again partnering with St Martin-in-the-Fields which works to end homelessness by providing fast emergency funding to individuals. Last year, their Vicar's Relief Fund helped over 7,000 people who were either homeless or at risk of imminent eviction and we encourage others to support this worthy campaign.”

Simon Fourmy, Director of Julia Rausing Trust

The Mosawi Foundation have supported our vision, that everyone has a safe place to call home and the support they need to retain it, for over seven years.

“What makes St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity exceptional for us: It is the ...“Ever Open Door” that welcomes and accepts everyone.”

The Mosawi Foundation

“Reflex Marine is proud to be one of St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity's key corporate supporters. Our funding reflects our shared values of caring for people, especially those that have fallen on difficult times. We care deeply about those experiencing homelessness and believe that everyone should have a safe and warm place to call home.”

Reflex Marine

Objectives for the Next Year

We know that we need to do more and we will use what we've learned in delivering our work and what we hear from the frontline workers who are tirelessly supporting people away from homelessness.

We need to find effective, long-term solutions to preventing homelessness that we can support and help evolve with the changing needs of people who are experiencing homelessness.

This year, we will be reviewing and developing our emergency VRF grants programme. We will make sure our grants are available to all, so we will launch a new strategy that will support this.

We will make sure that we use what frontline staff are telling us to do more to make the public aware of the issues around homelessness and the work being done to address these.

We will increase our work advocating for change.

We will use our learning and insights from our programmes and survey to seek to influence policy and practice to better prevent and resolve homelessness and support frontline workers.

We commit to:

- Spending £2 million on emergency grants to enable people to quickly access new and more suitable accommodation or staying in their existing homes.
- Investing in projects that focus on providing specialist mental health support
- Continuing to support & champion frontline workers, their role and value, ensuring we are seeking opportunities to showcase the impact of the work they do and identifying ways to support their wellbeing.
- Providing support and access to subsidised training to frontline workers to enable them to keep abreast of best practice and apply it in their work.
- Using the findings from the Annual Frontline Workers Survey to deliver more activity to advocate on behalf of frontline workers to ensure the Government, decision makers and funders are aware of the challenges and solutions available to support people experiencing homelessness.
- Support the development of a new Frontline Fund informed by learnings from the Annual Survey.



The knowledge that he would have a bed to sleep in once moved to his new home meant the client found all the additional tasks much easier to cope with. He was able to have a comfortable and restful sleep enabling him to wake refreshed. A simple thing to many but one that really did make a huge difference to the client who now has a settled comfortable home without the risk of having to move again."

Support Worker, Northwest England

A horizontal silhouette of a grassy field, rendered in dark blue, spanning the width of the page.

Reports and Financial Statements

For the year ended
31 March 2024

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Charity information

Charity registration number	1156305	
Registered address	5 St Martin's Place London WC2N 4HJ	
Trustees	Jonathan Burdett Michelle Cornes Mark Devlin Myles Edward Victoria Fox Debbie Giwa Victoria Hill Carol Hilsum Keith Leslie Helen Simpson Frances Stratton Revd Dr Sam Wells Julian Worricker	Resigned 25 May 2023 Appointed 25 July 2023 Appointed 25 July 2023 Appointed 25 July 2023 Appointed 25 July 2023 Resigned 25 July 2023
Director	Tim Bissett	
Bankers	Coutts & Co 440 Strand London WC2R 0QS	
Independent auditor	Forvis Mazars LLP 6 Sutton Plaza Sutton Court Road Sutton Surrey SM1 4FS	

Chair of the Board of Trustees' introduction

The work of St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity is more crucial than ever, against the backdrop of increased homelessness, the continued cost-of-living crisis and a chronic shortage of suitable and affordable homes. This is reflected in the continued pressures faced by staff working on the frontline due to increased demand for their services from people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

This work would not be possible without the loyalty and generosity of our supporters. We are grateful for their ongoing support for our mission towards the goal of everyone having a safe place to call home. Of course, we also thank our colleagues at BBC Radio 4 for their support and partnership through the annual Christmas Appeal with St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity, which engages so many in supporting us. The appeal provides an unrivalled opportunity to talk directly to people across the country about the realities of homelessness and how, through supporting the charity's work, we can help people find a home. In addition to our many individual donors, we would also like to thank the Trusts and Foundations, who so generously support the charity's work.

The Board of Trustees and the management team have continued to focus on the needs of people experiencing homelessness, ensuring they receive the best possible support to find or maintain their home whilst ensuring that the charity is effective and efficient. Looking back over the last year, we have developed our support and training offer for frontline staff, invested in new projects supporting people around their mental health and homelessness, and other projects delivering impactful support throughout the UK. Our personal grants through the VRF have continued to be in high demand, supporting over 7,500 people to keep or secure housing. We have also increased sharing of learnings from frontline workers, with decision-makers to influence wider practice in the field of homelessness prevention.

I would like to thank Tim Bissett for his decade of service to the charity and welcome Duncan Shrubsole as our new CEO. I look forward to working with Duncan, my fellow Trustees, the team and partners of St Martin-in-the-Fields across the UK in our continued efforts to sustainably prevent and resolve homelessness.

Thank you for your interest in our work.



Mark Devlin – Chair of the Board of Trustees

Trustees' report

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO number 1156305) which was registered on 21st March 2014.

The board is made up of a Chair and 10 trustees, including the Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, who hold individual roles with the board and bring specialist expertise to the group.

Trustee induction and training

On appointment, trustees undergo an induction programme that includes briefings from staff and key supporters. Trustees have the opportunity to visit funded projects including The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields. We seek to maintain trustee awareness of grass-roots issues and developments around homelessness and related issues. Trustees receive regular briefings on developments in the charity's operating environment to keep them up to date. We extend this offer to our observers.

Partnerships

Partnerships are at the heart of the Christmas Appeal and all our charitable activities. The existing close partners of the charity – St Martin-in-the-Fields, BBC Radio 4 and The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields, our Frontline Network partners and others funded through our Frontline Fund, Mental Health Fund and other programmes – are all highly regarded in their respective fields.

Financial review

The financial statements reflect the results for the twelve months to 31 March 2024. Total income for 2023/24 was £5,194,712 (2022/2023: £5,678,092). The charity has made grants totalling £4,026,083 (2023: £3,216,795).

Fundraising donations and legacies

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity relies on the generosity of our supporters to provide resources which encourage, inspire and challenge people who are experiencing or facing homelessness to transform their lives. Many of our supporters come to us through the BBC Radio 4 Christmas Appeal with St Martin-in-the-Fields which was in its 97th year at the time of this report. We are grateful to the team at BBC Radio 4 who support the Appeal enthusiastically and provide support and resource to enable us to deliver a national campaign.

Our supporters are at the heart of so much of what we do and this year more than ever we are grateful to the many individuals, trusts and foundations, churches, schools, community groups and others whose donations make our work possible. We want to thank Trevor Fenwick and Frances Jacob in particular for their significant donations this year.

The cost of raising donations and legacies in this year was £1,405,076 (2022/23: £629,378). We have invested in new staff posts, our supporter database and other marketing resources as part of a phased approach to building a professional team of fundraising and communication specialists to ensure that St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity remains a sustainable organisation.

Trustees' report

Expenditure

73% of our expenditure is allocated to our grant making programmes to individuals (through the Vicar's Relief Fund) and projects and organisations tackling key issues around homelessness and the support we give to frontline workers through the Frontline Network.

Details of our restricted and unrestricted expenditure are given under note 6 to the financial statements.

Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The Board of Trustees delegate responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the charity to the Charity Director and Senior Management Team. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually, and any increases are applied in line with the cost of living applied by similar organisations. The Director's remuneration is benchmarked against pay levels in other similar charities.

Trustees and committee members give their time freely and none have received remuneration for their services.

Risk

The risk management policy sets out the aim of the trustees to adopt best practice in this area and the roles and responsibilities of trustees and staff in identifying, assessing and mitigating risk. The policy notes that some level of risk will always exist and that any residual risk should be consciously accepted and wherever possible dealt with.

The trustees and Senior Leadership Team have reviewed the risks facing the charity on a regular basis during the year. One of the most significant risks is to ensure that fundraised income is maintained and grown in order to cover the organisations charitable objectives. In order to mitigate against this risk, there has been investment into fundraising specifically focusing on diversification of income sources and longer term sustainable giving.

The trustees recognise that our relationship with the BBC is of significance to the charity. In November 2014, we entered into a four-year rolling partnership agreement with the BBC which sets out the nature of our relationship for the future, this was renewed in November 2018 for another four years.

We have considered the potential impact of the Ukraine war and the cost-of-living crisis on the charity. Increasing energy prices, rising pressure on inflation rates, unease in the stock market and interest rate rises are likely to affect the charity's performance. The funds of the charity are unlikely to be materially affected. We will continue to closely monitor the charity's performance going forward.

Trustees' report

Reserves policy

The Board of Trustees considers it prudent to maintain a sum equivalent to nine months of unrestricted expenditure for the following budget year in order to maintain the ongoing operations of the Charity and provide continuity of funding to our beneficiaries. This is considered an appropriate level of reserves to manage the risks to which the Charity is exposed, including but not limited to, safeguarding against volatile voluntary income. Reserves available for use exclude restricted funds. Funds required to meet this policy stand at £4,087k based on planned unrestricted expenditure in 2024/25. At 31 March 2024 the level of reserves available for use was £4,058k.

The Trustees are of the opinion that there are no material uncertainties that cast significant doubt about the ability of the Trust to continue as a going concern.

Fundraising practices

All requests for donations are compliant with GDPR Regulations and the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations and these standards have been maintained by the charity.

We manage all of our mailings and correspondence with supporters in line with their communication preferences. All correspondence provides supporters with information about how they can be removed from our mailing lists or change their communication preferences. We never sell or swap supporters data for marketing purposes and we ensure that our fundraising requests are confidential, sensitive and without pressure. Where we ask a third party to fundraise on our behalf, we will ensure they follow the Code of Fundraising Practice.

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. We follow the Code of Fundraising Practice guidelines on best practice and are compliant with current data protection legislation. The safety and appropriate use of supporters' data is important to us. We have not received any formal fundraising complaints in the past financial year and there have been no fundraising compliance issues.

Fundraising Regulator

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. We follow the Code of Fundraising Practice guidelines on best practice and are compliant with current data protection legislation. The safety and appropriate use of supporters' data is important to us, and we will never share or sell personal details to another organisation for their own use. We have not received any formal fundraising complaints in the past financial year and there have been no fundraising compliance issues.

Related Parties

Revd Dr Sam Wells is a trustee of The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields which received a grant from the charity of £800,000 (2022/23: £800,000).

Trustees' report

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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 as at the balance sheet date and of its income and expenditure for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- comply with applicable accounting standards subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 which 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. 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.

Statement as to disclosure of information to the auditors

So far as the Trustees are aware at the time this report is approved, there is no relevant audit information of which the St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity's auditors are unaware; and the Trustees have taken all steps they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Public benefit

In accordance with the requirement in Section 710 of the Charities Act 2011, the Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant-making policy for the year.

The Charity seeks to work with all faiths and denominations and none. Beneficiaries are not restricted by faith, gender, ethnic origin, disability, age or sexual orientation.

The Trustees have reviewed the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission and consider that the Charity's aims and activities, set out above, fulfil the criteria. The Trustees do not anticipate any change in the future to this operational approach. The Trustees consider the guidance on public benefit each year.

Approved by the Trustees on 23 January 2025
and signed on their behalf by



Mark Devlin – Chair of the Trustees

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 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 2024 and of the 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's 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' Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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

Independent auditor's report

otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

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

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Report of the Trustees; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 27, 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's 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 the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 the financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Independent auditor's report

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.

Based on our understanding of the charity and its industry, we considered that non-compliance with the following laws and regulations might have a material effect on the financial statements: employment regulation, health and safety regulation, and anti-money laundering regulation.

To help us identify instances of non-compliance with these laws and regulations, and in identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect to non-compliance, our procedures included, but were not limited to:

- Inquiring of management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance, as to whether the charity is in compliance with laws and regulations, and discussing their policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- Inspecting correspondence, if any, with relevant licensing or regulatory authorities;
- Communicating identified laws and regulations to the engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and
- Considering the risk of acts by the charity which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the preparation of the financial statements, such as the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

In addition, we evaluated the Trustees' and management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements, including the risk of management override of controls, and determined that the principal risks related to income recognition and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- Making enquiries of the Trustees and management on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- Discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- Addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

Independent auditor's report

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of the audit report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees as a body in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulation 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.

Signed:



Forvis Mazars LLP (Jan 29, 2025 14:44 GMT)

Forvis Mazars LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

6 Sutton Plaza, Sutton Court Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 4FS Dated:

Forvis Mazars LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of financial activities

(including the income and expenditure statement)
for the year ended 31 March

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	4,443,828	437,847	4,881,675	5,421,910
Charitable activities	4	-	236,762	236,762	232,100
Investments					
Bank interest received		76,275	-	76,275	24,082
Total income		4,520,103	674,609	5,194,712	5,678,092
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	1,601,368	-	1,601,368	629,378
Charitable activities	6	3,842,470	1,286,209	5,128,679	4,350,080
Total expenditure		5,443,838	1,286,209	6,730,047	4,970,958
Net movement in funds for the year		(923,735)	(611,600)	(1,535,335)	698,634
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		4,982,211	710,551	5,692,762	4,994,128
Total Funds carried forward		4,058,476	98,951	4,157,427	5,692,762

There are no recognised gains or losses in either the current or previous year other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities. All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 35 to 42 form part of the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Intangible assets	8	-	-		-
Tangible assets	9	15,510	15,510		
Current assets					
Debtors	10	530,360		512,905	
Cash at bank and in hand		4,766,781		6,030,862	
		5,297,141		6,543,767	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(1,155,224)		(851,005)	
Net current assets			4,141,917		5,692,762
			4,157,427		5,692,762
Net assets					
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds	12		4,058,476		4,982,211
Restricted funds	13		98,951		710,551
			4,157,427		5,692,762

The notes pages 35 to 42 form part of these financial statements. Approved

by the Trustees on 23 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Mark Devlin - Chair of the Trustees

Statement of Cash Flows

for the Year Ended 31 March

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	(1,535,335)	698,634
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	7,755	-
Interest received	(76,275)	(24,082)
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other debtors	(17,455)	253,349
Increase in trade and other creditors	304,219	16,758
Cash (outflow)/inflow from operations	(1,317,091)	944,659
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest received	76,275	24,082
Purchase of assets	(23,265)	-
Net cash inflow from investing activities	53,010	24,082
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(1,264,081)	968,741
Cash and cash equivalents at start of the year	6,030,862	5,062,121
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	4,766,781	6,030,862

"Cash and cash equivalents" consist entirely of "cash at bank and in hand".

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Charity information

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) no. 115305. The registered office is St Martin's Place, London, WC2N 4JJ.

1.1. Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

The Trustees have agreed detailed budgets for the year ending 31 March 2025 and reviewed cash flow forecasts to December 2025. There are plans to build on the charity's fundraising and develop its programmes in the foreseeable future and hence these accounts have been prepared on a Going Concern basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling (£), and rounded to the nearest pound.

1.2 Income

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

The income from fundraising ventures is shown gross, with the associated costs being included in costs of raising funds.

Legacy entitlement is the earlier of the Charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1.3 Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the Charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.4 Grants made

All grants made are included in the financial statements when the expenditure has been approved by the Trustees and communicated to the recipients.

1.5 Cost of raising funds

Costs of raising funds are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions.

1.6 Support costs

Support costs comprise expenditure incurred in the administration of the Charity including salaries, office space and other overheads.

Included within this category are costs associated with the strategic as opposed to day-to-day management of the Charity's activities.

1.7 Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general charitable objectives.

1.8 Designated funds

Designated funds are amounts that have been set aside by the Trustees for purposes.

1.9 Non-derivative financial instruments

Non-derivative financial instruments comprise trade and other debtors, cash and cash equivalents and trade and other creditors.

1.10 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 the statement of financial activities.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet comprise cash at bank and in hand. For the purposes of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents are net of bank overdrafts which are payable on demand.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1.12 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Software development costs are recognised as an intangible asset when all of the following criteria demonstrated:

- The technical feasibility of completing the software so that it will be available for use or sale.
- The intention to complete the software and use or sell it.
- The ability to use the software or to sell it.
- How the software will generate probable future economic benefits.
- The availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the software.
- The ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the software during its development.

Amortisation is charged so as to allocate the cost of intangibles less their residual values over their estimated useful lives, using the straight line method.

The intangible assets are amortised over the following useful economic lives:

- Software – over 3 years

If there is an indication that there has been a significant change in amortisation rate or residual value of an asset, the amortisation of that asset is revised prospectively to reflect the new expectations.

If the net fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities acquired exceeds the cost of a business combination, the excess up to the fair value of non-monetary assets acquired is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the periods in which the non-monetary assets are recovered. Any excess exceeding the fair value of non-monetary assets acquired is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the periods expected to be benefitted.

1.13 Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at their purchase price, together with any incidental costs of acquisition. Tangible fixed assets are depreciated based on original cost or valuation, less any residual value, on a straight-line basis over the expected useful economic lives of the assets concerned.

The annual rates used for this purpose are:

- Equipment, fixtures and fittings – 33%

Fixed assets undergo an annual review for indications of impairment, and if any indicators are identified, impairment assessments are conducted.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Net (expenditure)/income

	2024 £	2023 £
The net income for the year is stated after charging:		
Audit fee	18,000	13,000
Depreciation	7,755	-
Rent payments	38,700	-

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations including Christmas appeal donations	3,985,251	319,000	4,304,251	4,578,716
Legacies	533,577	43,847	577,424	843,194
	4,518,828	362,847	4,881,675	5,421,910

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Grants received	-	236,762	236,762	232,100
	-	236,762	236,762	232,100

5. Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	261,851	-	261,851	177,697
Direct fundraising costs including; consultancy fees, agency support and development of fundraising materials and campaigns	1,339,517	-	1,339,517	451,681
	1,601,368	-	1,601,368	629,378

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Grants made to:				
The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields	800,000	-	800,000	800,000
Charities and individuals via the Vicar's Relief Fund	<u>1,939,874</u>	<u>1,286,209</u>	<u>3,226,083</u>	<u>2,416,795</u>
	2,739,874	1,286,209	4,026,083	3,216,795
Support costs	1,102,596	-	1,102,596	1,133,285
	3,842,470	1,286,209	5,128,679	4,350,080

The unrestricted fund grant to The Connection which was approved in 2023/24 and included in creditors, is to be paid in two equal instalments in 2024/25.

Included in Support Costs were Governance Costs of £26,075 (2023: £38,292) made up of audit fee £18,000 (2023: £13,000) and legal fees £8,075 (2023: £25,292).

7. Staff costs

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Wages and salaries	939,283	721,962
Social security costs	101,685	79,986
Pension costs	51,926	38,860
	1,092,894	840,808

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-
	2	1

Employer pension contributions relating to the highest paying staff were £8,904 (2023: £5,279)

The average number of employees during the year, based on full time equivalents, was twenty-two (2023: nineteen). The average number of staff employed during the year was twenty-nine (2023: twenty-nine).

Staffing costs were higher in 2024 as a result of consultancy fees and recruitments costs for temporary roles.

No remuneration was paid to Trustees in the current year (2024: £Nil). Three Trustees were re-imbursed expenses of £1,076 to travel to meetings (2023: £Nil).

The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions, of the key management personnel of the Charity were £144,294 (2023: £87,980).

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

8. Intangible assets

	Computer Software £	Total Assets £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	67,119	67,119
At 31 March 2024	67,119	67,119
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	67,119	67,119
At 31 March 2024	67,119	67,119
At 31 March 2024	-	-
At 31 March 2023	-	-

9. Tangible assets

	Furniture & Equipment £	Total Assets £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023		
Additions	23,265	23,265
At 31 March 2024	23,265	23,265
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	-	-
Charge for the year	7,755	7,755
At 31 March 2024	7,755	7,755
At 31 March 2024	15,510	15,510
At 31 March 2023	-	-

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

10. Debtors

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Accrued income		
Legacy Debtors	77,489	85,493
Other debtors	413,867	423,912
	39,004	3,500
Balance at 31 March	530,360	512,905

11. Creditors

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Trade creditors	190,794	-
Accruals and deferred income	136,999	40,991
Due to St Martin-in-the-Fields Limited	4,256	10,014
Grant to the Connection	800,000	800,000
Other creditors	23,220	-
Balance at 31 March	1,155,224	851,005

12. Unrestricted funds

	General fund £	Designated fund £	Total £
Balance at 1 April	366,071	4,616,140	4,982,211
Net income/(expenditure)	10,000	(933,735)	(923,735)
Balance at 31 March	376,071	3,682,405	4,058,476

All unrestricted funds held by the charity, save for an amount retained to comply with the reserves policy, will be distributed by the end of the financial year.

The designated fund includes our grants to charities and projects tackling key aspects of homelessness and our funding of the Vicar's Relief Fund which makes small crisis grants to support people who are at risk of being made homeless, are homeless or vulnerable, or have experience of being homeless and are trying to establish or maintain a tenancy."

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

13. Restricted funds

	Balance B/Fwd	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance C/Fwd £
The Oak Foundation	116,050	36,762	(253,861)	-	98,951
Vicar's Relief Fund	594,501	437,847	(1,032,348)	-	-
Balance at 31 March	710,551	674,609	(1,286,209)	-	98,951

The Oak Foundation grant is to support the development of the new St Martin's Frontline Network. This is a three year grant that has enabled the charity to build the Frontline Network covering essential salary costs and grants to partner organisations.

Vicar's Relief Fund makes small crisis grants to support people who are at risk of being made homeless, are homeless or vulnerable, or who have experience of homelessness and are trying to establish or maintain a tenancy.

14. Analysis of net assets between the funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	5,213,700	98,951	5,312,651	6,030,862
Other net current (liabilities)/assets	(1,155,224)	-	(1,155,224)	(338,100)
	4,058,476	98,951	4,157,427	5,692,762

15. Connected charity

The Charity has one Trustee in common with The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields. This is a charity that receives a substantial grant from St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity. The Connection at St Martins-in-the-Fields can be contacted at 12 Adelaide Street, London, WC2N 4HW.

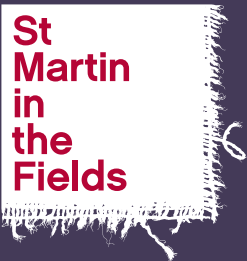
The Charity has one Trustee / Director in common with St Martin-in-the-Fields Limited. St Martin-in-the-Fields Limited provides payroll service to the Charity through which staff costs totalling £1,092,894 (2023: £840,538) were paid. The amount due to St Martin-in-the-Fields Limited at the year end was £4,256 (2023: £10,014).

16. Taxation

As a charity, the company is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of the Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

17. Operating lease commitments

Expiry date:	2024 £	2023 £
Less than one year	61,920	-
One to five years	61,920	-



Charity

**Find out more about the work of
St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity:**

 www.smitfc.org

 [@SMITFCCharity](https://twitter.com/SMITFCCharity)

 [@stmartininthefieldscharity](https://www.linkedin.com/company/stmartininthefieldscharity)

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 [@smitfcharity](https://www.instagram.com/smitfcharity)

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Charity no.: 1156305/261359