

Devon Voluntary Action

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Devon Voluntary Action

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	M Gould
	F J Colthorpe
	R J Sharples
	B Elliott
	Sarah Richards
Charity Registration Number	1158671
Principal Office	Coggans Well House
	Phoenix Lane
	Tiverton
	EX16 6LU
Independent Examiner	Westcotts (SW) LLP
	Timberly
	South Street
	Axminster
	Devon EX13 5AD

Devon Voluntary Action

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

To promote the Voluntary and Community Sector(VCS), principally but not exclusively in Devon and in particular by: I. Building the capacity of charitable, voluntary and community organisations operating within the area of benefit and providing them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose; and II. Promoting, organising and facilitating co-operation and partnership working between charitable, voluntary and community organisations and statutory and other relevant bodies within the area of benefit.

Public benefit

The Charities main activities and beneficiaries are identified in the review below. The trustees confirm that they have referred to Charity Commission on public benefit and are satisfied that the organisation's activities conform with these requirements. All the activities are delivered in partnership with members, other not-for-profit organisations or statutory bodies and are undertaken to further the organisations' charitable purpose for the public benefit.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and performance

DeVAs operating model continues to rely on delivering projects in partnership with other groups and organisations. We cover the whole of Devon through working with DeVA members (the other CVS in the Devon Districts), other organisations with some Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Support responsibilities and other Key groups with the skills and expertise to deliver DeVA projects. During this year we:-

- Continued to offer and provide the Generic Quality Mark and the memory Café Quality Mark awards through local partners.
- Provided tools for DeVA members including an internal CRM database to enable members to monitor the work carried out supporting the sector and intelligence about the sector as a whole moving to the new AIDE CRM at the end of the year.
- Continued employment of the Comms role with 3 themed activities (a) DeVA admin including DeVA emails, social media, DeVA website, and promotion, (b) DeVA newsletters, primarily Funding and Training and (c) Made Open administration and development.
- Supported a REN (Research Engagement Network) survey for the Devon Mental Health Alliance aimed at understanding the success of the Community Mental Health Framework, and identify what needs to be done to further improve outcomes for people accessing services.
- Ran a pilot Adult Social Care project funded by Devon County Council aimed at improving opportunities for adults of a working age with a disability to access community and voluntary sector services and resources. Through the project we:
 - (a) Established in-person Friendship groups for people with a learning disability in Honiton, Crediton and Cullompton.
 - (b) Ran a well-received pilot Disability Awareness training for CVS organisations with 10 participants.

Devon Voluntary Action

Trustees' Report (continued)

- (c) Completed a Devon wide Disability Survey with responses from 121 groups covering 5 areas of Devon (Mid Devon; North Devon; South Hams; Teignbridge and West Devon) gathering information on barriers to services, available and supported activities and support needed to inform future activities and services in Devon.

- Continued to grow Devon Connect, continuing our partnership with external groups Torbay Development Trust, Exeter Community Initiatives and Devon Communities Together. Each partner supports communities in their respective areas - ensuring content is relevant and up-to-date and that residents, groups and organisations are supported.

In the past year:

- 2,445 activities were added to the platform (up from 1,494 in the previous year).
- 1,145 new members joined (up from 917 in 2023) totalling 4818 Members.
- 3950 hours completed from time banking
- 240,267 page views (up from 170,592 the previous year).
- Social value calculations show a value of £626,937 (calculated using the Social Value Portal).

Financial review

The total incoming resources generated during the period were £54,604 (2024: £40,075)

The level of unrestricted reserves as at 31 March 2025 were £35,429, which is above the reserves policy, but not deemed excessive.

Policy on reserves

The Charity's policy on reserves is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover 3 months running costs and to confirm an amount to be set aside as contingency on an annual basis. Based on 2024/25, this amounts to approximately £12,000. Reserves held as at 31 March 2025 are just over £30,000. Although reserves held exceed the 3 months running costs (excluding restricted projects), the amount held is not deemed excessive. DeVA currently has no statutory obligations relating to staff. The contingency fund is set to cover delivery of SLA commitments due to unforeseen circumstances and to contribute to the annual licenses for the shared tools and platforms.

We have expanded the functionality of Devon Connect this year by introducing a jobs page for the sector and drawing up plans to being charging for some areas of the platform.

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

Short term (one year): We will continue to explore sustainability options for Devon Connect platform and to build stronger relationships with like-minded organisations so that we can robustly support the sector against the backdrop of changing statutory sectors especially in the health and social care sectors and are open to extending membership where appropriate to achieve to achieve this.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation as of March 29th 2022. Its registered office is Coggans Well House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, EX16 6LU.

Devon Voluntary Action

Trustees' Report (continued)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Under the CIO constitution, the trustees consist of Ex-Officio Trustees being the Chief Officer or equivalent of formal DeVA members for as long as they hold that role and individual trustees who support the aim and objectives of the Charity. Individual trustees are invited to complete an application form and attend an informal meeting with existing trustees, followed by attending a trustees meeting and then being formally voted on as a trustee.

Induction and training of trustees

Trustees are provided with an induction pack covering information about the Charity, a copy of the governing document, the latest accounts, guidance on Trustee responsibilities and other information relating to the operation of the charity. Potential trustees are also offered sessions with the Responsible Partner CO for individual projects and the overall Charity.

Organisational structure

The Trustee board meets at least 4 times a year. The meetings are chaired by one of the Ex-Officio Trustees, elected from the other trustees annually. Management of the charity's day to day business is delegated to member organisations under an annually reviewed operational agreement. These cover four areas: Governance, Finance, Data, Communications.

The Trustees are responsible for approving all agreements, contracts and policies. They review the liabilities and contingency plans and risk on a regular basis.

Risks to which the charity is exposed are regularly reviewed by the Trustees and steps taken as necessary to mitigate these. The Trustee implemented a more formal process to assess risk prior to agreeing to act as lead partner for a major grant on behalf of the VCS in Devon. This identified risks to which the Charity may be exposed and is reviewed at each board meeting.

Devon Voluntary Action

Trustees' Report (continued)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 15/12/25 and signed on its behalf by:



M Gould
Trustee

Devon Voluntary Action

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Devon Voluntary Action

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Devon Voluntary Action for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Devon Voluntary Action you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Devon Voluntary Action's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Devon Voluntary Action as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Robyn Gifford-England ACA
Westcotts (SW) LLP
Timberly
South Street
Axminster
Devon
EX13 5AD

Date: 19/12/25

Devon Voluntary Action

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		12,000	42,492	54,492	39,890
Investment income	3	112	-	112	185
Total income		<u>12,112</u>	<u>42,492</u>	<u>54,604</u>	<u>40,075</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		<u>(28,104)</u>	<u>(46,458)</u>	<u>(74,562)</u>	<u>(92,687)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(28,104)</u>	<u>(46,458)</u>	<u>(74,562)</u>	<u>(92,687)</u>
Net expenditure		(15,992)	(3,966)	(19,958)	(52,612)
Gross transfers between funds		<u>(7,672)</u>	<u>7,672</u>	-	-
Net movement in funds		(23,664)	3,706	(19,958)	(52,612)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>59,093</u>	<u>1,680</u>	<u>60,773</u>	<u>113,385</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>35,429</u>	<u>5,386</u>	<u>40,815</u>	<u>60,773</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 12.

Devon Voluntary Action

(Registration number: 1158671)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	10	5,145	3,341
Cash at bank and in hand		38,657	59,464
		<u>43,802</u>	<u>62,805</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(2,987)</u>	<u>(2,032)</u>
Net assets		<u>40,815</u>	<u>60,773</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		5,386	1,680
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>35,429</u>	<u>59,093</u>
Total funds	12	<u>40,815</u>	<u>60,773</u>

The financial statements on pages 7 to 17 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 15.12.25. and signed on their behalf by:



.....
M Gould
Trustee

Devon Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Devon Voluntary Action meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Judgements and sources of key estimation uncertainty

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

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

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

Devon Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Financial instruments

Classification

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Devon Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Grants;			
DCC ASC	-	26,505	26,505
Other grants receivable	2,000	15,987	17,987
NHS Devon	10,000	-	10,000
	<u>12,000</u>	<u>42,492</u>	<u>54,492</u>
		Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Grants;			
Other grants receivable		39,890	39,890
		<u>39,890</u>	<u>39,890</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

3 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Bank interest receivable	112	-	112
	<u>112</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Bank interest receivable	185	-	185
	<u>185</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185</u>

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Charitable activities		1,700	46,458	48,158
Allocated support costs	5	26,404	-	26,404
		<u>28,104</u>	<u>46,458</u>	<u>74,562</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Charitable activities		43,979	7,964	51,943
COMF		-	22,440	22,440
Allocated support costs	5	18,304	-	18,304
		<u>62,283</u>	<u>30,404</u>	<u>92,687</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

5 Analysis of support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Insurance	495	469
Communications and IT	22,936	13,610
Governance costs	1,523	2,708
Subscriptions	1,450	1,517
	26,404	18,304

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

7 Staff costs

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

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

8 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Other fees to examiners		
The examining of accounts	<u>800</u>	<u>750</u>

9 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

10 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	2,100	-
Prepayments	45	341
Other debtors	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
	<u>5,145</u>	<u>3,341</u>

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	1,374	442
Accruals	<u>1,613</u>	<u>1,590</u>
	<u>2,987</u>	<u>2,032</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unrestricted Funds	59,093	12,112	(28,104)	(7,672)	35,429
Restricted funds					
Torbay Development	1,680	15,987	(26,484)	8,817	-
DCC ASC	-	26,505	(19,974)	(1,145)	5,386
	<u>1,680</u>	<u>42,492</u>	<u>(46,458)</u>	<u>7,672</u>	<u>5,386</u>
Total funds	<u>60,773</u>	<u>54,604</u>	<u>(74,562)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,815</u>
	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unrestricted Funds	62,042	40,075	(62,283)	19,259	59,093
Restricted funds					
COMF	43,903	-	(22,440)	(21,463)	-
WEB	1,440	-	(3,644)	2,204	-
Torbay Development	6,000	-	(4,320)	-	1,680
	<u>51,343</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(30,404)</u>	<u>(19,259)</u>	<u>1,680</u>
Total funds	<u>113,385</u>	<u>40,075</u>	<u>(92,687)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,773</u>

Devon Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

COMF - Contain Outbreak Management Fund to support a project to build on current networks and links as a sector and in partnership with NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Devon Country Council and other statutory partners, to deliver support on the ground needed by people in Devon affected by Covid-19. The transfer from COMF to unrestricted has been done to reflect that the funds have all been spent by 31 March 2025.

DCC ASC (Adult Social Care) - A Devon County Council funded project aimed at improving opportunities for adults of a working age with a disability to access community and voluntary sector services and resources. The focus is broadly on 3 areas:

- Raising awareness of needs and opportunities
- Training and workshops
- Building on the existing friendship group work to deliver in person.

WEB - Funds received from Westbank Community Health and Care for the delivery of WEB work carried out by DeVA.

Torbay Development - Funds for Devon Connect.

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Current assets	38,416	5,386	43,802
Current liabilities	(2,987)	-	(2,987)
Total net assets	35,429	5,386	40,815
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Current assets	61,125	1,680	62,805
Current liabilities	(2,032)	-	(2,032)
Total net assets	59,093	1,680	60,773

Devon Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

14 Related party transactions

During the year a number of transactions occurred between Devon Voluntary Action and charities with Trustees in common in the normal course of business in order to achieve its objective to support voluntary and community sector groups across Devon.

Included within the accounts is monies paid to those charities as follows:

West Devon CVS £2,308 (2024: £6,740)
North Devon VS £1,550 (2024: £9,132)
South Hams CVS £1,850 (2024: £3,755)
Teignbridge CVS £23,121 (2024: £15,450)
TTVS £2,258 (2024: £10,172)
Involve Voluntary Action in Mid Devon £12,900 (2024: £8,484)