WARRINGTON SPEAK UP

England & Wales · Charity number 1158888

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-10-16
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Gateway 89 Sankey Street Warrington WA1 1SR
Phone	01925246888
Email	info@advocacyhub.org.uk
Website	www.warringtonspeakup.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1) TO RELIEVE AND SUPPORT PEOPLE WHO ARE DISADVANTAGED DUE TO DISABILITY, MENTAL HEALTH OR AGE THROUGH THE PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL ISSUE BASE ADVOCACY SERVICES, SELF ADVOCACY PROJECTS AND PARTICIPATORY CONSULTATION PROJECTS. 2) TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY RELIEVING THE NEEDS OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE SOCIALLY EXCLUDED DUE TO THEIR DISABILITY, MENTAL HEALTH OR AGE THROUGH A RANGE OF ADVOCACY SUPPORT AND PROJECTS ASSISTING THEM TO INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY. 3) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE NEEDS AND EXPERIENCES OF PEOPLE WHO ARE DISADVANTAGED DUE TO DISABILITY, MENTAL HEALTH AND AGE THEREBY PROMOTING INCLUSION. 4) TO ADVANCE AND PROMOTE THE EDUCATION OF PEOPLE DISADVANTAGED DUE TO DISABILITY, MENTAL HEALTH AND AGE BY ENABLING THEM TO UNDERSTAND AND EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS AS ORDINARY CITIZENS.

Activities: Warrington Speak Up is an independent advocacy organisation actively promoting social inclusion, equality and social justice. Through the delivery of quality advocacy services, including statutory & non statutory issue based advocacy, self and group advocacy, projects and consultation we aim to strengthen the voice of Warrington residents who face discrimination, disadvantage and social isolation.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Warrington

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£549,762	£532,296	£394,454	15
2024-03-31	£526,671	£531,047	£376,988	16
2023-03-31	£528,846	£458,067	£381,364	14
2022-03-31	£474,997	£343,336	-	-
2021-03-31	£310,468	£285,977	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Lynne Bennett	Chair	2014-10-08
Anna O'Mahony		2014-10-08
Kathryn Donnelly		2020-11-19
MICHAEL HORNE		2014-10-08
Steven Cullen		2022-06-23

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WARRINGTON SPEAK UP

England & Wales - Charity number 1158888

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1158888

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

for

Warrington Speak Up

Warrington Speak Up

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Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Message from the Chair

Once again this has been a very active, positive and successful 12 months, with continued growth in our service delivery and most importantly maintaining the high level of quality we set and expect of ourselves. Our reputation as an advocacy provider that understands and responds to the needs of our local community, impacts lives and delivers positive change is outstanding and we are delighted that this was reflected in the QPM process and subsequent excellent report last Autumn:

"Being so deeply embedded in the community for so long has meant that WSU are able to respond quickly to local need and local issues and your innovative approaches to service development and providing services that people really need is fantastic. It means you are as relevant as you can possibly be to your local community" (NDTI QPM).

The principles of advocacy and commitment to people's voice, rights and participations shone through in every single element of the QPM assessment, from the workbook to the policies and every conversation we had on the site visit. This is something to be extremely proud of.

It continues to be a pleasure to be a trustee for Warrington Speak Up, to celebrate the successes and achievements, to support the team in the midst of continued financial challenges, to ensure that strong foundations are in place to confidently approach the forthcoming tender process and to work together with our partners to influence change. Prioritising our wellbeing offer, with investment in terms of resources, time and opportunities for our staff team and volunteers will ensure each person feels valued, respected, supported and an equal partner in our vision and ethos at Warrington Speak Up.

On behalf of all the trustees, I would like to extend my thanks to all the staff and volunteers involved at Warrington Speak Up as well as the many partner organisations and stakeholders who continue to support our work. Key to our success and achieving positive outcomes for the individuals we support is collaboration. As a board we remain committed to this and supporting our senior management team to continue to invest in developing relationships in order to creatively meet the needs of our local communities with the resources and finance available to us.

Lynne Bennett
Chair

Message from the CEO

I am proud to be part of a team that is passionate about making a difference in people's lives. I see on a daily basis the commitment of paid staff and volunteers in ensuring a person's voice is truly heard and rights respected, at a time in their life when it really matters - the team are motivated to provide the right support, at the right time, in the right place, using the appropriate tools, approaches and resources. And all of this work takes place with the support of an enthusiastic, accessible and highly skilled and knowledgeable leadership team who both value and actively promote the culture of 'team', 'collaboration and 'partnerships'. We are keen to continue to build on our commitment to 'team' and fully embed this within our culture at Warrington Speak Up. Our staff and volunteers are our most valuable resource, and this is something we never want to lose sight of and want to fully invest in, in terms of time and support.

I am also grateful to the Board of Trustees for their time, expertise, support and encouragement and for reminding me on the more difficult and challenging days what Warrington Speak Up is all about.

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

A significant achievement this year was being awarded our second QPM kitemark and to have validated the excellent quality of advocacy services Warrington Speak Up consistently delivers. We work hard to uphold the advocacy principles in all our interactions with the people we support, colleagues, external partners and commissioners. Our core strength remains our team of dedicated, skilled, passionate and tenacious workers and I am pleased that this has been acknowledged throughout the QPM process. The world of advocacy remains challenging and demanding but our commitment to people, rights, quality of life and sustainability as an advocacy provider, remains steadfast.

Our project work has continued to grow and have a significant impact in the purpose and quality of people's lives - it truly demonstrates the power and strength of the collective voice.

Last year I wrote that we continued to experience significant challenges - Funding and the expectation to deliver more for less, increased demand for spot purchases without the security of affording additional staff, ever increasing high complex caseloads, seeking creative ways to provide much needed and valued services with less resources. Sadly these challenges remain the same and all within a backdrop where statutory services are stretched, funding is scarce, key social care reform continues to change, ever increasing cost of living and competition from other organisation all seeking contracts and much needed revenue. However - our resolve is strong, our passion for social justice is unwavering and we remain tenacious in our commitment to working in partnership with our communities to improve lives.

We look forward to the next 12 months - to both the challenges and successes. We have seen the power that quality services can have, helping people to live the lives they want, in the way they want and that is what continues to motivate us.

However, despite these challenges, there have been many highlights, and much to celebrate, enjoy and be proud of - too many to list them all! But here a just a few - The impact of the Still Me Project on people with a lived experience of dementia bringing hope and a smile, the strength, enthusiasm (and humour) of our Speak Up 4 All self-advocates standing up for better lives, the power and privilege of walking side by side with hundreds of people impacted by suicide and committed to changing the narrative, the laughter of women enjoying the monthly supper club whilst facing the daily challenges of struggling with their mental health, the This is Me project celebrating our uniqueness, the tenacity of advocates as they work tirelessly to bring about change, the outcomes both big and small that make a difference in people's lives.

So, what does the next year look like?

We want to continue to be known as an organisation that is tenacious in its commitment to help people live their best lives. We want to strengthen our reputation as an organisation that doesn't just say they believe in partnership working, but who actively works at strengthening partnerships, respecting and valuing others, and finding ways to work together for the benefit of our communities. We want self-advocacy to be the bedrock for all our activity. We want to be known as an organisation that puts people first in all that it does and is willing to fight vociferously for their right to be heard, respected, valued and included. And we want to do this with a workforce that says they are proud to be part of Warrington Speak Up.

Lastly, I want to thank our staff and volunteers for your unwavering support, enthusiasm and determination in what has been a difficult year. Thank you to our partners for standing with us and putting personal agendas aside for the benefit of our communities. Thank you to our trustees for your advice, guidance, challenge and motivation. And lastly thank you to the people we work with, for believing in us, working with us and trusting us.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Warrington Speak Up's mission is to provide independent advocacy services to Warrington residents which will directly relieve the needs of vulnerable young people and adults who have learning difficulties, disabilities, health and social care needs and mental health concerns and/or to relieve the needs of those who may be providing care and support. This mission is carried out in such a way as to affirm the dignity, individuality and integrity of each individual, ensuring their rights as ordinary citizens are protected. In addition, we seek to champion change within the field of health and social care.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

In planning the charity's activities, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In accordance with the National Advocacy Charter, advocacy services are independent (structurally independent from statutory organisations and other service providers) confidential, accessible and provided free of charge. Warrington Speak Up aims to ensure that buildings, policies, procedures and publicity materials promote access to the whole community. Information in a range of formats and on different platforms, is available to clients, funding agencies and other service providers, describing the scope and limitations of services, outlining eligibility criteria and promoting referral pathways.

Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.

Through the provision of statutory and non-statutory advocacy services individuals are able to:
- increase their confidence and self-esteem,
- have their voice heard,
- have their rights defended and upheld,
- have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives,
- enjoy more control over their lives,
- be meaningfully involved in decision making,
- gain improved access to appropriate adult social care, health and well-being services,
- participate and contribute to their local communities,
- be kept safe from all types of abuse and have representation during safeguarding processes,

During 2024-2025
the organisation has actively worked with the following identified groups:

- Prisoners with health and social care needs
- Young people and adults with SEND needs, learning disabilities, mental health issues
- Adults with learning difficulties and learning disabilities and health and social care needs
- Adults with autism
- Parents with mental health issues, learning needs, physical or sensory disabilities and/or substance misuse issues, who are involved in Early Intervention, Child in Need, Child Protection and Family Care Proceedings
- Disabled young people in transition
- Older people in care homes and hospital settings
- Older people with dementia
- Carers
- People with acquired brain injury
- People accessing homeless provision and the Street homeless
- People with a physical disability and/or sensory difficulties

In addition, Warrington Speak Up, through consultation activity, community participation events and issue-based advocacy, has sought to influence the development and implementation of local agendas and commissioning priorities within health and social care reform in order to improve outcomes for local people and to ensure the collective voice of individuals is at the centre of decision making. The CEO of Warrington Speak Up is the Chairperson of the Warrington Safeguarding Adult Forum, Chair of the Learning Disability Partnership Board and is a member of the Warrington Safeguarding Adult Board, Autism Board, Suicide Prevention Board, VCSE alliance and various mental health working groups. Our lead practitioners are also members of various boards and forums including the Dementia Transformation Partnership Board, Practitioners Forum, Advocacy Leads group and forums within Merseycare.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Charitable activities

The following services and hours were provided and delivered in the Hub between April 2024 and March 2025.

Care Act (Statutory)

-Total number of clients supported - 310
-Total number of new referrals - 233
-Total number of advocacy hours - 2038

Paid RPR (Statutory)

- Total number of clients supported - 698
- Total number of new referrals - 470
- Total number of advocacy hours - 2992

IMHA (Statutory)

- Total number of clients supported - 421
- Total number of new referrals - 355
- Total number of advocacy hours - 1871

IMCA (Statutory)

- Total number of clients supported - 151
- Total number of new referrals - 122
- Total number of advocacy hours - 1996

Parent Advocacy (Non-Statutory)

- Total number of clients supported - 208
- Total number of new referrals - 132
- Total number of advocacy hours - 2162

Early Help (Preventative) Advocacy (Non-Statutory)

- Total number of clients supported - 49
- Total number of new referrals - 38
- Total number of advocacy hours - 258

Advocacy for Informal Patients (Non-Statutory)

- Total number of clients supported - 100
- Total number of new referrals - 83
- Total number of advocacy hours - 127

In addition, Warrington Speak Up continues to deliver the following activity on a commissioned basis:

Older Peoples Project
Located in 2 care homes

Spot purchase Paid RPR (Statutory)
67 clients supported, referrals from Warrington, Salford, Worcestershire, Conwy, Waltham Forest, York, Trafford, Rochdale, Cheshire West.

Spot purchase Care Act (Statutory)
24 clients supported, referrals from Warrington, Warrington CCG, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside, Worcestershire, Hull, Northern Care Alliance Trust.

Spot purchase IMHA (Statutory)
2 client supported, referral from NHS Cheshire & Merseyside.

Spot purchase Parent Advocacy (Non-Statutory)
36 clients supported, referrals from Halton Borough Council, Warrington Borough Council, Trafford, Manchester, Cheshire West, Wrexham and St Helens

Spot purchase 1.2 Reps (Statutory)
29 clients supported, referrals from Warrington Borough Council, Halton Borough Council

Spot Purchase IMCA 39D (Statutory)
1 client supported, referral from Warrington Borough Council

Spot Purchase IMCA 39A (Statutory)
1 client supported, referral from Warrington Borough Council

Projects

Speak Up 4 All Group

The group continues to grow, with 25 regular members meeting each week, providing a strong collective voice for people with learning disabilities in Warrington. The Gateway continue to provide a welcoming, warm and accessible space for the group to meet.

Many partner organisations have worked with the group and individual representatives throughout the year including Warrington buses, Warrington Voluntary Action, Salford University, Merseycare, Specialist Learning Disability Community Nursing Team, Job Centre, Adult Social Care teams, Cancer Alliance.

Connect Yourself

Connect Yourself is a unique and innovative project that can achieve great things for the young people involved.

Connect Yourself works with young people (identified as SEND) who have finished school, college or supported internships and feel like they still have lots to learn.

We recognise that young people often have aspirations for a greater level of independence, but without the necessary skills, knowledge or support, are unable to achieve this. Some young people struggle to identify what they want to achieve in their lives.

Connect Yourself helps young people to think, plan and learn in a creative, fun and person-centred way. We will help the young person to put together a plan that reflects what they want to achieve and the support they may need.

Working with existing partners across Warrington we will either deliver the training required or support the young person into the appropriate setting or service.

A key part of the project is to map out current provision and opportunities and to ensure that everyone knows about them. Making the right connections is essential to achieving good outcomes.

Our aim is to support each young person involved to maximise their potential, achieve greater independence and improve their quality of life.

Examples may be:
- Travelling independently
- Feeling confident when out and about
- Managing money safely
- Finding our about clubs and groups
- Taking up a new sport
- Looking for a new job
- Living independently

To find out more have a look on our website https://www.warringtonspeakup.org.uk/connect-yourself/

Get Warrington Talking

We have facilitated a number of one off and regular events throughout the year to raise awareness of mental health and challenge stigma. These included our annual Hope 100 suicide prevention walk through the night on World Suicide Prevention Day involving 300 participants, Time to Talk Day and World Mental Health day initiatives at Golden Square shopping centre and Birchwood Shopping Centre, bi-weekly walk and talks, women's supper clubs and soup and chats. We have recruited, trained and provided ongoing support to a team of volunteers with lived experiences supported by a volunteer co-ordinator.

PAUSE

Our non-clinical community mental health listening space has been operational for 3 years and provided support to over 250 individuals enabling open conversations about their mental health, free from stigma and judgement. The initiative is part of Warrington's suicide prevention strategy, encouraging conversation, improving wellbeing, supporting access to appropriate services, raising awareness and understanding of mental health and aiming to save lives.

The PAUSE meeting room continues to offer a safe and welcoming environment that puts people at their ease and where they feel valued.

PAUSE is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We have established excellent partnership working relationships with key agencies. The Verve, Priestley College and Warrington Vale Royal College continue to help us to connect with our 18-24year old primary target audience while allowing the space to cater for all adults.

Your Life, Your Say Older People's Project
Provides instructed and non-instructed advocacy support to residents within 2 residential/nursing homes. Advocacy is aimed at residents with little or no family contact or other social networks, tackling social isolation within care settings. Activity includes life story work, discussion and contribution to resident surveys, end of life care planning.

Still Me Demetia Project
Working in partnership with people living with dementia, carers, community groups and organisations we aim to collate views, themes and experiences. We recognise people living with dementia want others to know that they still want lives that are meaningful and full. They want to end the stigma attached to the word 'dementia'.
Our findings are fed back to the Warrington Dementia Transformation Board who are looking to improve dementia care for all in Warrington.

Still Me Dementia project evaluation / report has been written and can be found on the Warrington Speak Up website https://www.warringtonspeakup.org.uk/warrington-dementia-project/

Fundraising activities
During the year the Charity continued to pursue a policy of securing additional sources of income in order to build on Warrington Speak Up's activities and retain sufficient reserves.

We have 6 main strands of income:

1) Specific contracts to deliver mainstream advocacy services within the local authority ie Advocacy Hub
2) Funding received through grants to deliver specific projects ie Connect Yourself, PAUSE, Get Warrington Talking, Still Me Dementia Project
3) Income generated through offering bespoke training and consultancy
4) Gifts/donations from individuals and organisations
5) Out of area and local spot purchase arrangements
6) Individual commissioned work

FINANCIAL REVIEW
Financial position
The Charity has made a surplus in the year of £17,466. Its principal funding source is from grants which totalled £360,046. Total reserves at the year end were £394,454.

Reserves policy
The Trustees have reviewed the policy for reserves for the charity. This review encompassed the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match funding income with fixed commitments and the nature of the reserves. The review concluded that to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide an uninterrupted service to our client base, a general reserve which equates to approximately 6 months running costs should be maintained. In addition to this the Trustees agreed the reserves for the charity should also include costs to meet redundancy obligations for eligible staff.

FUTURE PLANS
Objectives for 2024 -2025
1. To have a successful QPM site visit (July / Aug 24) and achieve QPM validation. - Completed
2. To be tender ready and be awarded advocacy hub contract. - Delay in tender process.
3. Secure additional funding for project work (Connect Yourself, Still Me Dementia Project and Get Warrington Talking) - Completed for 12 months additional funding.
4. To look at the sustainability of the organisation and succession planning for strategic staff posts. - Completed, work remains ongoing.

Objectives for 2025 -2026
1. To secure advocacy hub contract.
2. To maintain the level of income generated through spot purchases.
3. To secure new funding for project work. (Connect Yourself, Still Me Dementia Project and Get Warrington Talking

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

In October 2014 the charity was registered as CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) and ratified by the Charities Commission. The new organisation came into effect on January 1st 2015. The CIO was formed to take on all the activities, obligations, assets and liabilities of Warrington Speak Up.

The original charity was registered on 11th July 2006 and is governed by its constitution adopted on 27th June 2006. After the year end, the constitution of the charity was amended, and was adopted by the Board on 26th February 2013. The amendment was made to reflect the expansion of the charity and its area of activity. The charity operates under the name of Warrington Speak Up from its offices at The Gateway.

Warrington Speak Up is an independent advocacy organisation actively promoting social inclusion, equality and social justice. Our aim is to strengthen the voice of people living in Warrington who face discrimination, disadvantage or social isolation. Advocacy supports and enables people who find it difficult or lack the confidence to speak up, to express their views, exercise their rights and make informed choices.

Advocacy is available to any Warrington resident over the age of 18 or to a disabled young person from the age of 16. We work with people disadvantaged through age, mental illness, disability, ill health, family and social circumstances.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees undergo a period of induction to brief them on the work of Warrington Speak Up, structures, decision making processes and recent financial performance. During induction, trustees meet with the staff team and other members of the Board. Formal training is accessed via Warrington Voluntary Action, a local voluntary organisation that provides a range of services to 3rd Sector organisations including training on governance. A Trustee Induction Pack is used as a framework for induction.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Warrington Speak Up is managed by a Board of Trustees. We actively seek to appoint trustees who demonstrate their understanding of the values and ethos of Warrington Speak Up and who offer a range of experience, skill and expertise. In addition, we benefit from the support of external advisors offering specific areas of expertise and knowledge in the field of health and social care, community development, VCSE infrastructure and general legal advice.

The Board is keen to promote and support meaningful opportunity to any person who accesses our range of services to share their views on the development of the organisation and influence decision making. This is supported through regular consultation events with clients and group members, evaluation surveys on completion of advocacy intervention and through a robust complaints, comments and compliments policy. In addition, trustees commit to meeting with members of self-advocacy groups on an annual basis to listen to their views and experiences of the organisation.

The Board of Trustees must have a minimum of three trustees but with no maximum number. We currently have five trustees.

Trustees meet bimonthly with additional meetings when required to deal with specific issues. The primary focus of the Board is to review performance of the charity, review strategic and financial plans, support organisational growth and development and agree policy and procedure. Day to day responsibility and decision making is delegated to the CEO who has overall responsibility for ensuring that the services specified are delivered to a high standard, for securing funding and the day to day management of the staff team.

During this period the Board has:
- Continued to oversee the review of governance processes
- Ensured that our health and safety policies are fit for purpose and enabled all the staff and volunteers to work in a happy, healthy and safe environment
- Supported the implementation of the organisations commitment to mental health and wellbeing in the workplace
- Provided direction in terms of cost analysis of future tenders

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees continue to assess the major risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error and manage identified risks. The trustees have spent time this year doing a deep dive into our key risks and creating a detailed Risk Register to support our governance processes.

Adequate insurance cover is in place in line with contractual obligations and the finances are kept under constant review with external auditing.

Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a 'strategic plan' allowing for the diversification of funding and activities. Generating new income takes place through the promotion of specific advocacy products including spot purchase arrangements from external local authorities for statutory advocacy, provider consultation and quality assurance, design of easy read information, training and commissioned project work.

Cash flow, expenditure and income generation is monitored and checked regularly against the annual budget. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all financial and contractual transactions.

Robust policies and procedures ensure compliance with health and safety regulations and safeguarding in relation to staff, volunteers, service users and visitors. All procedures and policies are reviewed in a systematic way to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity, service users and contractual obligations. It is our aim to seek to continually improve the effectiveness of our quality management system through the implementation of policies, quality objectives, audit results, analysis of data, corrective and preventative actions and management review.

The Board of Trustees have been committed to communicating the importance of quality assurance whilst meeting the needs of clients, commissioners and relevant statutory requirements. All advocacy activity and project activity is reviewed and evaluated against outcome-based measures and the views of clients and stakeholders are actively sought and used to identify, set objectives and achieve improvements in the quality of its service.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1158888

Principal address
The Gateway
89 Sankey Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1SR

Trustees
Ms S L Bennett
M Horne
Mrs A O'Mahony
Mrs K Donnelly
S P Cullen

Independent Examiner
Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Ms S L Bennett - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Warrington Speak Up

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Warrington Speak Up
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Warrington Speak Up (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

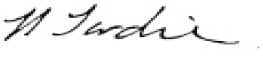
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 the Trust 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 applicable 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.



Hayley Jardine BFP ACA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

18 September 2025

Warrington Speak Up

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	4,020	-	4,020	2,719
Charitable activities	3				
Advocacy, counselling and support		377,394	168,348	545,742	523,952
Total		381,414	168,348	549,762	526,671
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Advocacy, counselling and support		363,948	168,348	532,296	531,047
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		17,466	-	17,466	(4,376)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		376,988	-	376,988	381,364
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		394,454	-	394,454	376,988

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Balance Sheet
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	2,406	-	2,406	4,721
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	29,338	-	29,338	21,230
Cash at bank and in hand		481,008	-	481,008	500,581
		510,346	-	510,346	521,811
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(118,298)	-	(118,298)	(149,544)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		392,048	-	392,048	372,267
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		394,454	-	394,454	376,988
NET ASSETS		394,454	-	394,454	376,988
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				394,454	376,988
TOTAL FUNDS				394,454	376,988

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

S L Bennett - Trustee

M Horne - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(18,325)	13,029
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(18,325)	13,029
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,248)	(599)
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,248)	(599)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(19,573)	12,430
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		500,581	488,151
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		481,008	500,581

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	17,466	(4,376)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,030	4,165
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	532	525
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(8,107)	53,116
Decrease in creditors	(31,246)	(40,401)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(18,325)	13,029

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	500,581	(19,573)	481,008
	500,581	(19,573)	481,008
Total	500,581	(19,573)	481,008

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

In the opinion of the Trustees the charity has sufficient resources and funding for the foreseeable future and as a result have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

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

Donations, are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants,is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

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 by the Bank.

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

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs incurred by the charity to enable it to fulfil its core operations.

- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

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

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

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

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's statement of financial position when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

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

Other financial assets
Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publically traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

Impairment of financial assets
Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit or loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Employee benefits

The costs of the short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the costs of stock or fixed assets. The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Donations	4,020	2,719

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	31.3.25	31.3.24
		£	£
Services and events	Advocacy, counselling and support	185,696	241,710
Grants	Advocacy, counselling and support	360,046	282,242
		545,742	523,952

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Warrington Borough Council	316,336	282,242
Cheshire West & Chester Council	7,500	-
Warrington Voluntary Action	36,210	-
	360,046	282,242

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Advocacy, counselling and support	497,147	35,149	532,296

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Advocacy, counselling and support	29,935	121	5,093	35,149

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	422,603	414,131
Social security costs	27,643	32,255
Other pension costs	10,229	9,576
	460,475	455,962

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Staff	15	16

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

continued...

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024	4,377	13,590	17,967
Additions	-	1,248	1,248
Disposals	-	(599)	(599)
At 31 March 2025	4,377	14,239	18,616
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	4,290	8,956	13,246
Charge for year	87	2,944	3,031
Eliminated on disposal	-	(67)	(67)
At 31 March 2025	4,377	11,833	16,210
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	-	2,406	2,406
At 31 March 2024	87	4,634	4,721

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Trade debtors	20,904	12,936
Prepayments and accrued income	8,434	8,294
	29,338	21,230

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Trade creditors	6,000	21
Social security and other taxes	7,660	8,793
Other creditors	2,323	2,133
Accruals and deferred income	102,315	138,597
	118,298	149,544

Deferred income comprises grant income received in advance of the year to which it relates.

	31.03.25 £
Balance as at 1st April 2024	138,597
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(138,597)
Amount deferred in year	102,315

continued...

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR - continued

Balance as at 31st March 2025	102,315

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	376,988	17,466	394,454
TOTAL FUNDS	376,988	17,466	394,454

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	381,414	(363,948)	17,466
Restricted funds			
Connect Yourself Project	38,500	(38,500)	-
Get Warrington Talking	63,250	(63,250)	-
Dementia Advocacy	22,888	(22,888)	-
Merseycare Community Transformation Fund	26,300	(26,300)	-
CYP Neurodiversity Project	7,500	(7,500)	-
Women's Mental Health Support	9,910	(9,910)	-
	168,348	(168,348)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	549,762	(532,296)	17,466

continued...

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	372,943	4,045	376,988
Restricted funds			
Dementia Advocacy	8,421	(8,421)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	381,364	(4,376)	376,988

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	356,147	(352,102)	4,045
Restricted funds			
Connect Yourself Project	42,667	(42,667)	-
Get Warrington Talking	69,000	(69,000)	-
Dementia Advocacy	58,857	(67,278)	(8,421)
	170,524	(178,945)	(8,421)
TOTAL FUNDS	526,671	(531,047)	(4,376)

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

continued...

13. REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise its trustees and manager. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £57,748 (2024 £55,052). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Connect Yourself
Connect Yourself works with young people (identified as SEND) who have finished school, college or supported internships and feel like they still have lots to learn.
We recognise that young people often have aspirations for a greater level of independence, but without the necessary skills, knowledge or support, are unable to achieve this. Some young people struggle to identify what they want to achieve in their lives.
Connect Yourself helps young people to think, plan and learn in a creative, fun and person-centred way. We will help the young person to put together a plan that reflects what they want to achieve and the support they may need.

Get Warrington Talking
Through local events, networking, campaigns and conversations we will create a culture of knowledge and understanding around mental health, mental illness and suicide prevention.
We will strengthen the support networks within the town for people experiencing mental health challenges and endeavour to ensure that everyone can access the help they need when they need it.

Dementia Project (Still Me)
Still Me, supported by Warrington Speak Up, aims to strengthen the voices of people living with dementia in Warrington.
Working in partnership with people living with dementia, carers, community groups and organisations we aim to collate views, themes and experiences. We recognise people living with dementia want others to know that they still want lives that are meaningful and full. They want to end the stigma attached to the word 'dementia'.
Our findings will be fed back to the Warrington Dementia Transformation Board who are looking to improve dementia care for all in Warrington.

CYP Neurodiversity
Cheshire & Merseyside Children and Young People Neurodiversity Pathway

Consultation with neurodiverse young people and their carers on behalf of Cheshire West Voluntary Action.

Merseycare Community Transformation Fund

Capacity building for provision of non-clinical mental health services (SMI's - serious mental illness).

Women's Mental Health Support Programme

To provide mental health support for women including short courses and activities around wellbeing.

Warrington Speak Up

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	4,020	2,719
Charitable activities		
Services and events	185,696	241,710
Grants	360,046	282,242
	545,742	523,952
Total incoming resources	549,762	526,671
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	422,603	414,131
Social security	27,643	32,255
Pensions	10,229	9,576
Other operating leases	23,079	20,670
Travel expenses	9,791	10,799
Training	2,963	8,604
Local projects	839	4,522
	497,147	500,557
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	1,766	1,412
Telephone	4,969	4,523
Postage and stationery	1,156	2,134
Sundries	1,928	1,772
IT costs	13,821	10,709
Repairs and renewals	-	179
Staff welfare	2,733	2,577
Depreciation of tangible assets	3,030	4,165
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	532	525
	29,935	27,996
Finance		
Bank charges	121	90
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,276	2,404
Carried forward	2,276	2,404

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Governance costs		
Brought forward	2,276	2,404
Legal fees	2,817	-
	5,093	2,404
Total resources expended	532,296	531,047
Net income/(expenditure)	17,466	(4,376)

WARRINGTON SPEAK UP

England & Wales - Charity number 1158888

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1158888

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

for

Warrington Speak Up

Warrington Speak Up

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Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Message from the trustees

It continues to be an absolute pleasure to be a trustee for Warrington Speak Up. Over the last year, I've had the honour to watch the organisation grow and flourish further, maintaining positive change, delivering high quality services whilst strengthening and developing partnerships and connections. It is gratifying to see the influence that Speak Up continue to have within Warrington as well as regionally and nationally, particularly in the area of self-advocacy, parent advocacy, training and co=production initiatives. It is a real credit to everyone involved the achievements that have been made with such a small resource and budget. The Speak Up staff are miracle workers making what seems the impossible, possible, day in and day out.

This year has continued to be operationally very challenging due to the ongoing fallout from the Covid pandemic and the cost of living crisis, high demand and staff vacancies at times, but the teams have continued to perform above and beyond expectations. The professionalism of management and their commitment to the wellbeing of staff, and to the financial and structural health of the charity, has been impressive.

It is worthwhile to pause and look back with pride at what has been achieved, before planning for the future. Whilst financial challenges remain, we continue to be committed to providing quality services and where necessary, self-funding projects for the benefit of our communities. Our resolve is to provide support to our clients in the Warrington area and beyond, and we look forward to continuing this approach in the coming 12 months.

On behalf of all the trustees, I would like to extend my thanks to all the staff involved at Warrington Speak Up as well as the many partners and individuals that continue to support us and the benefit it brings to the Warrington community and beyond.

Lynne Bennett
Chair

Message from the CEO

Throughout the last 12 months it has been a privilege to lead a team that is passionate about making a difference in people's lives. I have seen first-hand the impact advocacy can make, ensuring a person's voice is truly heard and rights respected, at a time in their life when it really matters. As we continued to listen to people's stories and personal experiences, and observe the daily challenges they face, we were motivated to provide the best support we can, using the right tools and approaches, at the time it is needed.

In order to deliver effective, quality advocacy and projects we have continued to invest time and resource in developing our communication tool kits, broadening our understanding and knowledge, strengthening key partnerships, resetting the power of self-advocacy and resilience, creating self-help resources, and valuing and supporting the contribution, commitment and wellbeing of our dedicated team of staff and volunteers.

Of course, there have been significant challenges as we have journeyed together. Funding and the expectation to deliver more for less, is a relentless issue. Increased demand for spot purchases without the security of affording additional staff, impacts on decision-making. Balancing ever increasing high complex caseloads with supporting staff wellbeing, enabling our people to grow and thrive, is a tension. Exploring new, creative ways to provide much needed and valued services, with less resources, is demanding. And all of this is taking place at a time when statutory services are stretched, funding is scare, key social care reform was shelved, cost of living continues to rise and the pressures and demands on our workforce and the people we support become more and more difficult. Finding ways to navigate this ever changing and complex landscape has been and remains our top priority for the immediate future.

However, despite these challenges, there have been many highlights, and much to celebrate, enjoy and be proud of - too many to list them all! But here a just a few - The impact of the Still Me Project on people with a lived experience of dementia bringing hope and a smile, the strength, enthusiasm (and humour) of our Speak Up 4 All self-advocates standing up for better lives, the power and privilege of walking side by side with hundreds of people impacted by suicide and committed to changing the narrative, the laughter of women enjoying the monthly supper club whilst facing the daily challenges of struggling with their mental health, the This is Me project celebrating our uniqueness, the tenacity of advocates as they work tirelessly to bring about change, the outcomes both big and small that make a difference in people's lives,

So, what does the next year look like?

We want to continue to be known as an organisation that is tenacious in its commitment to help people live their best lives. We want to strengthen our reputation as an organisation that doesn't just say they believe in partnership working, but who actively works at strengthening partnerships, respecting and valuing others, and finding ways to work together for the benefit of our communities. We want self-advocacy to be the bedrock for all our activity. We want to be known as an organisation that puts people first in all that it does and is willing to fight vociferously for their right to be heard, respected, valued and included. And we want to do this with a workforce that says they are proud to be part of Warrington Speak Up.

Lastly, I want to thank our staff and volunteers for your unwavering support, enthusiasm and determination in what has been a difficult year. Thank you to our partners for standing with us and putting personal agendas aside for the benefit of our communities. Thank you to our trustees for your advice, guidance, challenge and motivation. And lastly thank you to the people we work with, for believing in us, working with us and trusting us.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Warrington Speak Up's mission is to provide independent advocacy services to Warrington residents which will directly relieve the needs of vulnerable young people and adults who have learning difficulties, disabilities, health and social care needs and mental health concerns and/or to relieve the needs of those who may be providing care and support. This mission is carried out in such a way as to affirm the dignity, individuality and integrity of each individual, ensuring their rights as ordinary citizens are protected. In addition, we seek to champion change within the field of health and social care.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

In planning the charity's activities, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In accordance with the National Advocacy Charter, advocacy services are independent (structurally independent from statutory organisations and other service providers) confidential, accessible and provided free of charge. Warrington Speak Up aims to ensure that buildings, policies, procedures and publicity materials promote access to the whole community. Information in a range of formats and on different platforms, is available to clients, funding agencies and other service providers, describing the scope and limitations of services, outlining eligibility criteria and promoting referral pathways.

Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.

Through the provision of statutory and non-statutory advocacy services individuals are able to:
- increase their confidence and self-esteem,
- have their voice heard,
- have their rights defended and upheld,
- have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives,
- enjoy more control over their lives,
- be meaningfully involved in decision making,
- gain improved access to appropriate adult social care, health and well-being services,
- participate and contribute to their local communities,
- be kept safe from all types of abuse and have representation during safeguarding processes,

During 2023-2024 the organisation has actively worked with the following identified groups:

- Prisoners with health and social care needs
- Young people and adults with SEND needs, learning disabilities, mental health issues
- Adults with learning difficulties and learning disabilities and health and social care needs
- Adults with autism
- Parents with mental health issues, learning needs, physical or sensory disabilities and/or substance misuse issues, who are involved in Early Intervention, Child in Need, Child Protection and Family Care Proceedings
- Disabled young people in transition
- Older people in care homes and hospital settings
- Older people with dementia
- Carers
- People with acquired brain injury
- People accessing homeless provision and the Street homeless
- People with a physical disability and/or sensory difficulties

In addition, Warrington Speak Up, through consultation activity, community participation events and issue-based advocacy, has sought to influence the development and implementation of local agendas and commissioning priorities within health and social care reform in order to improve outcomes for local people and to ensure the collective voice of individuals is at the centre of decision making. The CEO of Warrington Speak Up is the Chairperson of the Warrington Safeguarding Adult Forum, Chair of the Learning Disability Partnership Board and is a member of the Warrington Safeguarding Adult Board, Autism Board, Suicide Prevention Board, VCSE alliance and various mental health working groups. Our lead practitioners are also members of various boards and forums including the Dementia Transformation Partnership Board, Practitioners Forum, Advocacy Leads group and forums within Merseycare.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The following services and hours were provided and delivered in the Hub between April 2023 and March 2024.

Care Act (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 369
Total number of new referrals - 273
Total number of advocacy hours - 2414

Paid RPR (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 538
Total number of new referrals - 354
Total number of advocacy hours - 2139

IMHA (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 340
Total number of new referrals - 301
Total number of advocacy hours - 1881

IMCA (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 126
Total number of new referrals - 103
Total number of advocacy hours -462

Parent Advocacy (Non-Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 184
Total number of new referrals - 120
Total number of advocacy hours - 2679

Early Help (Preventative) Advocacy (Non-Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 74
Total number of new referrals - 56
Total number of advocacy hours - 342

Advocacy for Informal Patients (Non-Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 71
Total number of new referrals - 64
Total number of advocacy hours - 91

In addition, Warrington Speak Up continues to deliver the following activity on a commissioned basis:

Your Life, Your Say Older Peoples Project
Located in 2 care homes

Spot purchase Paid RPR (Statutory)
64 clients supported, referrals from Warrington, Salford, Lancashire, Worcestershire, Conwy, Waltham Forest, York, Manchester, Wigan

Spot purchase Care Act (Statutory)
36 clients supported, referrals from Warrington, Warrington CCG, Oldham, Midlands & Lancashire NHS, Hampshire, Liverpool, Harrow, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside.

Spot purchase IMHA (Statutory)
2 client supported, referral from NHS Cheshire & Merseyside.

Spot purchase Parent Advocacy (Non-Statutory)
42 clients supported, referrals from Halton Borough Council, Warrington Borough Council, Wigan Council, Trafford

Spot purchase 1.2 Reps (Statutory)
28 clients supported, referrals from Warrington Borough Council, St Helens, Halton

Spot Purchase IMCA 39D (Statutory)
1 client supported, referral from Warrington Borough Council

Spot Purchase Preventative (Non-Statutory)
5 clients supported, referrals from Warrington Borough Council, Catalyst Choices

Projects

Speak Up Group

The group continues to grow, with 25 regular members meeting each week, being a strong voice for people with learning disabilities in Warrington. The Gateway continue to provide a welcoming, warm and accessible space for the group to meet.

This year the group have undertaken a big piece of co-production to re-name the group and produce a new logo. The group are now called Speak Up 4 All https://www.warringtonspeakup.org.uk/get-involved/self-advocacy/

Many partner organisations have worked with the group and individual representatives throughout the year including Northwest Ambulance Service, Warrington buses, Warrington Voluntary Action, Salford University, Liverpool University, Merseycare, Specialist Learning Disability Community Nursing Team, Job Centre, Adult Social Care teams.

The highlight of the years for members will always be the regional conferences particularly the Blackpool self-advocacy conference.

Connect Yourself

Connect Yourself is a unique and innovative project that can achieve great things for the young people involved.

Connect Yourself works with young people (identified as SEND) who have finished school, college or supported internships and feel like they still have lots to learn.

We recognise that young people often have aspirations for a greater level of independence, but without the necessary skills, knowledge or support, are unable to achieve this. Some young people struggle to identify what they want to achieve in their lives.

Connect Yourself helps young people to think, plan and learn in a creative, fun and person-centred way. We will help the young person to put together a plan that reflects what they want to achieve and the support they may need.

Working with existing partners across Warrington we will either deliver the training required or support the young person into the appropriate setting or service.

A key part of the project is to map out current provision and opportunities and to ensure that everyone knows about them. Making the right connections is essential to achieving good outcomes.

Our aim is to support each young person involved to maximise their potential, achieve greater independence and improve their quality of life.

Examples may be:
- Travelling independently
- Feeling confident when out and about
- Managing money safely
- Finding our about clubs and groups
- Taking up a new sport
- Looking for a new job
- Living independently

To find out more have a look on our website https://www.warringtonspeakup.org.uk/connect-yourself/

Get Warrington Talking

We have facilitated a number of one off and regular events throughout the year to raise awareness of mental health and challenge stigma. These included our annual Hope 100 suicide prevention walk through the night on World Suicide Prevention Day involving 300 participants, Time to Talk Day and World Mental Health day initiatives at Golden Square shopping centre and Birchwood Shopping Centre, bi-weekly walk and talks, women's supper clubs and soup and chats. We have recruited, trained and provided ongoing support to a team of volunteers with lived experiences supported by a volunteer co-ordinator.

PAUSE

Our non-clinical community mental health listening space has been operational for 2 years and provided support to over 100 individuals enabling open conversations about their mental health, free from stigma and judgement. The initiative is part of Warrington's suicide prevention strategy, encouraging conversation, improving wellbeing, supporting access to appropriate services, raising awareness and understanding of mental health and aiming to save lives.

The PAUSE meeting room continues to offer a safe and welcoming environment that puts people at their ease and where they feel valued.

PAUSE is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday with the added offer of additional 1 to 1 appointments. We have established excellent partnership working relationships with key agencies. The Verve, Priestley College and Warrington Vale Royal College continue to help us to connect with our 18-24year old primary target audience while allowing the space to cater for all adults.

Your Life, Your Say Older People's Project

Provides instructed and non-instructed advocacy support to residents within 2 residential/nursing homes. Advocacy is aimed at residents with little or no family contact or other social networks, tackling social isolation within care settings. Activity includes life story work, discussion and contribution to resident surveys, end of life care planning.

Still Me Demetia Project
Working in partnership with people living with dementia, carers, community groups and organisations we aim to collate views, themes and experiences. We recognise people living with dementia want others to know that they still want lives that are meaningful and full. They want to end the stigma attached to the word 'dementia'.
Our findings are fed back to the Warrington Dementia Transformation Board who are looking to improve dementia care for all in Warrington.

Still Me Dementia project evaluation / report has been written and can be found on the Warrington Speak Up website https://www.warringtonspeakup.org.uk/warrington-dementia-project/

Fundraising activities
During the year the Charity continued to pursue a policy of securing additional sources of income in order to build on Warrington Speak Up's activities and retain sufficient reserves.

We have 6 main strands of income:

1) Specific contracts to deliver mainstream advocacy services within the local authority ie Advocacy Hub
2) Funding received through grants to deliver specific projects ie Connect Yourself, PAUSE, Get Warrington Talking
3) Income generated through offering bespoke training and consultancy
4) Gifts/donations from individuals and organisations
5) Out of area and local spot purchase arrangements,
6) Individual commissioned work

The Charity has received its main income from the Local Authority for the provision of advocacy services. Smaller grants and sources of income include We Change Lives, Krinvest, Warrington Borough Council.

FINANCIAL REVIEW
Financial position
The Charity has made a deficit in the year of £4,376. Its principal funding source is from grants which totalled £282,242. Total reserves at the year end were £377,988.

Reserves policy
The Trustees have reviewed the policy for reserves for the charity. This review encompassed the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match funding income with fixed commitments and the nature of the reserves. The review concluded that to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide an uninterrupted service to our client base, a general reserve which equates to approximately 6 months running costs should be maintained. In addition to this the Trustees agreed the reserves for the charity should also include costs to meet redundancy obligations for eligible staff.

FUTURE PLANS

Objectives for 2023 - 2024

1. Complete the desk top assessment for QPM by March 2023 in readiness for the in-person assessment in July 2024 (Completed)
2. Be ready for the forthcoming tender process in 2024 (date TBC) (Ongoing due to delay from WBC)
3. Increase volunteer base to resource projects (Completed)
4. Work with key partners on a Warrington wide co-production strategy (Completed and work ongoing)
5. Recruit a social media consultant, review social media and increase presence, merge all platforms under Warrington Speak Up (Completed)

Objectives for 2024 -2025

1. To have a successful QPM site visit (July / Aug 24) and achieve QPM validation.
2. To be tender ready and be awarded advocacy hub contract.
3. Secure additional funding for project work (Connect Yourself, Still Me Dementia Project and Get Warrington Talking)
4. To look at the sustainability of the organisation and succession planning for strategic staff posts.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charity was registered on 11th July 2006 and is governed by its constitution adopted on 27th June 2006. After the year end, the constitution of the charity was amended, and was adopted by the Board on 26th February 2013. The amendment was made to reflect the expansion of the charity and its area of activity. The charity operates under the name of Warrington Speak Up from its offices at The Gateway.

In October 2014 the charity was registered as CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation and ratified by the Charities Commission. The new organisation came into effect on January 1st 2015.

Warrington Speak Up is an independent advocacy organisation actively promoting social inclusion, equality and social justice. Our aim is to strengthen the voice of people living in Warrington who face discrimination, disadvantage or social isolation. Advocacy supports and enables people who find it difficult or lack the confidence to speak up, to express their views, exercise their rights and make informed choices.

Advocacy is available to any Warrington resident over the age of 18 or to a disabled young person from the age of 16. We work with people disadvantaged through age, mental illness, disability, ill health, family and social circumstances.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees undergo a period of induction to brief them on the work of Warrington Speak Up, structures, decision making processes and recent financial performance. During induction, trustees meet with the staff team and other members of the Board. Formal training is accessed via Warrington Voluntary Action, a local voluntary organisation that provides a range of services to 3rd Sector organisations including training on governance. A Trustee Induction Pack is used as a framework for induction.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Warrington Speak Up is managed by a Board of Trustees. We actively seek to appoint trustees who demonstrate their understanding of the values and ethos of Warrington Speak Up and who offer a range of experience, skill and expertise. In addition, we benefit from the support of external advisors offering specific areas of expertise and knowledge in the field of health and social care, community development, VCSE infrastructure and general legal advice.

The Board is keen to promote and support meaningful opportunity to any person who accesses our range of services to share their views on the development of the organisation and influence decision making. This is supported through regular consultation events with clients and group members, evaluation surveys on completion of advocacy intervention and through a robust complaints, comments and compliments policy. In addition, trustees commit to meeting with members of self-advocacy groups on an annual basis to listen to their views and experiences of the organisation.

The Board of Trustees must have a minimum of three trustees but with no maximum number. We currently have five trustees.

Trustees meet bimonthly with additional meetings when required to deal with specific issues. The primary focus of the Board is to review performance of the charity, review strategic and financial plans, support organisational growth and development and agree policy and procedure. Day to day responsibility and decision making is delegated to the CEO who has overall responsibility for ensuring that the services specified are delivered to a high standard, for securing funding and the day to day management of the staff team.

During this period the Board has:
- Continued to oversee the review of governance processes
- Ensured that our health and safety policies are fit for purpose and enabled all the staff and volunteers to work in a happy, healthy and safe environment
- Supported the implementation of the organisations commitment to mental health and wellbeing in the workplace
- Provided direction in terms of cost analysis of future tenders

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees continue to assess the major risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error and manage identified risks.

Adequate insurance cover is in place in line with contractual obligations and the finances are kept under constant review with external auditing.

Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a 'strategic plan' allowing for the diversification of funding and activities. Generating new income takes place through the promotion of specific advocacy products including spot purchase arrangements from external local authorities for statutory advocacy, provider consultation and quality assurance, design of easy read information, training and commissioned project work.

Cash flow, expenditure and income generation is monitored and checked regularly against the annual budget. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all financial and contractual transactions.

Robust policies and procedures ensure compliance with health and safety regulations and safeguarding in relation to staff, volunteers, service users and visitors. All procedures and policies are reviewed in a systematic way to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity, service users and contractual obligations. It is our aim to seek to continually improve the effectiveness of our quality management system through the implementation of policies, quality objectives, audit results, analysis of data, corrective and preventative actions and management review.

The Board of Trustees have been committed to communicating the importance of quality assurance whilst meeting the needs of clients, commissioners and relevant statutory requirements. All advocacy activity and project activity is reviewed and evaluated against outcome-based measures and the views of clients and stakeholders are actively sought and used to identify, set objectives and achieve improvements in the quality of its service.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1158888

Principal address
The Gateway
89 Sankey Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1SR

Trustees
Ms S L Bennett
M Horne
Mrs A O'Mahony
Mrs K Donnelly
S P Cullen

Independent Examiner
Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Ms S L Bennett - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Warrington Speak Up

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Warrington Speak Up
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Warrington Speak Up (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 the Trust 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 applicable 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.

H Jardine

Hayley Jardine BFP ACA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

14 November 2024

Warrington Speak Up

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	2,719	-	2,719	9,905
Charitable activities	3				
Advocacy, counselling and support		353,428	170,524	523,952	518,941
Total		356,147	170,524	526,671	528,846
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Advocacy, counselling and support		352,102	178,945	531,047	458,067
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		4,045	(8,421)	(4,376)	70,779
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		372,943	8,421	381,364	310,585
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		376,988	-	376,988	381,364

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Balance Sheet
31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	4,721	-	4,721	8,812
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	21,230	-	21,230	74,346
Cash at bank and in hand		500,581	-	500,581	488,151
		521,811	-	521,811	562,497
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(149,544)	-	(149,544)	(189,945)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		372,267	-	372,267	372,552
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		376,988	-	376,988	381,364
NET ASSETS		376,988	-	376,988	381,364
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				376,988	372,943
Restricted funds				-	8,421
TOTAL FUNDS				376,988	381,364

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 14 November 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

S L Bennett - Trustee

M Horne - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	13,029	65,116
Net cash provided by operating activities		13,029	65,116
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(599)	(4,684)
Net cash used in investing activities		(599)	(4,684)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		12,430	60,432
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		488,151	427,719
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		500,581	488,151

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(4,376)	70,779
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,165	3,258
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	525	1,019
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	53,116	(22,645)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(40,401)	12,705
Net cash provided by operations	13,029	65,116

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	488,151	12,430	500,581
	488,151	12,430	500,581
Total	488,151	12,430	500,581

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

In the opinion of the Trustees the charity has sufficient resources and funding for the foreseeable future and as a result have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

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

Donations, are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants,is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

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 by the Bank.

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

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs incurred by the charity to enable it to fulfil its core operations.

- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

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

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

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

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's statement of financial position when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

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

Other financial assets
Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publically traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

Impairment of financial assets
Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit or loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Employee benefits

The costs of the short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the costs of stock or fixed assets. The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Donations	2,719	9,905

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	31.3.24	31.3.23
		£	£
Services and events	Advocacy, counselling and support	241,710	236,615
Grants	Advocacy, counselling and support	282,242	282,326
		523,952	518,941

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Warrington Borough Council	282,242	282,326

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Advocacy, counselling and support	500,557	30,490	531,047

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Advocacy, counselling and support	27,996	90	2,404	30,490

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	414,131	342,107
Social security costs	32,255	25,646
Other pension costs	9,576	7,957
	455,962	375,710

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
Staff	16	14

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

continued...

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023	4,377	13,691	18,068
Additions	-	599	599
Disposals	-	(700)	(700)
At 31 March 2024	4,377	13,590	17,967
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	4,142	5,114	9,256
Charge for year	148	4,017	4,165
Eliminated on disposal	-	(175)	(175)
At 31 March 2024	4,290	8,956	13,246
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	87	4,634	4,721
At 31 March 2023	235	8,577	8,812

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Trade debtors	12,936	67,230
Prepayments and accrued income	8,294	7,116
	21,230	74,346

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Trade creditors	21	5,170
Social security and other taxes	8,793	7,413
Other creditors	2,133	2,178
Accruals and deferred income	138,597	175,184
	149,544	189,945

Deferred income comprises grant income received in advance of the year to which it relates.

	31.03.24 £
Balance as at 1st April 2023	173,855
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(173,855)
Amount deferred in year	138,597

continued...

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR - continued

Balance as at 31st March 2024	138,597

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	372,943	4,045	376,988
Restricted funds			
Dementia Advocacy	8,421	(8,421)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	381,364	(4,376)	376,988

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	356,147	(352,102)	4,045
Restricted funds			
Connect Yourself Project	42,667	(42,667)	-
Get Warrington Talking	69,000	(69,000)	-
Dementia Advocacy	58,857	(67,278)	(8,421)
	170,524	(178,945)	(8,421)
TOTAL FUNDS	526,671	(531,047)	(4,376)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	310,585	62,358	372,943
Restricted funds			
Dementia Advocacy	-	8,421	8,421
TOTAL FUNDS	310,585	70,779	381,364

continued...

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	375,232	(312,874)	62,358
Restricted funds			
Connect Yourself Project	25,000	(25,000)	-
Inpatient advocacy support	7,773	(7,773)	-
Get Warrington Talking	86,222	(86,222)	-
Dementia Advocacy	29,619	(21,198)	8,421
Suicide Prevention	5,000	(5,000)	-
	153,614	(145,193)	8,421
TOTAL FUNDS	528,846	(458,067)	70,779

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

13. REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise its trustees and manager. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £55,052 (2023 £50,223). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Connect Yourself
Connect Yourself works with young people (identified as SEND) who have finished school, college or supported internships and feel like they still have lots to learn.
We recognise that young people often have aspirations for a greater level of independence, but without the necessary skills, knowledge or support, are unable to achieve this. Some young people struggle to identify what they want to achieve in their lives.
Connect Yourself helps young people to think, plan and learn in a creative, fun and person-centred way. We will help the young person to put together a plan that reflects what they want to achieve and the support they may need.

Get Warrington Talking
Through local events, networking, campaigns and conversations we will create a culture of knowledge and understanding around mental health, mental illness and suicide prevention.
We will strengthen the support networks within the town for people experiencing mental health challenges and endeavour to ensure that everyone can access the help they need when they need it.

Dementia Project (Still Me)
Still Me, supported by Warrington Speak Up, aims to strengthen the voices of people living with dementia in Warrington.

continued...

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS - continued

Working in partnership with people living with dementia, carers, community groups and organisations we aim to collate views, themes and experiences. We recognise people living with dementia want others to know that they still want lives that are meaningful and full. They want to end the stigma attached to the word 'dementia'.
Our findings will be fed back to the Warrington Dementia Transformation Board who are looking to improve dementia care for all in Warrington.

Warrington Speak Up

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	2,719	9,905
Charitable activities		
Services and events	241,710	236,615
Grants	282,242	282,326
	523,952	518,941
Total incoming resources	526,671	528,846
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	414,131	342,107
Social security	32,255	25,646
Pensions	9,576	7,957
Other operating leases	20,670	21,108
Travel expenses	10,799	7,444
Training	8,604	8,907
Local projects	4,522	10,283
	500,557	423,452
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	1,412	1,206
Telephone	4,523	5,099
Postage and stationery	2,134	2,569
Sundries	1,772	3,522
IT costs	10,709	6,426
Repairs and renewals	179	2,014
Recruitment expenses	-	383
Staff welfare	2,577	7,615
Depreciation of tangible assets	4,165	3,258
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	525	1,019
	27,996	33,111
Finance		
Bank charges	90	85
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,404	1,256
Carried forward	2,404	1,256

Warrington Speak Up

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Governance costs		
Brought forward	2,404	1,256
Legal fees	-	163
	2,404	1,419
Total resources expended	531,047	458,067
Net (expenditure)/income	(4,376)	70,779

WARRINGTON SPEAK UP

England & Wales - Charity number 1158888

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1158888

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

for

Warrington Speak Up

Warrington Speak Up

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Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Message from the trustees

It continues to be an absolute pleasure to be members of the board of trustees for Warrington Speak Up. Over the last year, we've had the honour to watch the organisation grow and flourish further, maintaining positive change, delivering high quality services whilst strengthening and developing partnerships and connections. The range of statutory and non-statutory services delivered is most impressive, providing much needed support to service users and their families It is a real credit to everyone involved the achievements that have been made with such a small resource and budget. The Speak Up staff are miracle workers making what seems the impossible possible day in and day out. This year has continued to be operationally very challenging due to the ongoing fallout from the Covid pandemic, high demand and staff vacancies at times, but the teams have continued to perform above and beyond expectations. It is worthwhile to pause and look back with pride at what has been achieved, before planning for the future. We would like to extend our thanks to all the staff involved at Warrington Speak Up as well as the many partners and individuals that continue to support Warrington Speak Up and the benefit it brings to the Warrington community and beyond. The Charity undoubtedly improves the health and well-being of Warrington residents keeping a great many safe from harm.

Message from the CEO

Our aim over the last 12 months has been to not just 'survive' but to actively 'thrive' as a team and an organisation. Although the impact of Covid-19 is still evident within our community we have remained focused on continuing to ensure that people's voices are heard, rights upheld and that we deliver excellent quality advocacy services, projects and participation and engagement initiatives. None of this however could take place without committed, knowledgeable and passionate staff, trustees and volunteers. Staff have continued to demonstrate best practice and work tirelessly to achieve the best outcomes for the people they supported. We have continued to invest in a structured programme of internal and external training, supervision and support, and wellbeing opportunities to ensure our staff and volunteers have the support they need to the jobs they do. We are incredibly proud of their skills, professionalism, resilience and above all passion and commitment to do the very best they can for the people they support.

We are also privileged to be part of a thriving and active voluntary and community sector and have prioritised strengthening our partnerships and relationships. We remain grateful for the continued support and encouragement of our statutory partners and funders. Actively cultivating an ethos of 'working together' with all our partners is something I believe results in both positive change within our communities and positive outcomes for individuals.
Thank you to everyone who has been part of our journey over the last 12 months. Whether we are delivering statutory advocacy, mental health projects, dementia services or community initiatives our aim is the same - to help people live their best lives.

Whilst we continue to face challenges and pressures we are positive about the future, knowing that we have strong foundations in place, a clear sense of purpose, a culture of excellence and involvement, a person-led team delivering personalised services and well embedded community connections.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES
Objectives and aims
Warrington Speak Up's mission is to provide independent advocacy services to Warrington residents which will directly relieve the needs of vulnerable young people and adults who have learning difficulties, disabilities, health and social care needs and mental health concerns and/or to relieve the needs of those who may be providing care and support. This mission is carried out in such a way as to affirm the dignity, individuality and integrity of each individual, ensuring their rights as ordinary citizens are protected. In addition, we seek to champion change within the field of health and social care.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

In planning the charity's activities, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In accordance with the National Advocacy Charter, advocacy services are independent (structurally independent from statutory organisations and other service providers) confidential, accessible and provided free of charge. Warrington Speak Up aims to ensure that buildings, policies, procedures and publicity materials promote access to the whole community. Information in a range of formats and on different platforms, is available to clients, funding agencies and other service providers, describing the scope and limitations of services, outlining eligibility criteria and promoting referral pathways.

Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.

Through the provision of statutory and non-statutory advocacy services individuals are able to:
- increase their confidence and self-esteem,
- have their voice heard,
- have their rights defended and upheld,
- have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives,
- enjoy more control over their lives,
- be meaningfully involved in decision making,
- gain improved access to appropriate adult social care, health and well-being services,
- participate and contribute to their local communities,
- be kept safe from all types of abuse and have representation during safeguarding processes,

During 2022-23 the organisation has actively worked with the following identified groups:

- Prisoners with health and social care needs
- Young people and adults with SEND needs, learning disabilities, mental health issues
- Adults with learning difficulties and learning disabilities and health and social care needs
- Adults with autism
- Parents with mental health issues, learning needs, physical or sensory disabilities and/or substance misuse issues, who are involved in Early Intervention, Child in Need, Child Protection and Family Care Proceedings
- Disabled young people in transition
- Older people in care homes and hospital settings
- Older people with dementia
- Carers
- People with acquired brain injury
- People accessing homeless provision and the Street homeless
- People with a physical disability and/or sensory difficulties

In addition, Warrington Speak Up, through consultation activity, community participation events and issue-based advocacy, has sought to influence the development and implementation of local agendas and commissioning priorities within health and social care reform in order to improve outcomes for local people and to ensure the collective voice of individuals is at the centre of decision making. The CEO of Warrington Speak Up is the Chairperson of the Warrington Safeguarding Adult Forum, Chair of the Learning Disability Partnership Board and is a member of the Warrington Adult Safeguarding Board, Autism Board, Suicide Prevention Board, VCSE alliance and various mental health working groups. Our lead practitioners are also members of various boards and forums including the Dementia Partnership Board, Practitioners Forum, Advocacy Leads group and forums within Merseycare.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The following services and hours were provided and delivered in the Hub between April 2022 and March 2023.

Care Act (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 361
Total number of new referrals - 246
Total number of advocacy hours - 2382

Paid RPR (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 451
Total number of new referrals - 278
Total number of advocacy hours - 2219

IMHA (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 231
Total number of new referrals - 191
Total number of advocacy hours - 1654

IMCA (Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 126
Total number of new referrals - 113
Total number of advocacy hours - 443

Parent Advocacy (Non-Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 147
Total number of new referrals - 106
Total number of advocacy hours - 2011

Early Help (Preventative) Advocacy (Non-Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 74
Total number of new referrals - 65
Total number of advocacy hours - 451

Advocacy for Informal Patients (Non-Statutory)

Total number of clients supported - 83
Total number of new referrals - 73
Total number of advocacy hours - 146

In addition, Warrington Speak Up continues to deliver the following activity on a commissioned basis:

Your Life, Your Say Older Peoples Project
Located in 2 care homes

Spot purchase Paid RPR (Statutory)
54 clients supported, referrals from Warrington, Salford, Lancashire, Worcestershire, Cheshire East, Conwy, Waltham Forest, York, Manchester, Worcestershire

Spot purchase Care Act (Statutory)
17 clients supported, referrals from Warrington, Warrington CCG, Hull, St Helens

Spot purchase IMHA (Statutory)
1 client supported, referral from Warrington Borough Council

Spot purchase Parent Advocacy (Non-Statutory)
34 clients supported, referrals from Halton Borough Council, Warrington Borough Council, Wigan Council

Spot purchase 1.2 Reps (Statutory)
20 clients supported, referrals from Warrington Borough Council

Spot purchase Graphic facilitation
Pathways Associates (Cheshire Mersey Training Partnership, Confirm and Challenge, NW Regional Meetings, Conference).

Projects

Speak Up Group

The group continues to grow, with 20 regular members meeting each week, being a strong voice for people with learning disabilities in Warrington. The Gateway continue to provide a welcoming, warm and accessible space for the group to meet.

Many partner organisations have worked with the group and individual representatives throughout the year including Northwest Ambulance Service, Cheshire Constabulary, Warrington CCG, Merseycare, Learning Disability Community Nursing Team, Job Centre, Adult Social Care teams and BILD.

The highlight of the years for members will always be the regional conferences particularly the Blackpool event.

Connect Yourself

The Connect Yourself Project seeks to work with individuals to identify and achieve their goals with a view to maximising independence. The approach of the project is entirely person centred which allows for creative and unique approaches. The young people we have worked with have presented with a range of wishes from confidence building and independent travel training, to securing benefits, opening a bank account, moving to independent living, attending a youth club and getting a job. Due to the success of the project and the number of young people participating we have received an additional two years funding.

Get Warrington Talking

We have facilitated a number of one off and regular events throughout the year to raise awareness of mental health and challenge stigma. These included our annual suicide prevention walk through the night on World Suicide Prevention Day involving 300 participants, Time to Talk Day and World Mental Health day initiatives at Golden Square shopping centre, bi-weekly walk and talks, supper clubs and soup and chats. We have recruited, trained and provided ongoing support to a team of volunteers with lived experiences and put in place a volunteer co-ordinator.

PAUSE

Total number of clients supported - 111
Total number of hours - 300

Our non-clinical community mental health listening space has been operational for 12 months and provided support to over 100 individuals enabling open conversations about their mental health, free from stigma and judgement. The initiative is part of Warrington's suicide prevention strategy, encouraging conversation, improving wellbeing, supporting access to appropriate services, raising awareness and understanding of mental health and aiming to save lives.

The PAUSE meeting room continues to offer a safe and welcoming environment that puts people at their ease and where they feel valued.

PAUSE is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday with the added offer of additional 1 to 1 appointments. We have established excellent partnership working relationships with key agencies. The Verve, Priestley College and Warrington Vale Royal College continue to help us to connect with our 18-24year old primary target audience while allowing the space to cater for all adults.

Your Life, Your Say Older People's Project
Provides instructed and non-instructed advocacy support to residents within 2 residential/nursing homes. Advocacy is aimed at residents with little or no family contact or other social networks, tackling social isolation within care settings. Activity includes life story work, discussion and contribution to resident surveys, end of life care planning.

Still Me Dementia Project
Working in partnership with people living with dementia, carers, community groups and organisations we aim to collate views, themes and experiences. We recognise people living with dementia want others to know that they still want lives that are meaningful and full. They want to end the stigma attached to the word 'dementia'.

Our findings are fed back to the Warrington Dementia Transformation Board who are looking to improve dementia care for all in Warrington.

Fundraising activities
During the year the Charity continued to pursue a policy of securing additional sources of income in order to build on Warrington Speak Up's activities and retain sufficient reserves.

We have 6 main strands of income:

1) Specific contracts to deliver mainstream advocacy services within the local authority ie Advocacy Hub
2) Funding received through grants to deliver specific projects ie Connect Yourself, PAUSE, Get Warrington Talking
3) Income generated through offering bespoke training and consultancy
4) Gifts/donations from individuals and organisations
5) Out of area and local spot purchase arrangements,
6) Individual commissioned work i.e. graphic facilitation

The Charity has received its main income from the Local Authority for the provision of advocacy services. Smaller grants and sources of income include We Change Lives, Krinvest, Active Cheshire, Mersey Care Warrington Borough Council, NHS England, NHS Cheshire, NHS Warrington and various other local authorities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Charity has made a surplus in the year of £70,779. Its principal funding source is from grants which totalled £282,326. Total reserves at the year end were £381,364.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have reviewed the policy for reserves for the charity. This review encompassed the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match funding income with fixed commitments and the nature of the reserves. The review concluded that to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide an uninterrupted service to our client base, a general reserve which equates to approximately 6 months running costs should be maintained. In addition to this the Trustees agreed the reserves for the charity should also include costs to meet redundancy obligations for eligible staff.

FUTURE PLANS

Objectives for 2022-2023

1. Complete three-year strategy document and associated action plan and review core values
- Core values have been reviewed and amended
- Following a development day with staff., trustees and volunteers a three year strategy has been written which will be under review oi an annual basis

2. Secure ongoing funding for Dementia Advocacy project
- A further 12 months funding has been awarded

3. Increase number of trustees
- A new trustee joined in June 2022

4. Review and develop training plan and embed into practice for staff and volunteers
- A comprehensive training plan has been developed, overseen by the senior practice lead

Objectives for 2023-2024

1. Complete the desk top assessment for QPM by March 2023 in readiness for the in-person assessment in July 2024
2. Be ready for the forthcoming tender process in 2024 (date TBC)
3. Increase volunteer base to resource projects
4. Work with key partners on a Warrington wide co-production strategy
5. Recruit a social media consultant, review social media and increase presence, merge all platforms under Warrington Speak Up

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charity was registered on 11th July 2006 and is governed by its constitution adopted on 27th June 2006. After the year end, the constitution of the charity was amended, and was adopted by the Board on 26th February 2013. The amendment was made to reflect the expansion of the charity and its area of activity. The charity operates under the name of Warrington Speak Up from its offices at The Gateway.

In October 2014 the charity was registered as CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation and ratified by the Charities Commission. The new organisation came into effect on January 1st 2015.

Warrington Speak Up is an independent advocacy organisation actively promoting social inclusion, equality and social justice. Our aim is to strengthen the voice of people living in Warrington who face discrimination, disadvantage or social isolation. Advocacy supports and enables people who find it difficult or lack the confidence to speak up, to express their views, exercise their rights and make informed choices.

Advocacy is available to any Warrington resident over the age of 18 or to a disabled young person from the age of 16. We work with people disadvantaged through age, mental illness, disability, ill health, family and social circumstances.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
Induction and training of new trustees
New trustees undergo a period of induction to brief them on the work of Warrington Speak Up, structures, decision making processes and recent financial performance. During induction, trustees meet with the staff team and other members of the Board. Formal training is accessed via Warrington Voluntary Action, a local voluntary organisation that provides a range of services to 3rd Sector organisations including training on governance. A revised Trustee Induction Pack has been developed.

Organisational structure
Warrington Speak Up is managed by a Board of Trustees. We actively seek to appoint trustees who demonstrate their understanding of the values and ethos of Warrington Speak Up and who offer a range of experience, skill and expertise. In addition, we benefit from the support of external advisors offering specific areas of expertise and knowledge in the field of health and social care, community development and 3rd sector infrastructure and general legal advice.

The Board is keen to promote and support meaningful opportunity to any person who accesses advocacy services to share their views on the development of the organisation and influence decision making. This is supported through regular consultation events with clients and group members, satisfaction surveys and through a robust complaints, comments and compliments policy. In addition, trustees commit to meeting with members of self-advocacy groups on an annual basis to listen to their views and experiences of the organisation.

The Board of Trustees must have a minimum of three trustees but with no maximum number. We currently have five trustees.

Trustees meet bimonthly with additional meetings when required to deal with specific issues. The primary focus of the Board is to review performance of the charity, review strategic and financial plans, support organisational growth and development and agree policy and procedure. Day to day responsibility and decision making is delegated to the Manager who has overall responsibility for ensuring that the services specified are delivered to a high standard, for securing funding and the day to day management of the staff team.

During this period the Board has overseen the development of governance processes and preparation for potential changes within the management and staffing structure. Their focus for the next 12 months will be to assess the impact of Covid 19 on finances and service and ensure appropriate actions are taken to mitigate against any risks identified.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees continue to assess the major risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error and manage identified risks.

Adequate insurance cover is in place in line with contractual obligations and the finances are kept under constant review with external auditing.

Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a 'strategic plan' allowing for the diversification of funding and activities. Generating new income takes place through the promotion of specific advocacy products including spot purchase arrangements from external local authorities for statutory advocacy, provider consultation and quality assurance, graphic facilitation services across the northwest, design of easy read information and training and the Your Life Your Say Older Peoples Project.

Cash flow, expenditure and income generation is monitored and checked regularly against the annual budget. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all financial and contractual transactions.

Robust policies and procedures ensure compliance with health and safety regulations and safeguarding in relation to staff, volunteers, service users and visitors. All procedures and policies are reviewed in a systematic way to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity, service users and contractual obligations. It is our aim to seek to continually improve the effectiveness of our quality management system through the implementation of policies, quality objectives, audit results, analysis of data, corrective and preventative actions and management review.

The Board of Trustees have been committed to communicating the importance of quality assurance whilst meeting the needs of clients, commissioners and relevant statutory requirements. All advocacy activity is reviewed and evaluated against outcome-based measures and the views of clients and stakeholders are actively sought and used to identify, set objectives and achieve improvements in the quality of its service.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1158888

Principal address

The Gateway
89 Sankey Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1SR

Trustees

Ms S L Bennett
M Horne
Mrs A O'Mahony
S Woof
Mrs K Donnelly

Independent Examiner

Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity 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;
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 1 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Ms S L Bennett - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Warrington Speak Up

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Warrington Speak Up
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Warrington Speak Up (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 the Trust 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 applicable 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.



Lee Warburton BA FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

1 December 2023

Warrington Speak Up

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	4,905	5,000	9,905	5,195
Charitable activities	3				
Advocacy, counselling and support		370,327	148,614	518,941	469,802
Total		375,232	153,614	528,846	474,997
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Advocacy, counselling and support		312,874	145,193	458,067	343,336
NET INCOME		62,358	8,421	70,779	131,661
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		310,585	-	310,585	178,924
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		372,943	8,421	381,364	310,585

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Balance Sheet
31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	8,812	-	8,812	8,405
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	74,346	-	74,346	51,701
Cash at bank and in hand		479,730	8,421	488,151	427,719
		554,076	8,421	562,497	479,420
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(189,945)	-	(189,945)	(177,240)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		364,131	8,421	372,552	302,180
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		372,943	8,421	381,364	310,585
NET ASSETS		372,943	8,421	381,364	310,585
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				372,943	310,585
Restricted funds				8,421	-
TOTAL FUNDS				381,364	310,585

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 1 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

S L Bennett - Trustee

M Horne - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	65,116	132,538
Net cash provided by operating activities		65,116	132,538
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,684)	(6,089)
Net cash used in investing activities		(4,684)	(6,089)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		60,432	126,449
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		427,719	301,270
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		488,151	427,719

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	70,779	131,661
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,258	2,278
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,019	553
Increase in debtors	(22,645)	(41,925)
Increase in creditors	12,705	39,971
Net cash provided by operations	65,116	132,538

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Cash flow	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	427,719	60,432	488,151
	427,719	60,432	488,151
Total	427,719	60,432	488,151

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

In the opinion of the Trustees the charity has sufficient resources and funding for the foreseeable future and as a result have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

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

Donations, are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants,is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

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 by the Bank.

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

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs incurred by the charity to enable it to fulfil its core operations.

- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

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

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

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

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's statement of financial position when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

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

Other financial assets
Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publically traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

Impairment of financial assets
Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit or loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Employee benefits

The costs of the short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the costs of stock or fixed assets. The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Donations	9,905	5,195

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	31.3.23	31.3.22
		£	£
Services and events	Advocacy, counselling and support	236,615	143,532
Grants	Advocacy, counselling and support	282,326	326,270
		518,941	469,802

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Warrington Borough Council	282,326	326,270

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Advocacy, counselling and support	423,452	34,615	458,067

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Advocacy, counselling and support	33,111	85	1,419	34,615

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	342,107	263,257
Social security costs	25,646	18,937
Other pension costs	7,957	6,897
	375,710	289,091

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Staff	14	11

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

continued...

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022	4,377	10,734	15,111
Additions	-	4,684	4,684
Disposals	-	(1,727)	(1,727)
At 31 March 2023	4,377	13,691	18,068
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	3,995	2,711	6,706
Charge for year	147	3,111	3,258
Eliminated on disposal	-	(708)	(708)
At 31 March 2023	4,142	5,114	9,256
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	235	8,577	8,812
At 31 March 2022	382	8,023	8,405

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Trade debtors	67,230	42,162
Prepayments and accrued income	7,116	9,539
	74,346	51,701

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Trade creditors	5,170	5,933
Social security and other taxes	7,413	6,227
Other creditors	2,178	1,929
Accruals and deferred income	175,184	163,151
	189,945	177,240

Deferred income comprises grant income received in advance of the year to which it relates.

	31.03.23 £
Balance as at 1st April 2022	160,826
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(160,826)
Amount deferred in year	173,855

continued...

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR - continued

Balance as at 31st March 2023	173,855

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	310,585	62,358	372,943
Restricted funds			
Dementia Advocacy	-	8,421	8,421
TOTAL FUNDS	310,585	70,779	381,364

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	375,232	(312,874)	62,358
Restricted funds			
Connect Yourself Project	25,000	(25,000)	-
Inpatient advocacy support	7,773	(7,773)	-
Get Warrington Talking	86,222	(86,222)	-
Dementia Advocacy	29,619	(21,198)	8,421
Suicide Prevention	5,000	(5,000)	-
	153,614	(145,193)	8,421
TOTAL FUNDS	528,846	(458,067)	70,779

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	178,924	131,661	310,585
TOTAL FUNDS	178,924	131,661	310,585

continued...

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	441,742	(310,081)	131,661
Restricted funds			
Inpatient advocacy support	1,727	(1,727)	-
Get Warrington Talking	31,528	(31,528)	-
	33,255	(33,255)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	474,997	(343,336)	131,661

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

13. REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise its trustees and manager. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £50,223 (2022 £49,150). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

Warrington Speak Up

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	9,905	5,195
Charitable activities		
Services and events	236,615	143,532
Grants	282,326	326,270
	518,941	469,802
Total incoming resources	528,846	474,997
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	342,107	263,257
Social security	25,646	18,937
Pensions	7,957	6,897
Other operating leases	21,108	14,554
Travel expenses	7,444	3,783
Training	8,907	2,103
Local projects	10,283	8,806
	423,452	318,337
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	1,206	1,134
Telephone	5,099	4,010
Postage and stationery	2,569	675
Sundries	3,522	3,678
IT costs	6,426	7,974
Repairs and renewals	2,014	741
Recruitment expenses	383	-
Staff welfare	7,615	-
Depreciation of tangible assets	3,258	2,278
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	1,019	553
	33,111	21,043
Finance		
Bank charges	85	86
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,256	2,536
Carried forward	1,256	2,536

Warrington Speak Up

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Governance costs		
Brought forward	1,256	2,536
Legal fees	163	1,334
	1,419	3,870
Total resources expended	458,067	343,336
Net income	70,779	131,661

WARRINGTON SPEAK UP

England & Wales - Charity number 1158888

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1158888



Warrington Speak Up

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022

Warrington Speak Up

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	24

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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

Message from the Trustees

This year continued to be operationally very challenging due to the ongoing impact of the Covid pandemic. We are very pleased that during this time, our advocacy team have continued to provide all contracted advocacy services and give a voice to adults with care and support needs. We have strengthened our relationships with partners and continue to explore further opportunities to work with organisation to provide much needed services within the town.

At these times, it is worthwhile to pause and look back with pride at what has been achieved, before returning to the challenges of the year ahead. In that spirit, the Board of Trustees would like to extend their thanks to all the staff involved at Warrington Speak Up. Finally, a big thank you to all of the individuals and organisations who have supported us throughout this year.

Message from the CEO

I always find it more of a challenge to look back and reflect, than to look forward, plan, and deliver - but it is a good discipline to cultivate, in order to celebrate achievements, highlight the quality and excellence of our valued team, maintain positive change, shape vision, and strengthen partnerships and connections. Whilst continuing to emerge from the impact of the pandemic, we have seen considerable growth as an organisation, with new contracts, additional funding, increased advocacy delivery, further investment in mental health activity, and even greater visibility within the community. New staff and volunteers have been recruited and our induction, training programme has been enhanced and support around staff wellbeing embedded within the ethos of who we are and how we work. The need for advocacy has increased within all our advocacy streams, particularly Parent Advocacy and Care Act advocacy. Income from spot purchases has more than doubled and new grants and donations have come our way. However how can we also not mention the launch of an exciting new accessible website, being awarded the QPM and the commission of PAUSE, an innovative non-clinical mental health listening space, located on the high street but also pop-ups within community settings. None of this could have been achieved without the dedication and commitment of our board of trustees, the passion, energy and sheer determination of our staff and volunteers, and the support and resilience of our partners.

We are proud to be part of a thriving and loyal voluntary and community sector in Warrington. We are grateful for the support and encouragement of our statutory partners and funders in such challenging times. We value our independence and remain passionate about protecting people's rights and amplifying their voices. We continue to work hard to ensure advocacy remains available to all who need it and to help people achieve what matters most in their lives. Thank you to everyone who has been part of our advocacy journey so far. We look forward to the future, knowing that we have strong foundations in place, a clear sense of purpose, a culture of excellence and involvement, a person-led team delivering personalised services and well embedded community connections. It is a privilege to be part of Warrington Speak Up!

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES
Objectives and aims
Warrington Speak Up's mission is to provide independent advocacy services to Warrington residents which will directly relieve the needs of vulnerable young people and adults who have learning difficulties, disabilities, health and social care needs and mental health concerns and/or to relieve the needs of those who may be providing care and support. This mission is carried out in such a way as to affirm the dignity, individuality and integrity of each individual, ensuring their rights as ordinary citizens are protected. In addition, we seek to champion change within the field of health and social care.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

In planning the charity's activities, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In accordance with the National Advocacy Charter, advocacy services are independent (structurally independent from statutory organisations and other service providers) confidential, accessible and provided free of charge. Warrington Speak Up aims to ensure that buildings, policies, procedures and publicity materials promote access to the whole community. Information in a range of formats and on different platforms, is available to clients, funding agencies and other service providers, describing the scope and limitations of services, outlining eligibility criteria and promoting referral pathways.

Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.

Through the provision of statutory and non-statutory advocacy services individuals are able to:
- increase their confidence and self-esteem,
- have their voice heard,
- have their rights defended and upheld,
- have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives,
- enjoy more control over their lives,
- be meaningfully involved in decision making,
- gain improved access to appropriate adult social care, health and well-being services,
- participate and contribute to their local communities,
- be kept safe from all types of abuse and have representation during safeguarding processes,

During 2021-2022 the organisation has actively worked with the following identified groups:

- Prisoners with health and social care needs
- Young people and adults with mental health issues
- Adults with learning difficulties and learning disabilities and health and social care needs
- Adults with autism
- Parents with mental health issues, learning needs, physical or sensory disabilities and/or substance misuse issues, who are involved in Early Intervention, Child in Need, Child Protection and Family Care Proceedings
- Disabled young people in transition
- Older people in care homes and hospital settings
- Older people with dementia
- Carers
- People with acquired brain injury
- People accessing homeless provision and the Street homeless
- People with a physical disability and/or sensory difficulties

In addition, Warrington Speak Up, through consultation activity, community participation events and issue-based advocacy has sought to influence the development and implementation of local agendas and commissioning priorities within health and social care reform in order to improve outcomes for local people. The CEO of Warrington Speak Up is the Chairperson of the Warrington Safeguarding Adult Forum, Chair of the Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Board and is a member of the Warrington Adult Safeguarding Board and 3rd Sector Leads Hub. In addition the Mental Health Engagement Worker and Project Co-ordinator provides representation on the Mental Health Partnership Board, Suicide Prevention Board, Hate Crime and Incident Board and Health Forum, demonstrating our commitment to ensuring the voice of the individual is at the centre of strategic decision making

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The following services and hours were provided and delivered in the Hub between April 2021 and March 2022.

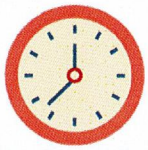
Care Act



Total number of clients supported 465



Total number of new referrals 329

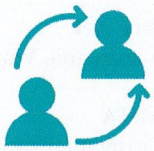


Total number of advocacy hours 3021:50

Paid RPR



Total number of clients supported 407



Total number of new referrals 277



Total number of advocacy hours 1868:45

IMHA



Total number of clients supported 246



Total number of new referrals 208

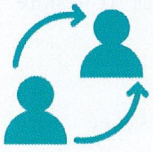


Total number of advocacy hours 1733:00

IMCA



Total number of clients supported 104



Total number of new referrals 84

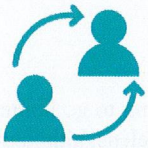


Total number of advocacy hours 356:20

Parent Advocacy



Total number of clients supported 125



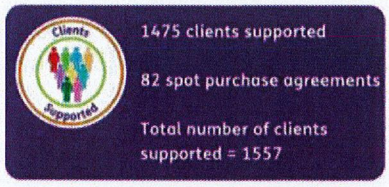
Total number of new referrals 81

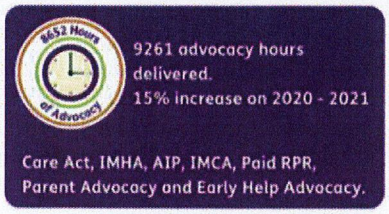


Total number of advocacy hours 1709:20

Statutory Advocacy
Care Act Advocacy (CAA)
Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)
Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA)
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS Sect 39A, 39C, 39D)
Paid RPR (Relevant Persons Representative)
Rule 1.2 Representative

Non-Statutory Advocacy
Parent Advocacy within child protection and family care proceedings
Preventative Advocacy
Self-Advocacy
Mental Health Engagement
Consultation activity within the wider community







In addition, Warrington Speak Up continues to deliver the following activity on a commissioned basis:

Your Life, Your Say Older Peoples Project
Located in 2 care homes

Spot purchase Paid RPR
45 referrals from Warrington, Salford, Lancashire, Worcestershire, Cheshire East, Conwy, Waltham Forest, Ealing

Spot purchase Care Act
8 referrals from Warrington, Warrington CCG,

Spot purchase IMHA
1 referral from Warrington Borough Council

Spot purchase Parent Advocacy
14 referrals from Halton Borough Council, Warrington Borough Council, Wigan Council

Spot purchase 1.2 Reps
14 referrals from Warrington Borough Council

Spot purchase Graphic facilitation
Pathways Associates (Cheshire Mersey Training Partnership, Confirm and Challenge, NW Regional Meetings, Conference).

Care Act Advocacy Story



About

At the time of the referral Dot was residing in a care home following an emergency respite admission due to carer breakdown. Dot has a diagnosis of dementia and had recently lost her husband. He previously provided all care and Dot's son and daughter in law temporarily moved in to care for her. They reported a significant change in her cognition and physical health, she was also presenting as aggressive on occasions.

Dot was presenting as very confused, but was aware of not being at home. She was asking to go home, trying fire exits and doors and packing her bags. A DoLS assessment was pending. Dot believed home was in St Helens, although she had not lived there for over 60 years and she was telling staff that she needed to get back home to the babies.

Advocacy need

Family had been made aware by the social worker that a 'package of care' is always considered as an option. Family were concerned the risks would be too high with this option and they could not provide the 24 hour care that Dot's husband had provided. As there was conflict between the views of family and what Dot was expressing, a referral was made for a Care Act Advocate.

How we helped

The advocate tried several times to engage Dot in conversation. She tried different times of days and used photographs of Dot's house to try to elicit a response. However, Dot would often lie on her bed facing away from the advocate and become irritable with the advocate being there. When Dot did respond she would tell the advocate to mind her own business and refuse to engage further. There was concern about Dot's mood and a request was made for Dot's community psychiatric nurse to review. Medication was changed and time given to allow this to take effect. Dot's mood did improve slightly, and she did then recognise her house from the photo's shown to her. However, she would not answer any questions about her home and views could not be obtained. She had, though, become more accepting of support from staff and had started socialising with others which was positive.

The advocate represented Dot in the best interest meeting where the option of home was fully explored. However, due to the level of support Dot required in the night and family feeling unable to provide this, it was felt that home would not be a safe option. The decision was for the respite placement to be made permanent as Dot had started to show positive signs of becoming settled. The advocate ensured a DoLS authorisation was in place so that Dot had the right to change the placement in the future.

Outcome

In order to ensure Dot's rights are upheld the Paid RPR continues to closely monitor the placement and would request a care review if necessary. A 21a challenge would be made if it was evident that Dot was unhappy and looking to leave. At present Dot remains settled, receives visits from family and is integrating more within the care home.

IMHA Story



About

Jack is 40 years old and lives with his partner in their own property. He is of Hungarian nationality and speaks English fluently. Jack is not known to services and has no mental health diagnosis.

Advocacy Need

Prior to admission Jack experienced drug induced psychosis and was placed at the general hospital by police under s136 of the Mental Health Act. A Mental Health Act assessment was subsequently completed, and Jack was detained under s2. Jack was then transferred to the male acute ward in the local psychiatric hospital.

On admission to the male acute ward Jack experienced thoughts of paranoia and anxiety that he may have hurt someone whilst he was under the influence of illegal drugs. An IMHA referral was received shortly after admission.

The key involvement of advocacy was to support Jack to understand his rights under section 2 of the Mental Health Act, provide assisted information and promote self-advocacy skills.

How we helped

The advocate facilitated face to face visits with Jack on the ward. He shared with the advocate that his first language is Hungarian. The advocate asked Jack if he would like an interpreter to support him with engaging on the ward, however he declined as he shared that he was very confident with the English language.

Within the appointments the advocate shared a personalised IMHA letter detailing their role and discussed Jacks rights under the Mental Health Act. Jack shared that he was in agreement to remain on the ward under s2.

Jack used his phone to scan the QR codes on the letter to access the advocacy website and mental health resources. The advocate discussed the IMHA related self-help resources available, which included the ward round planner, a helpful tool to use when preparing for his upcoming meeting with the responsible clinician. Jack shared that he would complete the planner when he was feeling more settled and was happy to do this without advocacy support.

Jack shared his anxiety that he may have hurt someone whilst under the influence of illegal drugs prior to admission. Jack's feelings of anxiety were amplified as he had recollections of a police presence and concerns that due to this, he had done something wrong. The advocate supported Jack to speak with staff who provided reassurance that they were not aware of any information or concerns in relation to events leading up to admission.

Discussions were had with Jack around s136 police powers being used. Providing this information seemed to support Jack's understanding and relieve anxiety that he had not committed any criminal offence but was in hospital for assessment, and care and treatment.

Jack discussed with the advocate that he did not know the geographical area where he was detained. The advocate supported him to use the google maps app on his phone which identified his location. Jack then used the map as a tool to orientate himself and seemed reassured when he could see familiar landmarks and areas where he had visited previously.

During a subsequent visit Jack shared with the advocate that although he had requested his phone from staff, he still did not have access to it, causing further feelings of anxiety. Jack shared that his bills were due to be paid and was worried if he did not have his phone to use to send the payments he would fall into arrears. The advocate supported Jack to raise his right to access his phone which staff then provided.

The advocate discussed with Jack if he had been granted s17 Leave. Jack informed that he had not spent any time off the ward since admission and requested the advocate raise this on his behalf. The responsible clinician was on the ward at the time of the visit and was happy to discuss Jack's s17 Leave status with the advocate, which was subsequently authorised immediately.

Outcome

The advocacy support promoted Jack's development of his self-advocacy skills and awareness of self-help resources he could utilise. Access to advocacy was vital for Jack to ensure that information and explanations were given, and meaningful outcomes gained within the advocacy engagement. This supported his mental health recovery whilst on the ward.

Parent Advocacy Story



About

Jayne is 31 years of age and has recently had a baby. During Jayne's pregnancy, her unborn child was subject to child protection planning due to previous concerns which have led to Jayne's older children being cared for by family or through adoption. Jayne struggles with her mental health and has a learning disability. Jayne has a long-standing history of involvement with social care and has a mistrust of professionals.

Following the birth of her baby, an interim care order was granted, and Jayne was placed in a mother and baby foster placement whilst she was undertaking assessments to ensure she can safely look after her baby and meet the needs of her child.

Advocacy Need

Jayne has undergone a psychological and a cognitive assessment where it states Jayne has extremely low level of cognitive functioning, and Jayne has been open stating she finds it difficult to understand the process. Jayne is extremely emotional and has heightened anxiety, especially when it comes to social care meetings. Jayne has also shared she has a diagnosis of ADHD and struggles to concentrate.

Concerns were raised by the social worker that Jayne did not fully understand why the previous risks and concerns relate to her current situation now.

Jayne shared that she finds it difficult to express her views within meetings as she becomes too emotional and overwhelmed. The key advocacy issue has been to support Jayne through the child protection process, and now through the court proceedings, helping her to understand any information provided to her, and to support her to fully participate meaningfully within meetings, ensuring her voice is heard

How we helped

Advocacy has supported Jayne to firstly understand the child protection process and court proceedings. To do this, advocacy has supported Jayne to prepare for all meetings and supported her within the meetings. The advocate has committed to numerous home visits, prior and during meetings, and has continued to do this, whilst Jayne is out of area, as this is the preferred way of communicating. In addition here have been some phone calls, texts, and video call contact. The advocate has reinforced any information shared using our bespoke easy read resources.

Jayne has struggled with living out of area, away from family and friends and has needed reassurance and encouragement to remember why remaining in the placement with her baby is so important. The advocate has provide ongoing support during these challenging times.

Prior to meetings, the advocate will meet with Jayne privately and will discuss what is working well, what can be improved, any concerns or issue's Jayne has and work though any questions she has. Jayne has stated she finds this helpful to discuss with the advocate beforehand, as she becomes overwhelmed during meetings and relies upon the agreed prompts from the advocate. Jayne states that she now feels listened to within meetings.

The advocate ensures Jayne understands the significant amount of documents, assessments and paperwork shared by professionals. This is time consuming but does ensure that Jayne's rights are upheld.

Although advocacy remains ongoing, there are positive indications that Jayne will be able to care for her baby moving forward, in her own home, with the right support in place. Jayne has gained the confidence to start advocating for herself and to communicate more effectively with professionals.

Client feedback

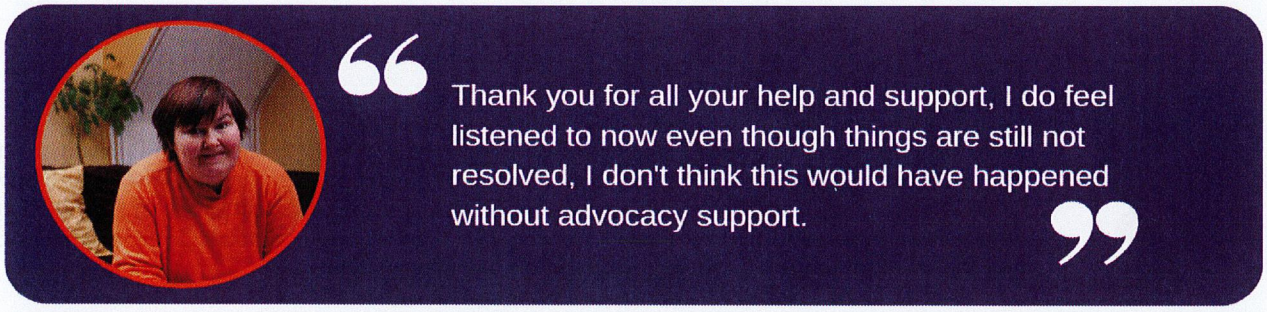
"I have a good relationship with my advocate and can talk to her"

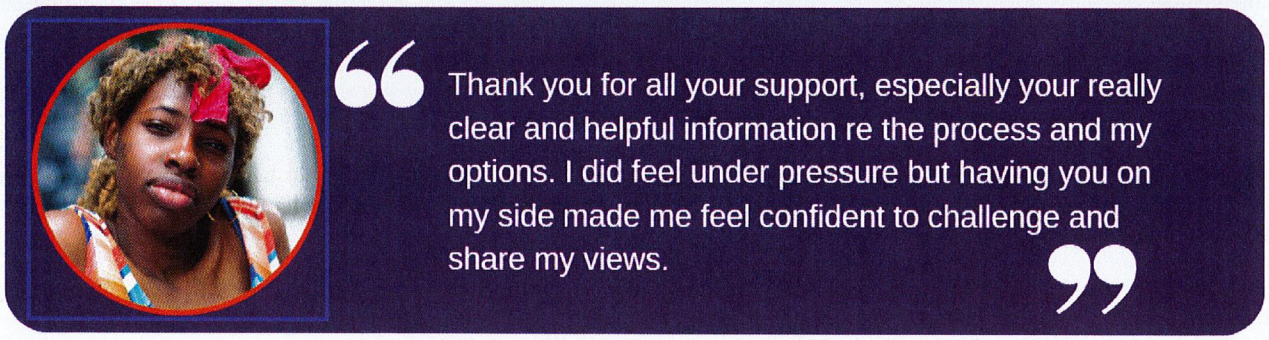
"If I have any concerns, I can ring my advocate, as I don't like ringing local authority, and then my advocate can speak for me"

"I like my advocate attending meetings, I find it really helpful. When my advocate could not come to one meeting, I really struggled"

Client Feedback

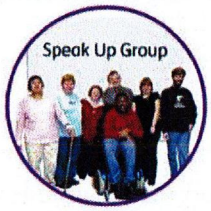
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Projects

It has been another busy and challenging year in terms of project work. Whilst the emergence from lockdowns helped to encourage participation and engagement, it also provided challenges in terms of delivering work in a way that was safe and accessible. It will come as no surprise given the impact of the pandemic on the mental health of the population, that demand has driven a huge expansion of our mental health work. Other projects have recovered or developed at a steady pace and we are proud of what has been achieved.



Speak Up Group

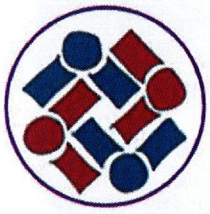
The group returned to in person meetings in the Gateway with much enthusiasm. A thank you is owed to the Gateway for the continued use of a meeting space that allows us to maintain a safe distance whilst members enjoy connecting with other again. The year began with re-establishing self-advocates core skills and confidence in speaking up, taking time to support everyone to understand and navigate the 'new normal'.

Many partner organisations have worked with the group throughout the year including Northwest Ambulance Service, Cheshire Constabulary, Warrington CCG and the Merseycare Learning Disability Community Nursing Team. The most significant partnership however was with the British Institute of Human Rights (BIHR), co-producing a resource that would help people with learning disabilities to better understand and secure their human rights.



Oi Listen

The Connect Yourself Project seeks to work with individuals to identify and achieve their goals with a view to maximising independence. The approach of the project is entirely person centred which allows for creative and unique approaches. The young people we have worked with have presented with a range of needs from confidence building, independent travel training, to securing benefits and acquiring a bank account for the first time. Although we have worked with a small cohort of individuals the impact of the work for those young people has been immense.



Community Led Support

Warrington has joined a growing number of areas across the country in looking to implement a new programme of work in partnership with NDTi, called Community Led Support. The local authority commissioned Warrington Speak Up to undertake engagement work from the outset of this initiative to ensure that decision making is genuinely influenced by the voice of local people. The pilot site for the project is Birchwood with a particular focus on the older population.

Engagement began by attending locally organised wellbeing walks, advertising and attending local cafés in the shopping centre, the park and a local church. Reaching out to community organisations gained invitations to attend coffee mornings and drop in sessions as well as the community tennis and fitness centre. A number of open stakeholder sessions were held and others joined the conversation through social media. As partners across the town agreed that we were ready to launch a 'talking point' the intelligence gathered helped to shape what, where and how this would happen.

Since the launch engagement has continued with ongoing feedback on the approach and input being sought for how to move forward. A significant piece of work was undertaken to develop a brand identity for 'Living Well' and again engagement ensured that local individuals were able to have their say.

As this work moves into a second year the challenge is to take all the learning and expand on what is working well. It is no surprise that local people continue to value the opportunity to speak to someone face to face when they have an issue and that they identify the most important attribute for a professional is having the right attitude.

Get Warrington Talking

April 2021 saw the launch of the Get Warrington Talking mental health initiative, following the end of the national Time to Change challenging stigma campaign. Having our own locally based project delivered opportunities to consider the scope and remit of the work to best fit local need. We retained a loyal following of committed volunteers keen to build on the foundations laid by the Time to Change work.

Spring and summer saw a series of community events including a day of 'walk and talk' sessions in Victoria Park, the 'Heart movement' bus visit to Warrington Hospital and Golden Square, the Battling Suicide Tour Bus visit and two further Five a Side Chess sessions in Golden Square, a stand at the Tour of Britain stage end event and the launch of the new Dallam and Bewsey Livewire Hub.

A social supper was held at local coffee shop, to network with, build connections, and share knowledge with over 40 peer led support and community projects available across the town providing mental health, wellbeing and crisis support.
Warrington has a strong tradition of providing excellent men's suicide prevention projects. A decision was made therefore to explore how we could effectively reach out to women. A series of women's only 'Walk and Talk' sessions and monthly women's supper club were subsequently.

PAUSE

The close of the year saw the launch of a non-clinical community mental health listening space where people can talk openly about their mental health, free from stigma and judgement. The initiative is part of Warrington's suicide prevention strategy, encouraging conversation, improving wellbeing, supporting access to appropriate services, raising awareness and understanding of mental health and aiming to save lives.

We secured an office at the front of the Gateway and collaborated with young people at The Verve to design a space that is safe, colourful and welcoming, that would help people to feel comfortable and valued. Creating a branding that was professional, inclusive and communicated a strong message was a priority. Over 120 people attended the launch event, with initial footfall and feedback being one hundred present positive.

PAUSE is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 11am – 4pm whilst we evaluate need, with the added offer of Pop-Up PAUSE sessions in appropriate settings. To date we have established excellent partnership working within The Verve, Priestley College and Warrington Vale Royal College. These venues help us to connect with our 18-24year old primary target audience while allowing the space to cater for all adults.

Your Life, Your Say Older People's Project
Provides instructed and non-instructed advocacy support to residents within 2 residential/nursing homes. Advocacy is aimed at residents with little or no family contact or other social networks, tackling social isolation within care settings. Activity includes life story work, discussion and contribution to resident surveys, end of life care planning.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Fundraising activities

During the year the Charity continued to pursue a policy of securing additional sources of income in order to build on Warrington Speak Up's activities and retain sufficient reserves.

We have 6 main strands of income:

1) Specific contracts to deliver mainstream advocacy services within the local authority ie Advocacy Hub
2) Funding received through grants to deliver specific projects ie Connect Yourself, PAUSE, Get Warrington Talking
3) Income generated through offering bespoke training and consultancy
4) Gifts/donations from individuals and organisations
5) Out of area and local spot purchase arrangements,
6) Individual commissioned work i.e. graphic facilitation, Community Led Support

The Charity has received its main income from the Local Authority for the provision of advocacy services. Smaller grants and sources of income include University of Chester, Warrington Community Living, Krinvest, NorthWest Training and Development Team (Pathways), Cheshire Community Foundation, Warrington Borough Council, NHS England, Cheshire West and Chester Council, Inclusion North and a number of regional and London based local authorities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Charity has made a surplus in the year of £131,661. Its principal funding source is from grants which totalled £326,270. Total reserves at the yearend were £310,585.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have reviewed the policy for reserves for the charity. This review encompassed the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match funding income with fixed commitments and the nature of the reserves. The review concluded that to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide an uninterrupted service to our client base, a general reserve which equates to approximately 6 months running costs should be maintained. In addition to this the Trustees agreed the reserves for the charity should also include costs to meet redundancy obligations for eligible staff.

Going concern

The Trustees are continually reviewing the operations of the charity and its ability to deliver its objects, following the Covid 19 pandemic. As the organisation has received confirmation that core funding for advocacy delivery has been confirmed for the next two years it is the opinion of the Trustees that they have the structure and resources to ensure the Charity remains a going concern. The Board however are mindful of the potential ongoing impact of Covid 19 on additional sources of income and will ensure that this is assessed on a regular basis.

FUTURE PLANS

Objectives carried over from 2020 to 2021 due to impact of pandemic

1. To complete the QPM
   Achieved - We successfully achieved the QPM in July 2021. This award lasts for three years, to be renewed in July 2024.

> *It is clear that advocates at Warrington Speak Up are committed and tenacious and follow issues through to seek outcomes and resolution of issues.*
>
> *The team demonstrate a deep understanding of people's rights and entitlements, including human rights.*
>
> *QPM*

> *The culture and ethos at Warrington Speak Up is extremely strong; the emphasis on excellence in advocacy delivery alongside the equally valued emphasis on staff wellbeing came through in all conversations held during the site visit.*
>
> *Throughout the QPM process it was evident that Warrington Speak Up provides highly person led, person centred and empowering advocacy services.*
>
> *QPM*

2. To launch new accessible website
   Achieved - The website was officially launched in Spring 2021, including new promotional videos.

Objectives for 2021-2022

1. To co-produce a new three-year development plan for the organisation including a review of the staff structure, succession planning and securing financial stability through a new contract with the local authority.
   Ongoing - The development day was rolled over to July 2022 and the new plan is currently being written up into a three-year strategy July 2022 to July 2025
2. Maintain and develop the new website and increase social media presence
   Achieved and ongoing
   Website continues to be maintained, reviewed and updated.
   Our social media presence has significantly increased, with specific positive impact on our mental health and self-advocacy project work.
3. Secure long term independent funding for Get Warrington Talking, increase staff hours and develop new Get Warrington Talking initiatives.
   Achieved and ongoing
   We successfully achieved a one-off grant and additional three year funding for GWT initiatives and to develop a new mental health listening space called PAUSE

Objectives for 2022-2023

1. Complete three-year strategy document and associated action plan and review core values
2. Secure ongoing funding for Dementia Advocacy project
3. Increase number of trustees
4. Review and develop training plan and embed into practice for staff and volunteers

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charity was registered on 11th July 2006 and is governed by its constitution adopted on 27th June 2006. After the year end, the constitution of the charity was amended, and was adopted by the Board on 26th February 2013. The amendment was made to reflect the expansion of the charity and its area of activity. The charity operates under the name of Warrington Speak Up from its offices at The Gateway.

In October 2014 the charity was registered as CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation and ratified by the Charities Commission. The new organisation came into effect on January 1st 2015.

Warrington Speak Up is an independent advocacy organisation actively promoting social inclusion, equality and social justice. Our aim is to strengthen the voice of people living in Warrington who face discrimination, disadvantage or social isolation. Advocacy supports and enables people who find it difficult or lack the confidence to speak up, to express their views, exercise their rights and make informed choices.

Advocacy is available to any Warrington resident over the age of 18 or to a disabled young person from the age of 16. We work with people disadvantaged through age, mental illness, disability, ill health, family and social circumstances.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees undergo a period of induction to brief them on the work of Warrington Speak Up, structures, decision making processes and recent financial performance. During induction, trustees meet with the staff team and other members of the Board. Formal training is accessed via Warrington Voluntary Action, a local voluntary organisation that provides a range of services to 3rd Sector organisations including training on governance. A revised Trustee Induction Pack has been developed.

Organisational structure

Warrington Speak Up is managed by a Board of Trustees. We actively seek to appoint trustees who demonstrate their understanding of the values and ethos of Warrington Speak Up and who offer a range of experience, skill and expertise. In addition, we benefit from the support of external advisors offering specific areas of expertise and knowledge in the field of health and social care, community development and 3rd sector infrastructure and general legal advice.

The Board is keen to promote and support meaningful opportunity to any person who accesses advocacy services to share their views on the development of the organisation and influence decision making. This is supported through regular consultation events with clients and group members, satisfaction surveys and through a robust complaints, comments and compliments policy. In addition, trustees commit to meeting with members of self-advocacy groups on an annual basis to listen to their views and experiences of the organisation.

The Board of Trustees must have a minimum of three trustees but with no maximum number. We currently have four trustees.

Trustees meet bimonthly with additional meetings when required to deal with specific issues. The primary focus of the Board is to review performance of the charity, review strategic and financial plans, support organisational growth and development and agree policy and procedure. Day to day responsibility and decision making is delegated to the CEO who has overall responsibility for ensuring that the services specified are delivered to a high standard, for securing funding and the day to day management of the staff team.

During this period the Board has:

- overseen the development of governance processes
- ensured that our health and safety policies are fit for purpose and enable all the staff team to work in a happy, healthy and safe environment
- helped to embed a new staffing structure.

Risk management

The trustees continue to assess the major risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error and manage identified risks.

Adequate insurance cover is in place in line with contractual obligations and the finances are kept under constant review with external auditing

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

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

S L Bennett

1st December 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management conti'd....

Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a 'strategic plan' allowing for the diversification of funding and activities. Generating new income takes place through the promotion of specific advocacy products including spot purchase arrangements from external local authorities for statutory advocacy, provider consultation and quality assurance, graphic facilitation services across the northwest, design of easy read information and training and commissioned project work.

Cash flow, expenditure and income generation is monitored and checked regularly against the annual budget. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all financial and contractual transactions.

Robust policies and procedures ensure compliance with health and safety regulations and safeguarding in relation to staff, volunteers, service users and visitors. All procedures and policies are reviewed in a systematic way to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity, service users and contractual obligations. It is our aim to seek to continually improve the effectiveness of our quality management system through the implementation of policies, quality objectives, audit results, analysis of data, corrective and preventative actions and management review.

The Board of Trustees have been committed to communicating the importance of quality assurance whilst meeting the needs of clients, commissioners and relevant statutory requirements. All advocacy activity is reviewed and evaluated against outcome-based measures and the views of clients and stakeholders are actively sought and used to identify, set objectives and achieve improvements in the quality of its service.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1158888

Principal address
The Gateway
89 Sankey Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1SR

Trustees
Ms S L Bennett
M Horne
Mrs A O'Mahony
S Woof (resigned 4th January 2022)
Mrs K Donnelly
S P Cullen (appointed 23rd June 2022)

Independent Examiner
Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Warrington Speak Up

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Warrington Speak Up
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Warrington Speak Up (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

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 the Trust 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 applicable 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.



Lee Warburton
BA FCA
Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

Date: 19th December 2022

Warrington Speak Up

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		5,195	-	5,195	202
Charitable activities					
Advocacy, counselling and support		436,547	33,255	469,802	310,266
Total		441,742	33,255	474,997	310,468
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Advocacy, counselling and support		310,081	33,255	343,336	285,977
NET INCOME		131,661	-	131,661	24,491
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		178,924	-	178,924	154,433
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		310,585	-	310,585	178,924

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Balance Sheet
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	4	8,405	-	8,405	5,147
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	51,701	-	51,701	9,776
Cash at bank and in hand		362,474	65,245	427,719	301,270
		414,175	65,245	479,420	311,046
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(111,995)	(65,245)	(177,240)	(137,269)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		302,180	-	302,180	173,777
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		310,585	-	310,585	178,924
NET ASSETS		310,585	-	310,585	178,924
FUNDS	8				
Unrestricted funds				310,585	178,924
TOTAL FUNDS				310,585	178,924

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 1st December 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

S L Bennett

S L Bennett - Trustee

M Horne - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

In the opinion of the Trustees the charity has sufficient resources and funding for the foreseeable future and as a result have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

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

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

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 by the Bank.

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

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs incurred by the charity to enable it to fulfil its core operations.

- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets
Computer equipment - 33% on cost

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

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

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

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's statement of financial position when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

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

Other financial assets
Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publicly traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

Impairment of financial assets
Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit or loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

Derecognition of financial assets
Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Employee benefits
The costs of the short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the costs of stock or fixed assets. The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

3. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	263,257	220,738
Social security costs	18,937	14,037
Other pension costs	6,897	6,031
	289,091	240,806

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

	31.3.22	31.3.21
Staff	11	10

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

continued...

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2021	4,377	9,602	13,979
Additions	-	6,089	6,089
Disposals	-	(4,957)	(4,957)
At 31 March 2022	4,377	10,734	15,111
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021	3,848	4,984	8,832
Charge for year	147	2,131	2,278
Eliminated on disposal	-	(4,404)	(4,404)
At 31 March 2022	3,995	2,711	6,706
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	382	8,023	8,405
At 31 March 2021	529	4,618	5,147

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Trade debtors	42,162	4,293
Prepayments and accrued income	9,539	5,483
	51,701	9,776

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Trade creditors	5,933	3,592
Social security and other taxes	6,227	4,582
Other creditors	1,929	1,582
Accruals and deferred income	163,151	127,513
	177,240	137,269

Deferred income comprises grant income received in advance of the year to which it relates.

	31.03.22 £
Balance as at 1st April 2021	125,238
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(125,238)
Amount deferred in year	160,826
Balance as at 31st March 2022	160,826

continued...

7. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Within one year	-	8,000
Between one and five years	-	4,000
	-	12,000

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	178,924	131,661	310,585
TOTAL FUNDS	178,924	131,661	310,585

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	441,742	(310,081)	131,661
Restricted funds			
Inpatient advocacy support	1,727	(1,727)	-
Get Warrington Talking	31,528	(31,528)	-
	33,255	(33,255)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	474,997	(343,336)	131,661

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	154,433	24,491	178,924
TOTAL FUNDS	154,433	24,491	178,924

continued...

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	310,468	(285,977)	24,491
TOTAL FUNDS	310,468	(285,977)	24,491

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

10. REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise its trustees and manager. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £49,150 (2021 £45,508). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

Warrington Speak Up

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

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	5,195	202
Charitable activities		
Services and events	143,532	86,339
Grants	326,270	223,927
	469,802	310,266
Total incoming resources	474,997	310,468
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	263,257	220,738
Social security	18,937	14,037
Pensions	6,897	6,031
Other operating leases	14,554	14,360
Travel expenses	3,783	883
Training	2,103	2,393
Local projects	8,806	2,021
	318,337	260,463
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	1,134	1,227
Telephone	4,010	4,004
Postage and stationery	675	1,049
Sundries	3,678	2,662
IT costs	7,974	10,390
Repairs and renewals	741	136
Depreciation of tangible assets	2,278	1,586
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	553	-
	21,043	21,054
Finance		
Bank charges	86	86
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,536	2,980
Legal fees	1,334	1,394
	3,870	4,374
Total resources expended	343,336	285,977
Net income	131,661	24,491

WARRINGTON SPEAK UP

England & Wales - Charity number 1158888

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1158888

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

for

Warrington Speak Up

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Message from the Trustees

The 2020 / 2021 year has been overwhelmed by the Covid-19 pandemic which has caused a seismic shift in the way our world operates and Warrington Speak Up staff have responded magnificently. The staff have taken a proactive approach to the situation and have adapted by finding innovative solutions to continue to engage and support vulnerable people.

Warrington Speak Up has had a successful year and was well positioned to cope with the crisis of the pandemic. The Board of Trustees 'met' frequently to review our approach to service delivery and our ongoing response to the ever changing situation. We have enhanced our reputation with our key partners, and we anticipate that this year will be equally notable for Warrington Speak Up.

Whilst our approach may be different, we are very much here. We recognise that this is one of the most challenging situations we as individuals have encountered for many years, and we are immensely proud of our staff's ability to adapt to the new reality by ensuring those we continue to support those that need it most.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank all the staff and volunteers of Warrington Speak Up for your enormous contributions.

Message from the Manager

Advocacy has never been more important than in the last 12 months. It is the people who already found it harder to have their voices heard, who have been disadvantaged the most from the coronavirus restrictions we have all faced.

As an organisation at the beginning of the pandemic we very quickly adapted our approaches, continuing to deliver all our advocacy services online, and where safe to do so, meet in person. Our challenge and mission has been to remain visible and accessible, meet the increasing demand for advocacy, and continue to provide high quality, safe and creative advocacy support, whilst protecting the safety and wellbeing of our staff team. Ensuring people had continued access to current information in a range of formats remained a priority throughout the last year. We adapted our website to include bespoke covid information and links to sources of support and advice. In partnership with Warrington CCG we produced a series of commissioned health films, starring one of our self-advocates.

Our immediate response in April was to support our colleagues in social care to provide an additional befriending and listening advocacy service, reaching out to those who were particularly isolated and vulnerable during the first lockdown. Through Connect2 our team of advocates were able to connect with people on a daily or weekly basis, have a chat, take time to listen to people's stories and worries and signpost to appropriate services when needed. The impact of Connect2 cannot be underestimated. It proved to be a lifeline to many, particularly those without family support.

In addition to our contracted work we were successful in attracting new funding, including a grant from Cheshire Community Foundation to purchase tablets, headsets and data enabling people to stay connected and participate in our self-advocacy groups and engagement activities within mental health settings.

Project Smile was another initiative led by our team, connecting with residents, and appreciating and saying thank you to staff within our local care homes. 36 care homes received care packages that included Heroes chocolates for staff kindly donated by local supermarkets, biscuits for residents, thank you cards, letters written by children and friends within our communities and artwork produced by local schools and nurseries.

Our self-advocacy offer saw considerable growth and, due to our enhanced online presence, we had the privilege of connecting and engaging with people from across the northwest. Art and craft, local history, Zumba, virtual walks, singing, cookery, photography, film making, confidence building session were just a few of the activities on offer. But at the heart of it all was the desire to enable people with learning disabilities to have the opportunity to connect, give, grow, learn, remain active and feel valued, noticed and a part of community.

Mental health engagement, supporting suicide prevention initiatives and challenging stigma and discrimination remained a significant focus for our project worker and Time to Change champions. The 'Darkness into Light' walk, was a highlight of the year, with over 150 people walking through the night form Widnes to Warrington, having time to reflect, share personal stories and experiences and offer hope to one each other. At the early part of 2021 we acknowledged the end of the Time to Change programme and the achievements of Time to Change Champions through a moving celebration and launched Get Warrington Talking, our new local challenging stigma project.

The Advocacy Leads Network, set up at the start of the pandemic, has provided a positive source of support to senior leaders within advocacy organisations, both small and large. Initially meeting bi-weekly, I looked forward to the opportunity to encourage one another, sharing knowledge, experiences and expertise as we faced similar challenges and to work collectively to protect rights for those most impacted by the pandemic and ensure quality and effective advocacy services. Over the last year the group has grown in number, strengthened in purpose, and is providing a strong, collective voice, championing change and social justice.

As I finish writing I can honestly say that it is through the contribution, commitment and dedication of our staff team, the knowledge of our trustees, resilience of our self-advocates and support of our partners, that we have been able to not just 'survive', but 'positively thrive' this year.
Advocacy may have looked a little different during this time, but our passion to provide support to those who most need it remains as strong as ever.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Warrington Speak Up's mission is to provide independent advocacy services to residents of Warrington which will directly relieve the needs of vulnerable young people and adults who have learning difficulties, disabilities, health and social care needs and mental health concerns and/or to relieve the needs of those who may be providing care and support. This mission is carried out in such a way as to affirm the dignity, individuality and integrity of each individual, ensuring their rights as ordinary citizens are protected. In addition, we seek to champion change within the field of health and social care.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

In planning the charity's activities, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In accordance with the National Advocacy Charter, advocacy services are independent (structurally independent from statutory organisations and other service providers) confidential, accessible and provided free of charge. Warrington Speak Up aims to ensure that buildings, policies, procedures and publicity materials promote access to the whole community. Information in a range of formats and on different platforms, is available to clients, funding agencies and other service providers, describing the scope and limitations of services.

Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.

Through the provision of statutory and non-statutory advocacy services individuals are able to:
- increase their confidence and self-esteem,
- have their voice heard,
- have their rights defended and upheld,
- have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives,
- enjoy more control over their lives,
- be meaningfully involved in decision making,
- gain improved access to appropriate adult social care, health and well-being services,
- participate and contribute to their local communities,
- be kept safe from all types of abuse and have representation during safeguarding processes,

During 2020-2021 the organisation has actively worked with the following identified groups:

- Prisoners with social care needs
- Adults with mental health issues
- Adults with learning difficulties and learning disabilities
- Adults with autism
- Parents involved in Early Intervention, Child in Need, Child Protection and Family Care Proceedings
- Disabled young people in transition
- Older people in care homes and hospital settings
- Older people with dementia
- Carers
- People with acquired brain injury
- People accessing homeless provision and the Street homeless
- People with a physical disability and/or sensory difficulties

In addition, Warrington Speak Up, through consultation activity, community participation events and issue-based advocacy has sought to influence the development and implementation of local agendas and commissioning priorities within health and social care reform in order to improve outcomes for local people. The manager of Warrington Speak Up is the Chairperson of the Warrington Safeguarding Adult Forum, Co-Chair of the Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Board and sits on the Warrington Adult Safeguarding Board and 3rd Sector Leads Hub. In addition the Mental Health Engagement Worker and Project Co-ordinator provides representation on the Mental Health Partnership Board, Suicide Prevention Board, Hate Crime and Incident Board and Health Forum, demonstrating our commitment to ensuring the voice of the individual is at the centre of strategic decision making.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The following services and hours were provided and delivered in the Hub between April 2020 and March 2021.

	Number of new referrals	Time spent (hours)
Care Act	310	2857
IMHA	216	1239
Advocacy for informal patients	119	224
IMCA	87	352
DoLS Paid RPR	176	1122
Parent Advocacy	64	1222
Preventative Advocacy	61	403

Statutory Advocacy
Care Act Advocacy (CAA)
Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)
Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA)
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS Sect 39A, 39C, 39D)
Paid RPR (Relevant Persons Representative)

Non-Statutory Advocacy
Parent Advocacy within child protection and family care proceedings
Preventative Advocacy
Self-Advocacy
Mental Health Engagement
Consultation activity within the wider community

In total, 1458 people have received issue-based advocacy support and 7418 hours of advocacy have been delivered.

In addition, Warrington Speak Up continues to deliver the following activity on a commissioned basis:

Your Life, Your Say Older Peoples Project
Located in 2 care homes

Spot purchase Paid RPR
5 referrals from York, Trafford, Conwy, Worcestershire
3 referrals from Warrington Borough Council

Spot purchase Care Act
2 referrals from Warrington Borough Council
1 referral from Cheshire West and Chester

Spot purchase IMHA
1 referral from Warrington Borough Council

Spot purchase Parent Advocacy
5 referrals from Halton Borough Council

Spot purchase Graphic facilitation
Pathways Associates (Cheshire Mersey Training Partnership, Confirm and Challenge, NW Regional Meetings, Conference) and Merseyside Police.

Spot purchase 1.2 Reps
2 referrals from Warrington Borough Council

New projects

Connect2

This year due to the pandemic, Speak Up delivered a new project called Connect2, linking vulnerable and isolated people to an advocate to receive phone calls on either a daily, twice weekly or weekly basis, to connect, chat, build relationship and receive support to access appropriate services. Referrals were received by adult social care and local community groups, all of which were responded to immediately.

79 individuals isolated through Covid 19 received regular telephone calls

Smile Project

As a way of befriending people within care home settings, isolated from family and friends during the initial lock down, and saying thank you to care home staff, Speak Up made up care packages for 36 care homes, in collaboration with children from local schools and nurseries. Residents and staff received cards, letters, chocolates, biscuits, and art and craft work created by children.

36 care homes in receipt of care packages

Connect Yourself

Connect Yourself is a new project working with young people who have finished school, college or a supported internship, but who still feel they have lots to learn. Funded by NHS England and commissioned by Warrington Borough Council, young people set their own goals to help build their confidence to access the right services and opportunities. Connect Yourself is all about making the right connections. Using bespoke creative planning tools and personalised approaches the project worker supports young people to achieve their goals.

14 young people supported to plan

Referral types

Issue based Advocacy

This takes place across a range of settings including local prisons, care homes and supported living accommodation, local hospital provision, secure mental health establishments, local community, schools and colleges, own homes and local community settings.

Care Act

Reasons for referral (April 2020 - March 2021)	**Number of referrals**
Assessment	75
Care & Support Planning	135
Care & Support Review	44
Safeguarding	56

IMHA

Reasons for referral (April 2020 - March 2021)	**Number of referrals**
Section 2	143
Section 3	68
Section 57 (informal Patient)	1
CTO	4

IMCA

Reasons for referral (April 2020 - March 2021)	**Number of referrals**
Serious Medical Treatment	56
Change of Accommodation	2
Safeguarding	4
DoLS 39A	8
DoLS 39D	17

Parent Advocacy

Reasons for referral (April 2020 - March 2021)	**Number of referrals**
Child Protection	40
Family Care Proceedings	20
Child in Care	4

Preventative Advocacy

Reasons for referral (April 2020 - March 2021)	**Number of referrals**
Domestic Abuse	1
Benefits	2
Special Guardianship Order	1
Police Investigation	4
Other	9
Census	2
Care and Support	2
House / Accommodation	11
Health	3
Financial (General)	3
Covid Vaccine	5
Neighbour Dispute	1
Complaints	3
Child in Need	14

Self-advocacy and group advocacy
Regular established groups meet the needs of adults with learning difficulties, mental health problems, disabled young people, service users in receipt of housing related support, street homeless and carers.

During the last 12 months a range of both new and already established weekly and monthly groups have taken place virtually due to the restrictions imposed by Covid 19. Attendance has been high in group activities with a number of new people choosing to participate. With the help of a grant from Cheshire Community Foundation we were able to purchase tablets, headphones and data to help people connect with the groups through Zoom.

Individuals from across the Northwest have had the opportunity to continue to develop their self-advocacy skills at a time of increased isolation, fear and anxiety. We have been particularly proud of the impact of our project work in people's lives.

Your Life, Your Say Older People's Project
Provides instructed and non-instructed advocacy support to residents within 2 residential/nursing homes. Advocacy is aimed at residents with little or no family contact or other social networks, tackling social isolation within care settings. Activity includes life story work, discussion and contribution to resident surveys, end of life care planning. During this year most of the work took place virtually, with in person visits happening where possible.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Fundraising activities

During the year the Charity continued to pursue a policy of securing additional sources of income in order to build on Warrington Speak Up's activities and retain sufficient reserves.

We have 6 main strands of income :

1) Specific contracts to deliver mainstream advocacy services within the local authority (competitive tendering),
2) Funding received through grants to deliver specific projects (bids and applications),
3) Income generated through offering bespoke training and consultancy,
4) Gifts/donations that directly contribute to running costs,
5) Out of area and local spot purchase arrangements,
6) Individual commissioned work (i.e. graphic facilitation),

The Charity has received its main income from the Local Authority for the provision of advocacy services. Smaller grants and sources of income include University of Chester, Warrington Community Living, Krinvest, NorthWest Training and Development Team (Pathways), Cheshire Community Foundation, Warrington Borough Council, NHS England, Cheshire West and Chester Council, Inclusion North and a number of regional and London based local authorities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Charity has made a surplus in the year of £24,491. Its principal funding source is from grants which totalled £223,927. Total reserves at the year end were £178,924.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have reviewed the policy for reserves for the charity. This review encompassed the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match funding income with fixed commitments and the nature of the reserves. The review concluded that to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide an uninterrupted service to our client base, a general reserve which equates to approximately 3 months running costs should be maintained. At present, the funds held are significantly higher, however these additional funds will be required to fund future deficits due to lower funding levels.

The Board of Trustees reviewed and agreed a policy of maintaining a reserves account of 3 months running costs and to meet redundancy obligations for eight staff

Going concern

The Trustees are continually reviewing the operations of the charity and its ability to deliver its objects during the Covid 19 pandemic. As the organisation has received confirmation that core funding for advocacy delivery has been confirmed for the next two years it is the opinion of the Trustees that they have the structure and resources to ensure the Charity remains a going concern. The Board however are mindful of the potential impact of Covid 19 on additional sources of income and will ensure that this is assessed on a regular basis.

FUTURE PLANS

Objectives for 2020 to 2021

1. To design and launch a new website, with accessible features,

Due to the impact of the pandemic progress was delayed slightly. The new accessible website launched in May 2021

2. To update promotional material and create a series of advocacy films

Achieved and available to access on the new website

3. To secure longer term funding for the Warrington Time to Change Hub

Additional short-term finding was secured to enable vital work to continue during the pandemic The national Time to Change programme has now ceased and Speak Up has launched a new mental health initiative tackling mental health stigma called Get Warrington Talking.

4. To complete the QPM

Considerable work took place towards achieving this with a successful outcome to the desk top assessment and the planned site visit/audit due to take place in July 2021 .

5. To complete a review of policies in terms of promoting equality and diversity, work towards a more diverse and inclusive trustees/board membership

A new member of the board was appointed during this year and a thorough review of policies undertaken. A revised Equality and Diversity policy was developed ready for assessment under the QPM.

6. To assess the impact of Covid 19 on future income generation and ensure a robust plan of action is developed to tackle any gaps in service provision and deficit in income.

We have been successful in attracting new additional sources of income during this year to carry out work specifically related to the impact of Covid 19. In addition considerable planning has taken place with the local authority to assess demand for advocacy in order to increase the contract value.

Objectives for 2021 - 2022

1. To co-produce a new three-year development plan for the organisation including a review of the staff structure, succession planning and securing financial stability through a new contract with the local authority.

2. Maintain and develop the new website and increase social media presence

3. Secure long term independent funding for Get Warrington Talking, increase staff hours and develop new Get Warrington Talking initiatives.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The charity was registered on 11th July 2006 and is governed by its constitution adopted on 27th June 2006. After the year end, the constitution of the charity was amended, and was adopted by the Board on 26th February 2013. The amendment was made to reflect the expansion of the charity and its area of activity. The charity operates under the name of Warrington Speak Up from its offices at The Gateway.

In October 2014 the charity was registered as CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation and ratified by the Charities Commission. The new organisation came into effect on January 1st 2015.

Warrington Speak Up is an independent advocacy organisation actively promoting social inclusion, equality and social justice. Our aim is to strengthen the voice of people living in Warrington who face discrimination, disadvantage or social isolation. Advocacy supports and enables people who find it difficult or lack the confidence to speak up, to express their views, exercise their rights and make informed choices.

Advocacy is available to any Warrington resident over the age of 18 or to a disabled young person from the age of 16. We work with people disadvantaged through age, mental illness, disability, ill health, family and social circumstances.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
Induction and training of new trustees
New trustees undergo a period of induction to brief them on the work of Warrington Speak Up, structures, decision making processes and recent financial performance. During induction, trustees meet with the staff team and other members of the Board. Formal training is accessed via Warrington Voluntary Action, a local voluntary organisation that provides a range of services to 3rd Sector organisations including training on governance. A revised Trustee Induction Pack has been developed.

Organisational structure
Warrington Speak Up is managed by a Board of Trustees. We actively seek to appoint trustees who demonstrate their understanding of the values and ethos of Warrington Speak Up and who offer a range of experience, skill and expertise. In addition, we benefit from the support of external advisors offering specific areas of expertise and knowledge in the field of health and social care, community development and 3rd sector infrastructure and general legal advice.

The Board is keen to promote and support meaningful opportunity to any person who accesses advocacy services to share their views on the development of the organisation and influence decision making. This is supported through regular consultation events with clients and group members, satisfaction surveys and through a robust complaints, comments and compliments policy. In addition, trustees commit to meeting with members of self-advocacy groups on an annual basis to listen to their views and experiences of the organisation.

The Board of Trustees must have a minimum of three trustees but with no maximum number. We currently have five trustees.

Trustees meet bimonthly with additional meetings when required to deal with specific issues. The primary focus of the Board is to review performance of the charity, review strategic and financial plans, support organisational growth and development and agree policy and procedure. Day to day responsibility and decision making is delegated to the Manager who has overall responsibility for ensuring that the services specified are delivered to a high standard, for securing funding and the day to day management of the staff team.

During this period the Board has overseen the development of governance processes and preparation for potential changes within the management and staffing structure. Their focus for the next 12 months will be to assess the impact of Covid 19 on finances and service and ensure appropriate actions are taken to mitigate against any risks identified.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees continue to assess the major risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error and manage identified risks.

Adequate insurance cover is in place in line with contractual obligations and the finances are kept under constant review with external auditing.

Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a 'strategic plan' allowing for the diversification of funding and activities. Generating new income takes place through the promotion of specific advocacy products including spot purchase arrangements from external local authorities for statutory advocacy, provider consultation and quality assurance, graphic facilitation services across the northwest, design of easy read information and training and the Your Life Your Say Older Peoples Project.

Cash flow, expenditure and income generation is monitored and checked regularly against the annual budget. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all financial and contractual transactions.

Robust policies and procedures ensure compliance with health and safety regulations and safeguarding in relation to staff, volunteers, service users and visitors. All procedures and policies are reviewed in a systematic way to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity, service users and contractual obligations. It is our aim to seek to continually improve the effectiveness of our quality management system through the implementation of policies, quality objectives, audit results, analysis of data, corrective and preventative actions and management review.

The Board of Trustees have been committed to communicating the importance of quality assurance whilst meeting the needs of clients, commissioners and relevant statutory requirements. All advocacy activity is reviewed and evaluated against outcome-based measures and the views of clients and stakeholders are actively sought and used to identify, set objectives and achieve improvements in the quality of its service.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1158888

Principal address
The Gateway
89 Sankey Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1SR

Trustees
Ms S L Bennett
M Horne
Mrs A O'Mahony
S Woof
Mrs K Donnelly (appointed 1.4.20)

Independent Examiner
Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Ms S L Bennett - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Warrington Speak Up

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Warrington Speak Up
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Warrington Speak Up (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

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 the Trust 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 applicable 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.



Lee Warburton
BA FCA
Voisey & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
8 Winmarleigh Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1JW

19 October 2021

Warrington Speak Up

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		202	-	202	290
Charitable activities					
Advocacy, counselling and support		310,266	-	310,266	268,464
Total		310,468	-	310,468	268,754
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Advocacy, counselling and support		285,977	-	285,977	242,592
NET INCOME		24,491	-	24,491	26,162
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		154,433	-	154,433	128,271
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		178,924	-	178,924	154,433

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Balance Sheet
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	4	5,147	-	5,147	2,298
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	9,776	-	9,776	34,522
Cash at bank and in hand		301,270	-	301,270	172,236
		311,046	-	311,046	206,758
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(137,269)	-	(137,269)	(54,623)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		173,777	-	173,777	152,135
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		178,924	-	178,924	154,433
NET ASSETS		178,924	-	178,924	154,433
FUNDS	8				
Unrestricted funds				178,924	154,433
TOTAL FUNDS				178,924	154,433

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 October 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

S L Bennett

S L Bennett - Trustee

M Horne - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

In the opinion of the Trustees the charity has sufficient resources and funding for the foreseeable future and as a result have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

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

Donations, are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants,is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

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 by the Bank.

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

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs incurred by the charity to enable it to fulfil its core operations.

- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets
Computer equipment - 33% on cost

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

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

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

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's statement of financial position when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

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

Other financial assets
Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publically traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

Impairment of financial assets
Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit or loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Employee benefits

The costs of the short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the costs of stock or fixed assets. The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

3. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	220,738	190,246
Social security costs	14,037	12,400
Other pension costs	6,031	4,257
	240,806	206,903

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

	31.3.21	31.3.20
Staff	10	9

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

continued...

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2020	3,787	5,757	9,544
Additions	590	3,845	4,435
At 31 March 2021	4,377	9,602	13,979
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020	3,752	3,494	7,246
Charge for year	96	1,490	1,586
At 31 March 2021	3,848	4,984	8,832
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	529	4,618	5,147
At 31 March 2020	35	2,263	2,298

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Trade debtors	4,293	32,672
Prepayments and accrued income	5,483	1,850
	9,776	34,522

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Trade creditors	3,592	(43)
Social security and other taxes	4,582	4,379
Other creditors	1,582	2,554
Accruals and deferred income	127,513	47,733
	137,269	54,623

Deferred income comprises grant income received in advance of the year to which it relates.

	31.03.21 £
Balance as at 1st April 2020	45,550
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(45,550)
Amount deferred in year	125,238
Balance as at 31st March 2021	125,238

continued...

7. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Within one year	8,000	8,000
Between one and five years	4,000	12,000
	12,000	20,000

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	154,433	24,491	178,924
TOTAL FUNDS	154,433	24,491	178,924

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	310,468	(285,977)	24,491
TOTAL FUNDS	310,468	(285,977)	24,491

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.20
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	128,271	26,162	154,433
TOTAL FUNDS	128,271	26,162	154,433

continued...

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	253,754	(227,592)	26,162
Restricted funds			
Accessible time to change hub	15,000	(15,000)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	268,754	(242,592)	26,162

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

10. REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise its trustees and manager. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £45,508 (2020 £44,307). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Accessible Time to Change Hub

The project involves:
o raising awareness of mental health with people with a learning disability and/or autism
o actively promoting and supporting peer led mental health promotion
o designing and delivering a Champions training programme
o designing a range of easy read resources
o recruiting Time to Change Champions who have a learning disability and experience of poor mental health
o liaising with members of the Warrington Time to Change Hub

Warrington Speak Up

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	202	290
Charitable activities		
Events	86,339	29,539
Grants	223,927	238,925
	310,266	268,464
Total incoming resources	310,468	268,754
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	220,738	190,246
Social security	14,037	12,400
Pensions	6,031	4,257
Other operating leases	14,360	13,756
Travel expenses	883	5,010
Training	2,393	1,264
PR Literature	-	267
Local projects	2,021	290
	260,463	227,490
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	1,227	1,222
Telephone	4,004	3,782
Postage and stationery	1,049	1,334
Sundries	2,662	1,489
IT costs	10,390	3,508
Repairs and renewals	136	309
Depreciation of tangible assets	1,586	1,184
	21,054	12,828
Finance		
Bank charges	86	94
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,980	2,140
Legal fees	1,394	40
	4,374	2,180
Total resources expended	285,977	242,592
Net income	24,491	26,162