

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 scarce, 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.

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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.

Warrington Speak Up
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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.

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Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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

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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.

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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 out 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

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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.

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Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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.

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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.

Warrington Speak Up
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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

Warrington Speak Up
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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

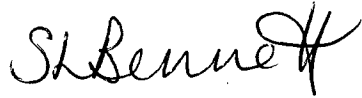
Ms S L Bennett
M Horne
Mrs A O'Mahony
Mrs K Donnelly
S P Cullen

Independent Examiner

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

Warrington Speak Up
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S L Bennett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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.

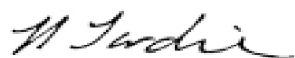
Independent examiner's statement

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.



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		<u>356,147</u>	<u>170,524</u>	<u>526,671</u>	<u>528,846</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Advocacy, counselling and support		<u>352,102</u>	<u>178,945</u>	<u>531,047</u>	<u>458,067</u>
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		<u><u>376,988</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>376,988</u></u>	<u><u>381,364</u></u>

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
		<u>521,811</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>521,811</u>	<u>562,497</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(149,544)	-	(149,544)	(189,945)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>372,267</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>372,267</u>	<u>372,552</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>376,988</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>376,988</u>	<u>381,364</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>376,988</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>376,988</u>	<u>381,364</u>
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				376,988	372,943
Restricted funds				-	8,421
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>376,988</u>	<u>381,364</u>

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

Warrington Speak Up

**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	<u>13,029</u>	<u>65,116</u>

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
	<u>488,151</u>	<u>12,430</u>	<u>500,581</u>
Total	<u>488,151</u>	<u>12,430</u>	<u>500,581</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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 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.

Warrington Speak Up

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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.

Warrington Speak Up

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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
	<u>2,719</u>	<u>9,905</u>

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

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

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Warrington Borough Council	282,242	282,326
	<u>282,242</u>	<u>282,326</u>

Warrington Speak Up

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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
	<u>455,962</u>	<u>375,710</u>

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
Staff	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>

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

Warrington Speak Up

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	4,377	13,590	17,967
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	4,142	5,114	9,256
Charge for year	148	4,017	4,165
Eliminated on disposal	-	(175)	(175)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	4,290	8,956	13,246
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	87	4,634	4,721
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2023	235	8,577	8,812
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21,230	74,346
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	149,544	189,945
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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
	<hr/>

Warrington Speak Up

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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

Balance as at 31st March 2024	138,597
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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	<u>381,364</u>	<u>(4,376)</u>	<u>376,988</u>

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)
	<u>170,524</u>	<u>(178,945)</u>	<u>(8,421)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>526,671</u>	<u>(531,047)</u>	<u>(4,376)</u>

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	<u>310,585</u>	<u>70,779</u>	<u>381,364</u>

Warrington Speak Up

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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)	-
	<u>153,614</u>	<u>(145,193)</u>	<u>8,421</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>528,846</u>	<u>(458,067)</u>	<u>70,779</u>

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.

Warrington Speak Up

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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
	<hr/> 523,952	<hr/> 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
	<hr/> 500,557	<hr/> 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
	<hr/> 27,996	<hr/> 33,111
Finance		
Bank charges	90	85
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,404	1,256
Carried forward	2,404	1,256

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

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
	<u>2,404</u>	<u>1,419</u>
Total resources expended	<u>531,047</u>	<u>458,067</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(4,376)</u>	<u>70,779</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements