

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.

Warrington Speak Up
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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.

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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

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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.

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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 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 18-24 year 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.

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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.

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

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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.

Warrington Speak Up

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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 2025

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

Warrington Speak Up
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S L Bennett', written in a cursive style.

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		<u>381,414</u>	<u>168,348</u>	<u>549,762</u>	<u>526,671</u>
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		<u>394,454</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>394,454</u>	<u>376,988</u>

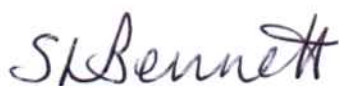
The notes form part of these financial statements

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
		<u>510,346</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>510,346</u>	<u>521,811</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(118,298)	-	(118,298)	(149,544)
		<u>392,048</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>392,048</u>	<u>372,267</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>392,048</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>392,048</u>	<u>372,267</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>394,454</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>394,454</u>	<u>376,988</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>394,454</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>394,454</u>	<u>376,988</u>
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				394,454	376,988
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>394,454</u>	<u>376,988</u>

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

Warrington Speak Up

**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	<u>(18,325)</u>	<u>13,029</u>

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
	<u>500,581</u>	<u>(19,573)</u>	<u>481,008</u>
Total	<u>500,581</u>	<u>(19,573)</u>	<u>481,008</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Warrington Speak Up

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

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 2025

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 2025

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
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

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

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	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	360,046	282,242
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Warrington Speak Up

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

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

5. SUPPORT COSTS

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

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
	<u>460,475</u>	<u>455,962</u>

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Staff	<u>15</u>	<u>16</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 2025**

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)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	4,377	14,239	18,616
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	4,290	8,956	13,246
Charge for year	87	2,944	3,031
Eliminated on disposal	-	(67)	(67)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	4,377	11,833	16,210
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	-	2,406	2,406
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	87	4,634	4,721
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	29,338	21,230
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	118,298	149,544
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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
	<hr/>

Warrington Speak Up

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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

Balance as at 31st March 2025	102,315
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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	<u>376,988</u>	<u>17,466</u>	<u>394,454</u>

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)	-
	<u>168,348</u>	<u>(168,348)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>549,762</u>	<u>(532,296)</u>	<u>17,466</u>

Warrington Speak Up

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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	<u>381,364</u>	<u>(4,376)</u>	<u>376,988</u>

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)
	<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>

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

Warrington Speak Up

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

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
	<hr/> 545,742	<hr/> 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
	<hr/> 497,147	<hr/> 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
	<hr/> 29,935	<hr/> 27,996
Finance		
Bank charges	121	90
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,276	2,404
Carried forward	2,276	2,404

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 2025**

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

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements