

Charity no. 1159445

VOICES
Report and Unaudited Financial Statements
31 August 2023

VOICES

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Charity number	1159445																						
Registered office	PO Box 5184 Bath BA1 0RZ																						
Trustees	<p>The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>Peter Brandt</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Francesca Carpenter</td><td>appointed 1 August 2023</td></tr><tr><td>Joanna Hole</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Brigid Musselwhite</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Pedro Nunes</td><td>resigned 27 February 2023</td></tr><tr><td>Benazir Ogunlende</td><td>appointed 10 July 2023</td></tr><tr><td>Farha Rasul</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Janet Ratcliffe Robertson</td><td>appointed 10 July 2023</td></tr><tr><td>Jo Silver</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Dr Helen Wehner</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Lisa Whelpdale</td><td>appointed 10 July 2023</td></tr></table>	Peter Brandt		Francesca Carpenter	appointed 1 August 2023	Joanna Hole		Brigid Musselwhite		Pedro Nunes	resigned 27 February 2023	Benazir Ogunlende	appointed 10 July 2023	Farha Rasul		Janet Ratcliffe Robertson	appointed 10 July 2023	Jo Silver		Dr Helen Wehner		Lisa Whelpdale	appointed 10 July 2023
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Farha Rasul																							
Janet Ratcliffe Robertson	appointed 10 July 2023																						
Jo Silver																							
Dr Helen Wehner																							
Lisa Whelpdale	appointed 10 July 2023																						
Chief executive officer	Ursula Lindenberg																						
Bankers	<p>HSBC UK 41 Southgate Street Bath BA1 1TN</p> <p>Bath Building Society 15 Queen Square Bath BA1 2HN</p>																						
Independent examiners	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD																						

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Constitution and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective from January 2019).

Objectives and activities

To promote and protect the good health of those affected by domestic abuse. To advance the education of the public in all issues relating to domestic abuse.

Group recovery programmes, free to clients, running weekly in term-time:

- The Freedom Programme, a nationally recognised programme identifying domestic abuse and enabling survivors to make safe choices in moving out of abusive relationships, with a free creche for pre-school children;
- The Recovery Toolkit, a psycho-educational group recovery programme building resilience and promoting well-being while recovering from abusive relationships; and
- Lived Experience Group - for people with lived experience of domestic abuse to connect as a platform to promote survivor insights informing policy and service development.

Individual domestic abuse recovery support sessions for survivors resident primarily within Bath & North East Somerset, based on a Personal Recovery Plan, designed in consultation with individual clients.

Advocacy, advice and signposting, and the provision of information for victims and survivors, family members, friends, and the wider public, via the charity's website and social media.

The provision of specialist counselling and therapeutic support for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, free to clients.

The facilitation and provision of free legal advice and signposting relating to domestic abuse and family law through a weekly clinic for VOICES clients and those of partner organisations.

Support and facilitation for survivors wishing to consult or give feedback on service provision to local authority, national government or other agencies and services, researchers and local and national charity partners.

The provision of healthy relationship and domestic abuse awareness training to local agencies, professional bodies, community and educational settings, local services, and businesses.

Consultation with national/local strategic groups and local authorities on policy and service design, providing lived experience insights and survivor voice input.

The charity operates a hardship fund to which individuals can apply. Applications are considered according to a fixed set of criteria, and granted once approved by the CEO/Head of Services.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Contribution made by volunteers

Volunteers with lived experience and those without direct experience of domestic abuse make a valuable contribution to the work of VOICES, modelling the benefits of recovery work and peer support, and are provided with appropriate management, support and training if working directly with clients.

Our role in development and research alongside academic and strategic partners offers our clients the opportunity to turn their lived experiences into valuable insights for policy makers and researchers. The contribution of volunteers through consultation and in feedback to VOICES about our own services confirms that effective change and successful services can only happen through co-creation.

VOICES' founding mission was to ensure survivors are at the heart of the conversation locally and nationally around how best to prevent and respond to domestic abuse. Volunteers with lived experience contributed to consultations in family law (family law professionals and training needs, Cafcass, and child contact), health and mental health (through consultations with researcher members of the Violence and Abuse Mental Health Network), and local government (advocating for survivors to be creating, not rating services at local area level).

Among the various impacts of the post-COVID public health situation and the cost of living crisis was the impact on volunteer and peer support opportunities through 2022/23, which remained constrained by external pressures.

Other contributions by volunteers in 2022/23 included:

- Sponsored walks and cycle rides and other fundraising activities;
- Provision of handmade items to support clients' wellbeing and health through the cost of living crisis by local volunteer knitters and craftspeople;
- Provision of support to staff running the Freedom Programme and Recovery Toolkit; and
- Volunteer support provided to VOICES for building maintenance and decorating work.

Achievements and performance

VOICES has become a centre of excellence for domestic abuse recovery, providing training and consultation that is informed by lived experience and long-term support work. Our model of integrated, accessible and tailored support plays a key role in building stronger relationships in the community; enabling people to fulfil their potential by working to safely address issues at the earliest possible stage, with peer-led and group programmes to combat social isolation and aid reintegration in working and social life.

VOICES' integrated support and focus on recovery has proven effective in transforming self-confidence and addressing the root causes of mental health problems associated with Domestic and Sexual Abuse.

VOICES supported 137 individual survivors and victims and their families between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023, and continues to provide high-quality, effective and bespoke services in the community to support individuals, their families, and the wider community.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

The charity provides value for money services, not only in terms of the benefit to individual clients, but in terms of the wider benefit to local families and communities, and through improving other service responses (e.g. Talking Therapies, housing or DWP) to domestic abuse.

We have continued to develop a unique space for trauma recovery in Bath, increasing options for partnership with other organisations to benefit local people and their community, and supporting their wellbeing needs.

VOICES' domestic abuse recovery services

During the period, VOICES received 140 referrals, an increase of 31% compared to the previous year. There were then 37 internal referrals for additional services. The most significant referring organisation was Southside Family Project, the local commissioned service providing IDVA and family support, from which 24 referrals were received (17% of the total referrals that year).

Stronger together: group programmes

VOICES continued to provide a suite of domestic abuse recovery and peer support programmes through the period from September 2022 to August 2023. This service is free to clients, with travel and childcare costs provided for clients on low incomes, with some group provision arranged at venues in the local community to ensure access, capacity and safety.

For the period of the report, 48 women attended the Freedom Programme, 16 women attended social and creative groups, and 13 attended the Recovery Toolkit (only 2 out of 3 Recovery Toolkits were run this year due to vulnerability of clients after the Covid lockdowns. There was much hesitation amongst clients about joining groups again, especially as covid numbers increased that winter).

For the Freedom programme, three 12-week in-person group programmes took place, together with 2 online programmes. A drop-in programme for the creative and social group ran through the year, and three 12-week in-person programmes of the Recovery Toolkit took place. A drop-out rate of only 4% was recorded across all programmes.

Just over 40% of activities by the services team related to group work (principally individual support), and 50% of service team hours were undertaken with group programme facilitation and related work.

"The Freedom Project allowed me to understand the abuse and changed my perceptions of my ex. Recovery Toolkit gave me the strength to move on." (A VOICES client)

Individual recovery support work - COVID-19 and the cost of living crisis

Individual recovery support was provided throughout the year by the team, and principally by two recovery support workers, with gateway support into services from VOICES' referrals and law lead, 3 associate counsellors, access to a free legal clinic run with the University of the West of England, and services as a whole managed by VOICES' Head of Services. This involved detailed casework with 89 clients and 1-2-1 gateway support to access group programmes from the referrals and law lead for 29 clients, while 44 clients received legal clinic, therapy, advice and consultation support. The largest areas of support needs concerned emotional support, and children and parenting, followed by mental health support. Other regular support needs included finances, family law, housing and physical health issues.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Although VOICES did not provide dedicated services for children, the charity did so indirectly through advocacy and support work, as well as group programmes addressing parenting and impacts of abuse on children. In 2022/23, more than 70 children aged 0-18 were supported in this way, and c. 10-15 young adults 18-25, as adult children living with clients supported by VOICES.

January 2023 marked the first full year since VOICES opened a recovery centre in Bath for women and girls who have experienced domestic and sexual abuse, a confidential space where people can come to meet with others for peer support and group programmes, to receive individual recovery support and access other services such as counselling or our free legal clinic.

During this first year, the charity consulted with people we work with about how to develop and decorate the space and created a garden space with the pro bono help of an architect and designer. Both the garden and building have been designed with the trauma recovery aims of the charity in mind, to be inclusive, calm and welcoming spaces. VOICES made alterations to make the building accessible, with support from funders including the Bath & North East Somerset Community Infrastructure Levy fund, and Bath Disability Trust.

The Villa has provided space for partnership and co-location. In the first year in our new building, we provided space to co-located services, including 4 therapeutic and empowerment groups, 2 specialist counsellors providing weekly support, a monthly multi-agency practitioner network meeting and women's music therapy and music groups. The space has great potential for further partnerships to support women and girls.

Most importantly for our beneficiaries, the Villa provides space for the VOICES model of trauma-informed, multi-disciplinary domestic abuse recovery support to be developed.

"I learned, over time, to open up and share my experiences in a safe, friendly environment. I quickly began to own my thoughts and situation. It gave me confidence to begin the terrifying process of leaving my marriage." (VOICES client)

Five core values of trauma-informed working

- Safety: ensuring physical and emotional safety;
- Trustworthiness: creating respectful environments where personal boundaries are maintained;
- Choice: creating environments where individuals have choice and control;
- Collaboration: making decisions with the individual and sharing power; and
- Empowerment: prioritising empowerment and skill building.

(Harris and Fallot, 2009)

Having dedicated space to provide trauma-informed services is something that has been proven to increase the benefits of support services for people who have suffered trauma and abuse. VOICES have long subscribed to the principles of trauma-informed working and received training in 2018/19 from One Small Thing. Stephanie Covington has led the way in the development of gender responsive approaches to supporting people after and through trauma. VOICES are a member organisation of the South West Trauma Informed Network.

Research has shown that holistic services supporting women are best able to implement trauma-informed approaches. The principles of trauma-informed working, upon which VOICES bases its holistic approach, are Safety, Trust, Choice, Collaboration and Empowerment.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Safety

Our unique safe space is the physical representation of the emotional space we aim to foster for survivors. A place to be listened to, believed and where recovery is nurtured. This is psychological safety, an antidote to the tactics of coercive control and emotional abuse that have been used by perpetrators.

Trust

VOICES works hard to establish a sense of trust with people who approach us for support.

Building and earning trust is something that requires time and an opportunity to question or explore different options for support. This begins with a conversation, and listening to the diverse experiences of people, with an emphasis on person-centred support.

Choice and transparency

From first contact with the charity, whether through our website or in a phone call, we aim to provide transparency and choice for people who we have the privilege to work with. This means explaining how we work and what we do, and providing as much information as we can about what choices are available for individuals and families dealing with the impacts of domestic and sexual abuse. Informed choice is the basis for support and recovery work at VOICES.

Collaboration

We understand our work with people as a collaboration, based on mutual respect and regard, recognising the strengths and strategies that people are already bringing to solve problems and mitigate their risks, while learning about the areas in which they might require help, and unlocking the support that working with other survivors in group settings can provide. We develop a personal recovery plan with people for whom we provide individual recovery support, dependent on our capacity to fund this work independently, as it is not currently foreseen in Domestic Abuse commissioning models.

Empowerment

Ultimately, support from VOICES should enhance a person's sense of agency in their own recovery journey. We hope that by supporting people to regain a say in their lives and in their recovery, we can aid trauma healing and help survivors and their families to rebuild their lives and realise their full potential as unique and amazing individuals. Part of this work includes the opportunity to provide insights from lived experience to policy makers and services.

During 2022/23, VOICES' trauma-informed practice expertise has supported a renewed focus by the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board on the need for self-referral options and better communication of domestic abuse support pathways, and underpins the new Practitioner Network initiated in BANES by VOICES with local commissioned services working with domestic abuse victims and survivors as founder members.

VOICES trauma-informed framework for multidisciplinary domestic abuse recovery support has been developed as a Theory of Change during 2023, to which the whole organisation and people with lived experience contributed. This work has been kindly supported by Dr Natalia Lewis at Bristol University. Our Theory of Change is available by request/on our website.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Peer group programmes

"It has been great for learning how to be "me" again amongst women who have similar experiences. Sharing ideas and feeling valued is also a source of motivation. I've met some fabulous people along the way and many that I hope will continue to feature in some way or another in my future life. That's been great for confidence and not feeling so alone and misunderstood." (VOICES client)

The delivery of VOICES group programmes to local survivors was supported by charitable funding, particularly from Garfield Weston Foundation and the Cobalt Trust, with creche costs supported by the Renishaw Charitable Trust during the period.

Recovery practitioner support

"My mental health has improved, my confidence has increased, my support network has grown, my boundaries have been tightened, my self-respect has grown, and my understanding of unhealthy relationships has improved, learning how to say 'no' has been one of the biggest challenges for me as well as calling the police when needed, due to an unhealthy upbringing, but VOICES have made me feel reborn and able to use the tools they have taught me to do this." (VOICES client)

Small funds creating big changes: VOICES' hardship and cost of living support for domestic abuse survivors and their families

The cost of living crisis has made those subject to coercive control and financial abuse even more vulnerable. Specialist advocacy from VOICES and elsewhere is critical in understanding the whole picture around finances, debt and need that together create hardship for adult and child survivors of domestic abuse.

Crucial, small-scale financial and practical help at the right time can be instrumental in helping survivors make significant progress towards recovery and a productive and fulfilled life after domestic abuse.

During 2022/23, a significant majority of VOICES clients received hardship funding to overcome barriers at transition points in their recovery. During the cost of living crisis, VOICES hardship funding proved an innovative and flexible way to address unexpected expenses for clients relating to children's needs, financial abuse, court processes, wellbeing and mental health support, among others.

Having operated our own, similar Hardship Fund since 2019, VOICES have been part of a national scheme called the Circle Fund, run by national charity SafeLives and funded by NatWest Group, involving specialist services around the country. This groundbreaking national pilot concluded in June 2023 and the final report will deliver new knowledge about the nature of financial/economic abuse, gaps in provision of short-term crisis funding for abuse survivors, and about the barriers to recovery for survivors and their families.

We were able to support clients with 80 Circle Fund grants, meeting varied needs including increased home security, access to refuges, travel costs to attend court, cooking items, moving costs, new mattresses, flooring, maternity clothing and mobile phones.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

VOICES focus on whole family support, even though our programmes currently work only with adult caregivers and pre-school children via creche services. As such, when the cost of living crisis hit immediately following the relaxation of COVID-19 constraints, VOICES mobilised to provide as much targeted support as was possible for a small charity to the families we work with.

Examples of outcomes benefitting parents and children during the cost of living crisis include:

- Providing 200 people with energy advice and support, working together with a specialist energy consultant;
- Distributed 80 warm packs to households in the 2022/23 winter season;
- Produced an accessible guide to DIY and low/no cost adaptations to your home to help reduce energy consumption and utility bills, which was distributed to clients;
- Visited women in their homes to advise on energy and condensation issues;
- Advocated with social housing providers to make changes to ensure health and wellbeing of families during the 2022/23 winter fuel crisis;
- Provided electric blankets, draft excluders and other energy saving items to clients across Bath & North East Somerset;
- Provided low-cost food preparation items, including microwaves and air fryers;
- Raised £9,990 in funds to help our clients via the Western Power Distribution Community Matters Fund;
- In 2021/22, raised £5,000 via a new application to the NatWest/SafeLives Circle Fund to provide hardship and crisis relief payments to clients through the year for items such as new secure mobile phones for adults and young people, home security devices, providing wellbeing support and essential items;
- Provided a bridge into other services including Southside Family Support, refuge and children's centres;
- Supported a young mother into refuge provision when her abusive family jeopardised her living situation in social housing; and
- Accessing safe accommodation (refuge) for one woman and her teenager who are now recovering from 15 years of post-separation abuse.

Lived Experience consultation work

"I hope at least some good can come from the awful experience I have had. I hope that the feedback and information I have given about my experiences, both during and after the abusive relationship, might help women in the future. If lived experience work can help services such as the legal profession understand and be more caring, then I will feel I have achieved something worthwhile." (A VOICES Lived Experience consultation participant)

Our role in development and research alongside academic and strategic partners offers our clients the opportunity to use their lived experiences. In 2022/23, 60% of clients said that due to their VOICES experience they had been able to help others in a similar position.

These consulting activities are an opportunity for clients to transform negative experiences into valuable insights for policy makers, which feedback confirms can be healing and empowering for clients. Effective change and the creation of appropriate services can only happen through co-creation.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

VOICES established a Lived Experience group in October 2022. As with similar initiatives around the country, there have been significant difficulties accessing dedicated funding to run and facilitate the group, and it is the area of support that has found least success with funding applications. VOICES continues to build the case for support, pointing to the influence survivors have had through the very founding of VOICES, in initiatives to support local authorities such as Bath & North East Somerset, participating in national studies during the COVID-19 pandemic and providing research advisory panels for national research investigations into interventions to support mental and physical health of adult and child survivors, and the impact of remote consultations on survivors seeking support through GP practices. The charity is still looking for support with facilitating this work to be able to fully develop its potential and to properly support people with lived experience of abuse to take part bravely and safely.

Despite the challenges of funding and resourcing Lived Experience consultation with survivors, VOICES continued to have a wide-ranging involvement in Lived Experience consultation work locally and nationally in 2022/23, which was both very productive and ground-breaking. We are extremely grateful to all those who bravely shared their individual experience and insights to support change and improvements across the system. The outcomes of our project involvement are detailed below.

"We have consulted with VOICES experts by experience group for several research projects to help ensure that our research design and process is ethical, does not cause harm to survivors and is relevant to people who use domestic abuse services. VOICES have given us feedback in group consultations or individual written feedback on documents; this has been invaluable throughout the past two years. VOICES has helped us re-evaluate how we deliver workshops online and face to face to ensure that participants feel safe and included. VOICES has improved the quality of our written materials and our research materials (such as interview schedules and survey questions) so that we ask relevant questions and communicate more effectively. VOICES has also helped steer the direction of research projects to ensure that we think about questions of interest to experts by experience, and not just health professionals, from the beginning of studies. We cannot emphasise how much the expert advice, guidance and critique has supported us to improve the quality of our research and its dissemination." (Dr Claire Powell, UCL, NIHR Children & Families Policy Research Unit)

VOICES' founding mission to ensure survivors are at the heart of the conversation locally and nationally around how best to prevent and respond to domestic abuse has resulted in impacts both locally and nationally, which have become more concrete through 2022/23, and extend across family law (family law professionals and training needs, Cafcass and child contact), health and mental health (Violence and Abuse Mental Health Network), and local government (advocating for survivors to be creating, not merely rating services at local area level).

Results of Lived Experience consultation work

The production of "MORE HARM THAN GOOD: A guide for commissioners, policy-makers and service managers making sure health and social care services work for survivors of child maltreatment and domestic abuse" published by the National Institute of Health Research Policy Research Unit Children and Families 2022/23.

Conclusion of pilot Domestic Abuse training for family lawyers in mid-2023, and publication by SafeLives in September 2023 of a report detailing the impact and benefits of the training, *"Is there a human being behind that?" SafeLives' Domestic Abuse Training for Family Lawyers.*

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Publication in the BMJ in September 2022 of a National Institute of Health Research project funded by the Home Office led by Dr Claire Powell (UCL), involving VOICES as research advisory board members: *Powell C, Feder G, Gilbert R, et al. Child and family-focused interventions for child maltreatment and domestic abuse: development of core outcome sets. BMJ Open 2022;12:e064397. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2022-064397*

Facilitation by VOICES of a Financial Abuse workshop involving lived experience consultation with the University of the West of England (UWE) and Pretty Digital. UWE researchers and Pretty Digital (a women-led media company) consulted with VOICES clients in March 2023 to look into ways to use technology to support people who are going through financial/economic abuse.

Involvement as Lived Experience advocates in the Cafcass Learning and Improvement Board, which concluded its work after three years in May 2023. Results of this work included adding a module to Cafcass training about trauma impacts and the potential weaponisation of victims' mental health by perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Providing survivor consultation and lived experience expertise in consultancy work with Central Bedfordshire Council and Somerset Council to optimise survivor consultation and co-creation by local authorities developing their domestic abuse strategies in response to the duties and guidance resulting from the Domestic Abuse Act.

Fundraising targets set for 2022/23

Grant, room hire and public donations fundraising targets were not met (our success rate with regard to funding applied for fell, potentially due to increased competition for trust/foundation funds, while public donations continued to be negatively affected by COVID-19 and the cost of living crisis and room hire income was less than budgeted during the period). Despite considerable effort through our leadership and fundraising team, VOICES' income fell by c. £86,000 from 2021/22.

Financial review

The charity ended the 2022/23 operating year with sufficient reserves to be deemed a going concern and no unplanned debtors.

With the exception of the single Recovery Tool Kit noted on page 4, we were able to deliver all other planned activities without compromise to quantity or quality.

VOICES finished 2022/23 in a relatively healthy position after a challenging year, with net assets of £245,097 compared with £257,719 in 2021/22. This decrease of 5% on the previous year reflected a reduced income position of £277,869 (2022: £363,602) and a difficult year for the sector as a whole.

Risks going forward were identified as continued funding required beyond summer of 2024 to meet the financial burden of funding for the charity premises, with operating costs/rent of c. £55K per year; a shift in funder focus away from domestic abuse to e.g. cost of living themes; public donations and community fundraising income still shrinking, as the wider community, public and private sector are all affected by the negative economic climate.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Reserves policy

VOICES held general reserves of £99,374 as of 31 August 2023 (2022: £88,084) and designated reserves of £55,000 (2022: £55,000). The stated aim of the charity being to hold unrestricted reserves to cover 3 months' operating costs (£87,485, based on annual expenditure of £290,491), the amount of unrestricted reserves held is above the target set, at the end of the period.

However, the charity's commitment to provide long-term support over 18 months to 2 years and sometimes significantly longer to survivors of domestic abuse, among which there is a high incidence of PTSD (of which research has shown a higher incidence rate than among military veterans) and other profound impacts, means that higher levels than the minimum set out in our reserves policy are in the interests of our beneficiaries to ensure consistent support without unplanned gaps in vital services for our clients.

The board of trustees has considered its reserves policy and set itself the ambition to have reserves at a level that meet the following criteria:

- To sustain the charity's core services supported by unrestricted funds, for a period of three months without detriment to its beneficiaries;
- To support the charity in providing a skeleton service for a further three months (including overheads) to enable emergency funding to be sought and available for use; and
- To meet the winding up costs for the charity should there be no prospect of funding going forward – such costs would be in terms of redundancies and meeting any contractual debts.

Principle sources of funding

The charity's principal sources of funds are trusts and foundations (incl. Tudor Trust; Lloyds Bank Foundation; Garfield Weston; Medlock Charitable Trust; Ludlow Charitable Trust; Cobalt Trust), Government grants (incl. The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund; Contain Outbreak Management Fund; Community Infrastructure Levy Fund).

Principle risks

The principle risks of the charity are:

- Financial pressures resulting from rising demand for specialist domestic abuse services, including mental health support and existential support for clients, compounded by the cost of living crisis and upward pressure on operating costs; and
- Increasing competition for funds granted by trusts and foundations, and public funding made available through central and local government, due to the impact of COVID-19 and the cost of living crisis on smaller charities.

Structure, governance and management

Trustee vacancies arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the AGM or by charity trustees "at any time" (clause 13 (4) and (5) of CIO Constitution).

Positions are advertised through local charity networks and appropriate social media. In addition informal personal networks are used.

A written role description is used and prospective trustees present CVs and have discussions with CEO and trustees prior to appointment. Any links with existing trustees are declared at this point.

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

During 2022/23, VOICES had a Board of Trustees, including the Chair, Secretary, and Chairs of Finance and HR Sub-Committees. VOICES was led by a CEO assisted by an Executive Officer, a Centre Administrator, a Finance Administrator, a Head of Services who manages the staff team comprising a Referrals and Law Lead, two Recovery Practitioners and two associate Psychotherapists.

No paid services were provided by related parties of either staff or Trustees during 2022/23.

Public benefit

The objects for which the charity is established are to provide public benefit through the:

- Promotion and protection of the good health of those who are or have been affected by domestic abuse, in particular but not exclusively by: providing advice, support, interventions and recovery programmes; by assisting them to engage with service providers enabling the service providers to adapt services to better meet the needs of those persons; through activities to relieve their mental or emotional distress and which promote their wellbeing such as support groups and networks; and by relieving the needs of people who are or have been affected by domestic abuse and assisting their integration into society; and
- By advancing the education of the public in all issues relating to the subject of domestic abuse, including conducting or supporting research into the factors that may contribute to such abuse and the most appropriate ways to mitigate them, and the publishing of the useful results of such research.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report focuses on what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the progress of the activities that underpin each aspect of the charity's objectives and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it aims to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes. The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. The trustees also give consideration to how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been determined.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

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

VOICES

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 August 2023

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

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

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Members of the charity have no liability to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Independent examiners

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as independent examiners to the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 9 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Brigid Musselwhite
Co-Chair of the trustees

Joanna Hole
Co-Chair of the trustees

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

VOICES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of VOICES (the CIO) for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 15 to 31.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

Godfrey Wilson Limited also provides management accounts and payroll services to the CIO. I confirm that as a member of the ICAEW I am subject to the FRC's Revised Ethical Standard 2016, which I have applied with respect to this engagement.

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 CIO 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.

Date: 9 February 2024

Rob Wilson FCA

Member of the ICAEW

For and on behalf of:

Godfrey Wilson Limited

Chartered accountants and statutory auditors

5th Floor Mariner House

62 Prince Street

Bristol

BS1 4QD

VOICES

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	500	32,798	33,298	26,736
Charitable activities	4	186,940	51,982	238,922	336,866
Other income	5	-	5,649	5,649	-
Total income		<u>187,440</u>	<u>90,429</u>	<u>277,869</u>	<u>363,602</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	23,675	23,675	27,898
Charitable activities		<u>211,352</u>	<u>55,464</u>	<u>266,816</u>	<u>224,011</u>
Total expenditure	7	<u>211,352</u>	<u>79,139</u>	<u>290,491</u>	<u>251,909</u>
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	8	(23,912)	11,290	(12,622)	111,693
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>114,635</u>	<u>143,084</u>	<u>257,719</u>	<u>146,026</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>90,723</u></u>	<u><u>154,374</u></u>	<u><u>245,097</u></u>	<u><u>257,719</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 14 to the accounts.

VOICES

Balance sheet

As at 31 August 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets				
Debtors	11	53,699		16,833
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>200,746</u>		<u>250,829</u>
		254,445		267,662
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	12	<u>(9,348)</u>		<u>(9,943)</u>
Net assets	13		<u><u>245,097</u></u>	<u><u>257,719</u></u>
Funds	14			
Restricted funds			90,723	114,635
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds			55,000	55,000
General funds			<u>99,374</u>	<u>88,084</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>245,097</u></u>	<u><u>257,719</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 9 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Brigid Musselwhite
Co-Chair of the trustees

Joanna Hole
Co-Chair of the trustees

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

VOICES meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the current level of unrestricted reserves. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the 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.

d) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item, is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

e) Interest receivable

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.

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

f) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

g) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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

h) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of staff costs:

	2023	2022
Raising funds	5.3%	8.4%
Charitable activities	94.7%	91.6%

i) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

j) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

k) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

l) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

m) Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities as they fall due.

n) Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

o) Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Income from:			
Donations	8,500	18,236	26,736
Charitable activities	<u>224,814</u>	<u>112,052</u>	<u>336,866</u>
Total income	<u>233,314</u>	<u>130,288</u>	<u>363,602</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	-	27,898	27,898
Charitable activities	<u>212,681</u>	<u>11,330</u>	<u>224,011</u>
Total expenditure	<u>212,681</u>	<u>39,228</u>	<u>251,909</u>
Net income and net movement in funds	<u><u>20,633</u></u>	<u><u>91,060</u></u>	<u><u>111,693</u></u>

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

3. Income from donations

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Donations	500	31,898	32,398
Gifts in kind	-	900	900
	<u>500</u>	<u>32,798</u>	<u>33,298</u>

Gifts in kind were for labour costs of premises maintenance.

Prior period comparative:

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Donations	<u>8,500</u>	<u>18,236</u>	<u>26,736</u>

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Grants > £5,000			
Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner	21,667	-	21,667
Bath and North East Somerset Council	23,607	-	23,607
Cobalt Trust	-	10,000	10,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	27,250	27,250
Medlock	-	10,000	10,000
National Grid	9,990	-	9,990
Stand With Us	24,000	-	24,000
The National Lottery Reaching Communities	104,766	-	104,766
Grants < £5,000	2,910	1,800	4,710
Training income	-	2,932	2,932
Total income from charitable activities	186,940	51,982	238,922

Prior period comparative:

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Grants > £5,000			
Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner	20,583	-	20,583
Bath and North East Somerset Council	79,607	-	79,607
Circle Fund	7,500	-	7,500
Cobalt Trust	-	10,000	10,000
Garfield Weston	-	30,000	30,000
Legal Education Fund	9,000	-	9,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	24,698	-	24,698
Persula Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
St John's Foundation	10,000	4,000	14,000
The National Lottery Awards for All	9,928	-	9,928
The National Lottery Reaching Communities	58,500	-	58,500
Tudor Trust	-	42,000	42,000
Grants < £5,000	4,998	3,000	7,998
Training income	-	18,052	18,052
Total income from charitable activities	224,814	112,052	336,866

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

5. Other income

	2023 £	2022 £
Room hire	<u>5,649</u>	<u>-</u>

All room hire income in the current and prior year was unrestricted.

6. Government grants

The charity receives government grants, defined as funding from Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner, Bath & North East Somerset Council and The National Lottery. The total value of such grants during the year ended 31 August 2023 was £150,040 (2022: £168,618). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the current or prior year.

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

7. Total expenditure

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2023 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	7,792	140,520	21,010	169,322
Project / session expenses	-	10,191	2,688	12,879
Other staff costs	-	7,695	-	7,695
Volunteer expenses	-	17	-	17
Provision of charitable services	-	8,020	-	8,020
Fundraising expenses	12,259	-	-	12,259
Office expenses	204	9,107	6,270	15,581
Insurance and premises costs	-	20,271	21,754	42,025
Consultation for counselling	-	7,566	-	7,566
Legal and professional fees	-	-	4,545	4,545
Survivor consultation	-	1,765	-	1,765
Accountancy	-	-	8,817	8,817
Sub-total	20,255	205,152	65,084	290,491
Allocation of support and governance costs	3,420	61,664	(65,084)	-
Total expenditure	23,675	266,816	-	290,491

Total governance costs were £3,391 (2022: £2,583).

Other staff costs includes £2,034 from a Funder specifically granted and restricted to staff wellbeing, £2,541 from restricted core funding for staff supervision, and £2,025 from restricted funding specifically granted for training. The remaining balance was outlay on staff recruitment, subsistence and travel costs.

Provision of charitable services includes resources to provide direct cost of living/energy support to clients came from the Community Matters Fund and were distributed directly to clients by VOICES.

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

7. Total expenditure (continued) Prior period comparative

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2022 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	7,171	78,516	42,475	128,162
Project / session expenses	-	9,267	-	9,267
Other staff costs	-	1,716	-	1,716
Volunteer expenses	-	291	-	291
Provision of charitable services	-	2,260	-	2,260
Fundraising expenses	13,859	-	-	13,859
Marketing	340	-	-	340
Office expenses	-	10,585	6,694	17,279
Insurance and premises costs	-	32,493	20,545	53,038
Consultancy	-	12,581	-	12,581
Legal and professional fees	-	-	5,229	5,229
Accountancy	-	4,832	3,055	7,887
Sub-total	21,370	152,541	77,998	251,909
Allocation of support and governance costs	<u>6,528</u>	<u>71,470</u>	<u>(77,998)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure	<u>27,898</u>	<u>224,011</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>251,909</u>

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

8. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease payments	34,000	28,333
Trustees' remuneration	Nil	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	46	260
Independent examiners' remuneration:		
▪ Independent examination (excluding VAT)	2,150	1,950
▪ Other services (excluding VAT)	4,647	4,333

Trustee reimbursed expenses were for DBS checks for two trustees (2022: travel and subsistence for two trustees).

9. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and wages	158,910	120,763
Social security costs	7,268	4,922
Pension costs	3,144	2,477
	<u>169,322</u>	<u>128,162</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Chief Executive Officer and Head of Services. The total employee salary and benefits of the key management personnel were £69,524 (2022: £64,260).

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Average head count	<u>7.50</u>	<u>6.00</u>

10. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

11. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	2,833	-
Accrued income	42,366	8,333
Deposits	8,500	8,500
	<u>53,699</u>	<u>16,833</u>

12. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	1,844	1,629
Accruals	3,968	6,252
Other taxation and social security	2,796	1,509
Pension	740	553
	<u>9,348</u>	<u>9,943</u>

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Current assets	92,304	162,141	254,445
Current liabilities	(1,581)	(7,767)	(9,348)
Net assets at 31 August 2023	<u>90,723</u>	<u>154,374</u>	<u>245,097</u>
Prior year comparative			
	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Current assets	114,635	153,027	267,662
Current liabilities	-	(9,943)	(9,943)
Net assets at 31 August 2022	<u>114,635</u>	<u>143,084</u>	<u>257,719</u>

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

14. Movements in funds

	At 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds					
Circle Fund	5,169	-	(5,169)	-	-
Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner	4,437	21,667	(24,578)	-	1,526
ROSA Fund	-	24,000	(16,623)	-	7,377
The National Lottery Awards for All	124	-	(124)	-	-
The National Lottery Reaching Communities	-	66,500	(66,409)	-	91
Renishaw	885	500	(1,385)	-	-
The National Lottery (Uplift for Cost of Living)	-	38,266	-	-	38,266
Lloyds Bank Foundation	21,411	-	(21,411)	-	-
Community Matters Fund	-	9,990	(9,990)	-	-
St John's Foundation (Admin, Comms & Marketing)	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
St John's Foundation (Programme)	6,085	-	(43)	-	6,042
The National Lottery (New Premises)	10,991	-	(4,223)	-	6,768
BANES COMF	34,307	-	(30,787)	-	3,520
Legal Education Fund	8,060	-	(254)	-	7,806
BANES CIL	13,166	23,607	(18,832)	-	17,941
Women's Aid Training	-	2,910	(1,524)	-	1,386
Total restricted funds	114,635	187,440	(211,352)	-	90,723
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Salaries	55,000	-	-	-	55,000
<i>Total designated funds</i>	55,000	-	-	-	55,000
General funds	88,084	90,429	(79,139)	-	99,374
Total unrestricted funds	143,084	90,429	(79,139)	-	154,374
Total funds	257,719	277,869	(290,491)	-	245,097

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

14. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds

Circle Fund	Hardship payments for clients, administered by VOICES and monitored by SafeLives via monthly reports.
Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner	Funding for VOICES' Gateway service.
ROSA Fund	Funding from Stand With Us for new Executive Officer and Centre Administrator roles, staff training, travel and wellbeing support, and consulting, IT or website improvements.
The National Lottery Awards for All	Associate counsellor costs, management and overheads.
The National Lottery Reaching Communities	To go towards core costs including salaries for CEO and Finance Administrator.
Renishaw	For Creche costs for group programmes over 12 months.
The National Lottery (Uplift for Cost of Living)	To go towards cost of living increases to core and staff costs.
Lloyds Bank Foundation	Continuation funding for an additional 12 months to cover the costs of the recovery practitioner up until 31 July 2023.
Communities Matter Fund	Cost of living and heating support fund for clients.
St John's Foundation (Admin, Comms & Marketing)	To go towards expenses relating to our new premises.
St John's Foundation (Programme)	To cover the salary for the head of services and costs associated with group work.
The National Lottery (New Premises)	Uplift funding as part of existing Reaching Communities grant. Designated for premises project costs.
BANES COMF	Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) - Recovery work salary and overheads grant.
Legal Education Fund	LEF funding was provided for the facilitation of survivor consultation groups by SafeLives.

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

14. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

BANES CIL	Grant for new premises.
Women's Aid Training	For staff training at Women's Aid and Women's Aid membership fees.

Purposes of designated funds

Salaries	Funds to cover salary costs if a shortfall in funding arises.
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VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

14. Movements in funds (continued)

Prior year comparative	At 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 August 2022 £
Restricted funds					
Circle Fund	-	7,500	(2,331)	-	5,169
Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner	4,123	20,583	(20,269)	-	4,437
Allen Lane	453	-	(453)	-	-
Quartet Community Foundation	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
The National Lottery Awards for All	-	9,928	(9,804)	-	124
The National Lottery Reaching Communities	-	58,500	(58,500)	-	-
Group Costs Various Fundors	1,227	-	(1,227)	-	-
Renishaw	-	3,500	(2,615)	-	885
Quartet Express	-	4,998	(4,998)	-	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	18,516	24,698	(21,803)	-	21,411
Care Forum Health Watch BANES	774	-	(774)	-	-
St John's Foundation (Freedom)	686	-	(686)	-	-
St John's Foundation (Admin, Comms & Marketing)	10,000	15,000	(15,000)	-	10,000
Counselling Pot Various Fundors	3,966	-	(3,966)	-	-
St John's Foundation (Programme)	12,463	-	(6,378)	-	6,085
The National Lottery (New Premises)	31,794	-	(20,803)	-	10,991
BANES COMF	-	56,000	(21,693)	-	34,307
Legal Education	-	9,000	(940)	-	8,060
BANES CIL	-	23,607	(10,441)	-	13,166
Total restricted funds	94,002	233,314	(212,681)	-	114,635
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Salaries	-	-	-	55,000	55,000
<i>Total designated funds</i>	-	-	-	55,000	55,000
General funds	52,024	130,288	(39,228)	(55,000)	88,084
Total unrestricted funds	52,024	130,288	(39,228)	-	143,084
Total funds	146,026	363,602	(251,909)	-	257,719

VOICES

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

15. Operating lease commitments

The charity had operating leases at the year end with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Amount falling due:		
Within 1 year	34,000	34,000
Within 1 - 5 years	<u>39,667</u>	<u>73,667</u>
	<u>73,667</u>	<u>107,667</u>

16. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the current or prior period.