

# Vision

## North Somerset

(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)



# ANNUAL REPORT

**AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**CHARITY REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND  
WALES NUMBER: 1165364**

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**Vision North Somerset  
Trustees' Report  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

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**Vision North Somerset  
Trustees' Report  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

**Trustees** M Bowen appointed 4 July 2023  
J Brice (resigned 31 March 2024)  
D Burden (resigned August 2023)  
K Govind  
M Mackle (Chair)  
H Morgan (resigned 19 February 2024)  
K Morrissey appointed 4 July 2023  
S Samad appointed 13 December 2023  
S Smith (Treasurer) (resigned 11 October 2024)

**Chief Executive** L Williams

**Principal Office and  
Registered Office** 3 Neva Road  
Weston Super Mare  
Somerset BS23 1YD

**Bankers** Unity Trust Bank  
9 Brindley Place  
4 Oozells Square  
Birmingham B1 2HB

**Independent Examiner** Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA  
Albert Goodman LLP  
Goodwood House Blackbrook Park  
Avenue  
Taunton Somerset TA1 2PX

# **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

## **Welcome from the Chair**

Welcome to Vision North Somerset's Annual Report in a year when, together with our Service Users, health professionals and funders, we reviewed our services and set our strategy for the coming five years. In doing this we reaffirmed our ambition to improve life for people throughout North Somerset living with vision impairment and hearing loss.

Over the course of the year we have been able to help over 800 people with sight and hearing impairment and we know that the number of people in North Somerset with sight loss alone is expected to grow by 22% over the next ten years. Many of these people will face a range of other health conditions alongside sensory loss.



## **Vision North Somerset**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

As an effective and independent local charity we have never been more needed, with increasing levels of calls for help, many of them not directly related to sight issues but where people come to us because they know and trust us. In these cases we are happy to take the time to refer them if a more appropriate agency can help them, but this of course adds a strain on our resources. In order to meet the need for our help we have set as one of our main objectives the continuation of building on our strong foundations to develop a well-funded and managed organisation. In doing this we are grateful for the generous support of many individuals, families and trust funds that provide the financial resources which are essential and the only income we have to deliver our charitable activities. We are proud that we retain the support of North Somerset Council to deliver the statutory services required for sight and hearing-impaired people in North Somerset.

Despite all the challenges we face we know that everybody at Vision North Somerset - Trustees, Staff and Volunteers - will continue to work together and look forward to supporting the delivery of high quality services to help local people.

**Marie Mackle -**  
**Chair of Trustees**  
**[trustees@visionns.org.uk](mailto:trustees@visionns.org.uk)**

# **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

## **Section One: objectives and activities**

The purpose of the Charity as set out in its governing document is “the prevention and alleviation of the effects of blindness and impaired vision and hearing loss”.

In North Somerset we are facing a growing population with sight loss or hearing loss. The older a person is, the greater the risk of sight loss or hearing loss. Around 12% of the people we support have dual sensory loss. The proportion of people aged 75 years and over in North Somerset is significantly higher than the average for England: 12% of the population are aged 75 plus, compared to 9% across the whole of England.

Life with visual impairment can involve being disabled by an inaccessible society and the negative attitudes of others. Many businesses and services, including health services, seem to struggle to provide vital information in accessible formats, leaving people unable to manage their health and wellbeing independently.

Transport is a challenge for many in North Somerset but the need to rely on often inaccessible public transport can limit opportunities for people with visual impairment.

Navigating streets, public spaces and buildings can be difficult for people with sight loss, especially if the environment is unfamiliar or not designed in an accessible way.

## **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

Shockingly, more than one-third of blind and partially sighted people say that they sometimes or frequently experience negative attitudes from the public because of their sight loss. People with sight loss were more than twice as likely to have experienced difficulties with unhappiness or depression than the UK average. More than 40 per cent of blind and partially sighted people feel moderately or completely cut off from the people and things around them. (RNIB, 2021).

At the end of 2023/24 Vision North Somerset was supporting around 14% of the estimated local population with visual impairment. There may be many in the remaining 86% who could be safer, happier and more independent through support from our charity. In addition, the number of local people with sight loss is predicted to increase to over 11,000 by 2032.

These facts are our drivers to grow fundraising income so that we can support the increasing number of people who need our help.



**Vision North Somerset  
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For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

## **Summary of services and activities**

Vision North Somerset offers a range of essential services to help people with visual impairment and a hearing equipment service. Our strategy focuses on key areas to encourage the independence of people with visual impairment and hearing impairment:

**Connect** – we provide opportunities for people to come together with others in similar situations and with the wider community through support groups in person, online and via teleconferencing and through befriending.

**Inform** – we support people to access the information, advice, and guidance they need, in the way that they need it through our sight loss Advisors, registration of visual impairment and the hearing equipment service.

**Enable** – we support people to develop or rebuild the skills they need to maintain their independence and live the way they choose through vision rehabilitation, the hearing equipment service and our sight loss advisors.

**Empower** – we work with local and national partners to support people to make their voices heard and to raise awareness of issues that matter to them, for example responding to local consultations, supporting networks such as the Disabled Access Group and the Sight Loss Council.

## **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

Our strategy also prioritises 'building strong foundations'. This means continuing to develop a well-funded and well-managed organisation so that we can deliver excellent services for local people.

### **Public benefit statement**

The Trustees are aware of their duty to have regard to the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit in the exercise of their powers and duties and they take this into account in their decision making. This Annual Report describes activities undertaken this year to meet Vision North Somerset's charitable purpose.

Trustees are clear about who can benefit from the Charity's activities. People using Vision North Somerset's services must have low vision or be blind or partially sighted or be deaf or hard of hearing. People the Charity supports may have both sight loss and hearing loss. Vision North Somerset works with families, carers and health and social care professionals supporting people who fit into the categories above.



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Trustees' Report  
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## **Section Two: achievements and performance**

Vision North Somerset is the only local charity in North Somerset supporting people with visual impairment or hearing impairment. We are often the first agency visiting vulnerable people in their homes to ensure that they are safe and well. This year we have noticed a significant increase in the difficulties facing the people we help. We are seeing an increase in mental health issues, self-harm and suicidal ideation, housing problems, the effects of poverty and discrimination, complex health issues and difficulties in accessing healthcare or social care, among other issues.

The complex situations that people present have demanded great skill, effort and sensitivity from our frontline staff and managers. Vision North Somerset works closely with local partners, including on safeguarding and in multi-disciplinary meetings. We refer people to local services and receive referrals from a wide range of partners including the NHS, community optometry and audiology, the local authority, the Integrated Community Stroke Service, local housing providers, social prescribers, other charities and more.

## **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

We are proud to work closely with North Somerset Council, delivering the statutory services of vision rehabilitation, registration of sight loss and disability equipment. We offer a comprehensive suite of services to people with visual impairment and a hearing equipment service.

Vision North Somerset contributes to local consultations, strategy and policy development and local working groups such as the Disability Access Group.



## Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024

**In 2023-24 we helped 527 visually impaired people of all ages. We also helped over 300 hearing impaired or deaf people with our hearing equipment service. A proportion of our service users will have both hearing loss and sight loss – this is more likely as people age.**

We often support people for years, or even decades with our range of services. During 2023-24 we delivered over **2007 individual service activities** to people with visual impairment or hearing impairment. This does not include ad hoc support such as answering questions via telephone, email or social media. We also provide information in our newsletter and on social media.



**Vision North Somerset  
Trustees' Report  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

## **Staff and volunteers**

At the end of the financial year, Vision North Somerset employed **7.2 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff** with 12 staff members. Most staff members work part-time on different schedules to cover the working week.

We are grateful to the **42 volunteers** who provide essential support to the charity and to people with visual impairment.

### **Volunteer roles:**

- Befriending
- Leading or supporting social or physical activity groups
- Driving
- Managing fundraising collection boxes
- technology training as a 'Digital Buddy'
- Ad hoc administrative support

**Vision North Somerset  
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We are particularly grateful to the three Office Administration volunteers who between them offer 12 hours a week of support with reception and administrative tasks.

Our Trustees also volunteer their time and expertise to support the charity in many ways.

Around a quarter of our volunteers are visually impaired and many have other disabilities or long-term health conditions so they bring their lived experiences to their volunteering work.



**Vision North Somerset  
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## **Strategy development**

In late 2022 and through 2023 Vision North Somerset developed our new five-year strategy. We gathered views and information through surveys, workshops, and meetings with a wide range of participants. We also used local and national research on the needs and aspirations of people with visual impairments and hearing impairments.

The feedback confirms that Vision North Somerset is already delivering services that meet many of the needs and wishes of blind and partially sighted people and people with a hearing impairment. It also suggests that people want Vision North Somerset to expand our current services to reach more people across our geographical area and to reach younger people with visual impairment.

Increased and sustainable funding will be crucial to meet increased demand in future years. Due to the ageing population, the number of local people with visual impairment is predicted to grow nearly 30% by 2032.



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## **Achievements - Services**

Against the backdrop of greatly increased complexity and struggle in the lives of local visually impaired people, the service team exceeded expectations to provide life-changing support to over 500 people.

The services below are listed against the most relevant strategic priorities from our strategy document.

- Connect
- Inform
- Enable



**Vision North Somerset  
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**Advice, Registration and Low Vision  
Equipment - Inform, Enable**

Our two Sight Loss Advisors are an invaluable first port of call for everyone with visual impairment who comes to Vision North Somerset for help. Sight Loss Advisors usually visit the person at home for an assessment in the form of a relaxed conversation to establish their needs and issues.

Sight Loss Advisors have a wealth of knowledge to make referrals to other local or national services. They provide advice, light-touch emotional support and refer people to other Vision North Somerset services as needed. Sight Loss Advisors can be involved in safeguarding and welfare concerns; for example, for people with dementia who have lost the ability to care for themselves, or for those with serious mental health issues.

We manage the **Registration process** for visual impairment on behalf of North Somerset Council. This involves receiving Certificates of Visual Impairment from Hospital Ophthalmology services, informing North Somerset Council, issuing people with a registration card, informing people of the benefits of Registration and how to access further support such as a Blue Badge or disabled bus pass.

Our **Low Vision Resource Centre** in Weston-super-Mare offers appointments for people to try a wide range of assistive equipment and to receive advice and training. Equipment can range from a talking microwave oven to specialised glare shield sunglasses, a large button telephone or a liquid level indicator device to safely make a hot drink. Ours is the only service in North Somerset displaying most of this equipment.

All of the respondents to our outcome monitoring survey agreed that they feel more confident and independent around the home and that they feel happier in their day to day living after our support.

67% of people felt more confident to cope with their sight loss. This figure may reflect how distressing it is to lose sight and the impact of the progressive nature of many eye conditions.

75% of people agreed that the future seems brighter and 80% agreed that they felt less anxious or stressed.

In 2023-24 we provided **assessments, information, advice, equipment or Registration for 220 people** through a mixture of home visits and visits to our well-equipped Resource Centre.



**Vision North Somerset  
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**Brians\* story**

After receiving a referral from the Department for Work and Pensions our Sight Loss Advisor quickly gave Brian a call.

Brian shared that, while he was only in his early 60s, he had severe cataracts and multiple health issues. He was struggling with finances and did not have support from family or friends. He lacked basics such as kettle, washing machine, and hoover. Living in small bedsit with a damp problem, he had fallen down the steep front steps several times as there was no handrail. To top it all off, Brian's beloved dog was ill and he couldn't afford a vet visit.

We linked up with the two other agencies already involved with Brian to share information and to plan support with him.

After months of work with Brian he is now in a much more positive place.



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- We contacted the hospital and ensured that Brian was back on the list for cataract surgery after he was removed from the list due to an error. He received a cataract procedure in 2024 leading to improved sight.
- The correct magnifier means Brian can read his post.
- We ensured that an Occupational Therapist fitted a handrail and made adaptations to Brian's home.
- We loaned a mobile phone and advised on a tablet computer. After training, Brian is now able to access emails and social media and make calls.
- A vet successfully treated the dog.
- Brian felt safer walking in community with a symbol cane and lanyard.
- Brian is now on the council housing list with the aim to move into extra care housing. He is now supported by a social worker and Alliance Homes, with a carer to help with shopping and cleaning.
- Brian wasn't taking vital medications as he couldn't manage the packaging. After our intervention with the pharmacy, he had a dosette box delivered and support with medications.

\*Name changed to protect privacy

**Vision North Somerset  
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Brian says “Without Vision (North Somerset) I would have been stuck, with no help. They have been a tremendous help to me. I would have given up without them. They have given me so much support as well as passing me on to other services. The whole team have been brilliant.”



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**Vision Rehabilitation and Low Vision Support - Enable**

Our experienced **Vision Rehabilitation Specialist** helps people to regain independence and increase their safety, reducing risks such as falls and burns. Vision rehabilitation can give people who have experienced sight loss the skills and confidence to manage activities like making a cup of tea, shopping, crossing a road safely, reading post, and continuing in work. Vision Rehabilitation is a statutory requirement; it is a reablement service similar to Occupational Therapy and requires a specialist qualification.

Our Vision Rehabilitation Specialist is trained to provide **functional low vision appointments** focussing on lighting, magnification and training to make the best use of remaining vision for reading or close work. People can try out equipment before purchasing and we have some donated equipment for those who struggle financially. Functional low vision assessments complement the oversubscribed hospital low vision service and any low vision support provided by high street optometrists. Our service enables people to receive vision support within two to four weeks of requesting an appointment. This service is free to local people with sight loss.

## Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024

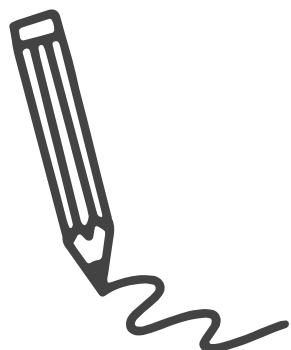
From our outcome monitoring, 67% of respondents said that they have not fallen or not fallen as often as they used to before our interventions. 60% of people can now participate in leisure activities or now find them easier than before their contact with us. Some respondents were more confident to use public transport to travel, however the majority of our service users rely on being driven by family members or friends.

in 2023-24 we supported **107 people with rehabilitation programmes**. We follow national guidance, so rehabilitation is provided in accordance with the needs of the individual. People may have months of weekly sessions to enable them to achieve their goals.

We delivered **102 functional low vision assessments**, helping people use lighting and magnification to make the best of their remaining vision.



**Vision North Somerset  
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**Sonia's\* story:**

We have been supporting a lady called Sonia since she moved to Weston from outside the area recently. She is in her late 60s and has multiple health issues alongside her severe sight loss: an autoimmune disorder, arthritis, hearing loss, issues with mobility, diabetes, respiratory issues and poor mental health. She was socially isolated, living alone in supported housing with no contact with family. Initially when speaking to our staff, she was often in tears and said that she was overwhelmed with all her issues. She sometimes repeated herself or became confused.

We initiated a range of support from Vision North Somerset including minor home adaptation, equipment such as glare shields and white cane training so that she could get out and about independently.

**Vision North Somerset  
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She is now being trained in using her mobile phone at our office with a volunteer who is also severely sight impaired, offering peer support alongside the technology training. Sonia is proudly travelling independently using her white cane, saying that it's like when you first get your driving licence and you're nervous but need to practice.

Name changed to protect privacy



**Vision North Somerset  
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**Social support - Connect**

Hearing that you are going to lose your sight can be devastating news. Often friends and family struggle to understand and people with visual impairment can quickly feel cut off from others. It can be helpful for people with visual impairment to meet to support one another through tough situations and to share a laugh. Our various support groups and activities are popular and continually growing.

Our social support work includes befriending, in-person support groups, teleconference groups and a range of physical activities as suggested by local people with visual impairment. During 2023-24 we began a new visually impaired bowling group, referred service users to accessible online pilates and opened a new teleconferencing group.

In 2023-24 we offered **15 different support and activity groups**. This includes **four in-person social groups** in various locations around North Somerset: Weston-Super-Mare (weekly), Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea (all monthly.)



## Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024

We have deliberately chosen public venues such as cafes, pubs and a community centre to support the inclusion of visually impaired people into society

We used a grant from St Monica Trust to celebrate the King's Coronation in 2023 with **three outreach events** reaching 46 people in Weston-super-Mare, Portishead and Clevedon. The events included a cream tea, thanking our volunteers and sharing information about our services.

Our teleconferencing groups continue to be popular with **five phone groups running regularly**, including an audio-book group and technology chat groups. The book group receive the audiobooks in advance via memory stick. We use a teleconferencing system where we can telephone participants as a group.

We also support a range of activities including gardening, VI bowls and swimming to improve the wellbeing of people with sight loss.



**Vision North Somerset  
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For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

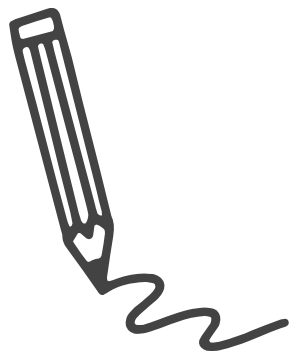
**We had 209 visually impaired people** attending one or more support group. This is an increase of nearly two thirds from last year.

**17 people were meeting regularly with Befrienders,** nearly double the number from last year.

From our outcome survey, 80% of people supported by Vision North Somerset agreed that they feel less alone and 90% agreed that they are more in contact with people than before



**Vision North Somerset  
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**Alice's\* story**

Alice was working full time in healthcare when she noticed that she couldn't see the difference between pink and blue on some medical equipment. She was diagnosed with advanced Macular Degeneration.

This sudden sight loss turned her active life into a very small world. She was unable to work, drive, care for her elderly mother, or look after her grandchildren. This affected her mental health and wellbeing. She thought, "I will never have anything again in my life, I won't ever have a life again".

Our Volunteer Coordinator initially visited Alice as she had enquired about volunteering with Vision North Somerset. When our staff member visited, Alice shared that she sat on her sofa in her lounge all day while her husband worked. She was too anxious to complete any tasks in the home or to go out by herself. We immediately put a range of training and support in place to develop Alice's skills and confidence.

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At the same time, Alice also joined one of our support groups where she met other people who have sight loss. This peer support was key to her rehabilitation as she was able to chat with people who had been visually impaired for many years and start to come to terms with her sight loss. After joining our support group, we noticed that she started to become less anxious and seemed happier. Alice now joins in with our swimming club as well as joining her local gym. She has also become a regular volunteer in our office garden. Without our support Alice would still be sitting alone on her sofa, unable to move during the day.

\*Name changed to protect privacy



**Vision North Somerset  
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## **Digital Support - Inform, Enable**

People are being excluded from everyday activities such as booking an appointment with their GP, banking, paying for parking, managing their bills and much more as services increasingly 'go digital'. While many people do not have the skill, equipment or interest to manage their lives online, these activities are significantly more difficult for people with visual impairment.

It is not right that small charities like ours are picking up the burden of helping the population adjust to the digitisation of services. We continue to support national campaigns around digital exclusion. However, while we await further support from government and businesses, we have significant demand for technology support from local people with sight loss.



## Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024

Our Digital Support service offers expert advice and the chance to try a range of equipment such as mobile phones, tablet computers, smart speakers and digital magnifiers. People can receive training sessions to help them use equipment to carry out tasks in their daily lives and stay connected with others. Sessions are delivered at our four local 'Hub' meetings, in our technology suite in Weston-super-Mare and via home visits for those who cannot travel.

We recruited and trained volunteer 'Digital Buddies' who offer one-to-one training, provide talks and group training. Our staff have also provided advice on equipment, individual training and home visits where needed.

Last year, **333 people** benefited from technology support delivered by our two part time staff and four volunteers. This is an increase of over 50 people helped compared to last year.

90% of people answering our outcome survey after our support agree that they use technology to stay in touch with family or friends.



**Vision North Somerset  
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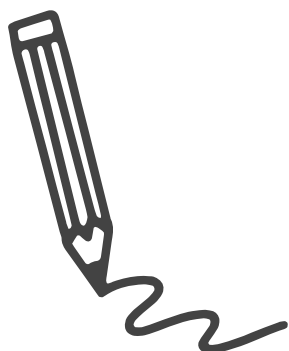
## **Hearing Equipment Service - Inform, Enable**

People with hearing impairment are at high risk of social isolation, poor mental health and developing dementia, which can lead to increased care needs. Our hearing equipment service helps people maintain independence, pursue leisure activities and sustain social connections.

Our experienced Hearing Equipment Officer visits people at home to provide personalised advice on the appropriate equipment for each person such as doorbells, telephones and devices to help people hear the television. He provides referrals to the Fire Service regarding fire alarms. He fits the equipment and trains people in using it; for example, explaining how to use Bluetooth technology to older people who have no prior experience.

Our hearing service supports an independent monthly hard-of-hearing group which meets in our meeting room. We also liaise with hospital audiology departments and high street audiology, as well as providing awareness talks and personalised advice about hearing loops to local organisations.

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**Sally's story:**

We have been supporting a lady called Sally who lives alone and has both hearing loss and sight loss. Sally is in her early 80s and many other health issues. She had been having falls and was often in tears when talking to our staff.

Sally was very worried about the digital switchover of telephones, especially with how the new systems might interact with her hearing aid. Our Hearing Officer worked with our Digital Officer to help her choose a mobile phone which she was able learn to use. Our Hearing Officer visited her several times for training and to set up the phone with her hearing aid. He organised weekly trial telephone calls for her to practice using her phone by calling the office.

Sally is now confidently using her new telephone and sounds much happier when we speak to her.

\* Name changed to protect privacy.

**Vision North Somerset  
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For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

**Section Three: structure, governance and management**

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the Charity for the Year ended 31 March 2024. The provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice “Accounting and Reporting by Charities” (SORP FRS 102 – implemented 1 January 2019) have been adopted in preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Charity.

Vision North Somerset is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission in February 2016. The Charity was set up to replace Woodspring Association for Blind People, an unincorporated Charity registration number 270331.

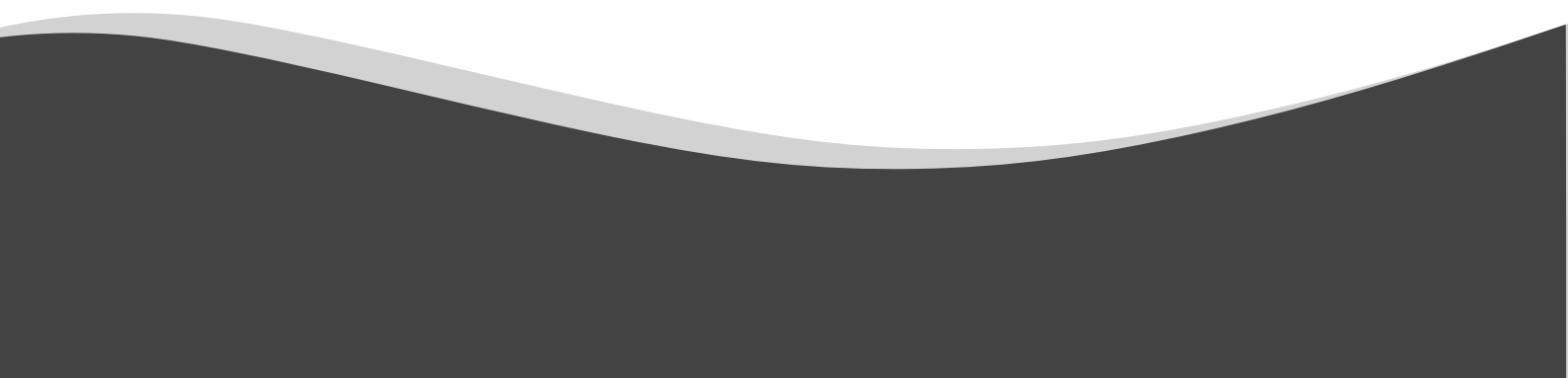


## **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

This report covers the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

Vision North Somerset is governed by a constitution, which allows for between four and twelve Trustees. Decisions are made by a majority vote of Trustees present at their meetings. Trustees are elected at the AGM by members present. People with sensory loss are encouraged to serve as Trustees and make an important contribution to our Board; during the year we had three sight impaired Trustees. Officers of the Committee are elected from amongst themselves at the first meeting following the AGM. The Committee has the power to appoint to fill occasional vacancies and anyone so appointed would have full voting rights and hold office until the next AGM, when they are eligible for election.

All Trustees are volunteers and as such benefit from the support of the Vision North Somerset Volunteer Policy, including induction and visual impairment awareness training. Trustees are offered relevant training and networking opportunities.

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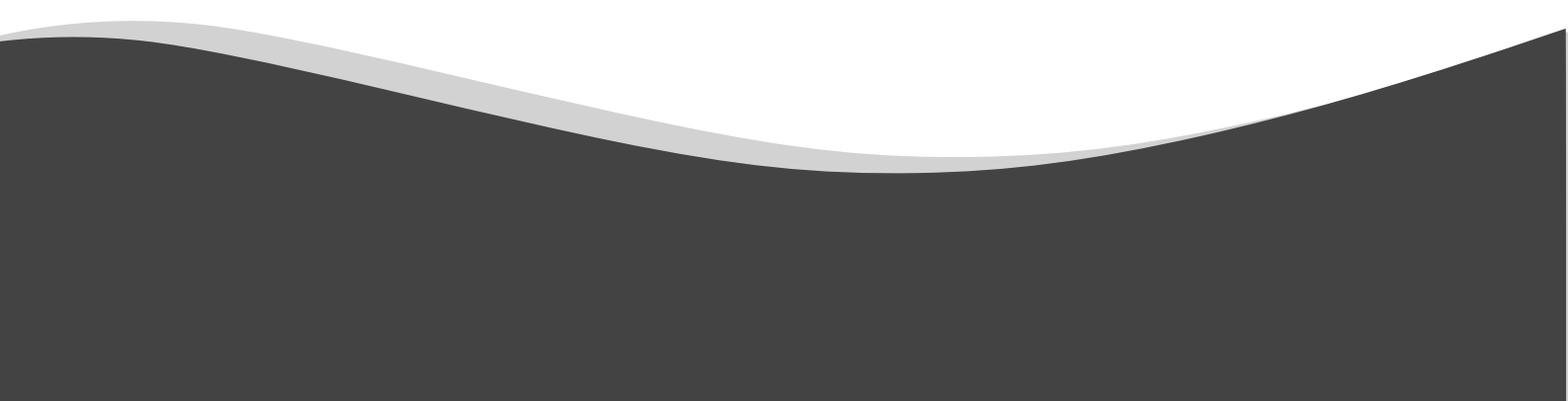
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The Trustees who served during the period and since the period end are:

M Bowen appointed 4 July 2023  
J Brice (resigned 31 March 2024)  
D Burden (resigned August 2023)  
K Govind  
M Mackle (Chair)  
H Morgan (resigned 19 February 2024)  
K Morrissey appointed 4 July 2023  
S Samad appointed 13 December 2023  
S Smith (Treasurer) (resigned 11 October 2024)

As at the year end, the Charity had seven Trustees, which meets constitutional requirements.

All Trustees are aware of their responsibilities in relation to compliance and policy making. Policies, risk management and compliance are regularly reviewed at Trustee meetings and between meetings via email as needed.

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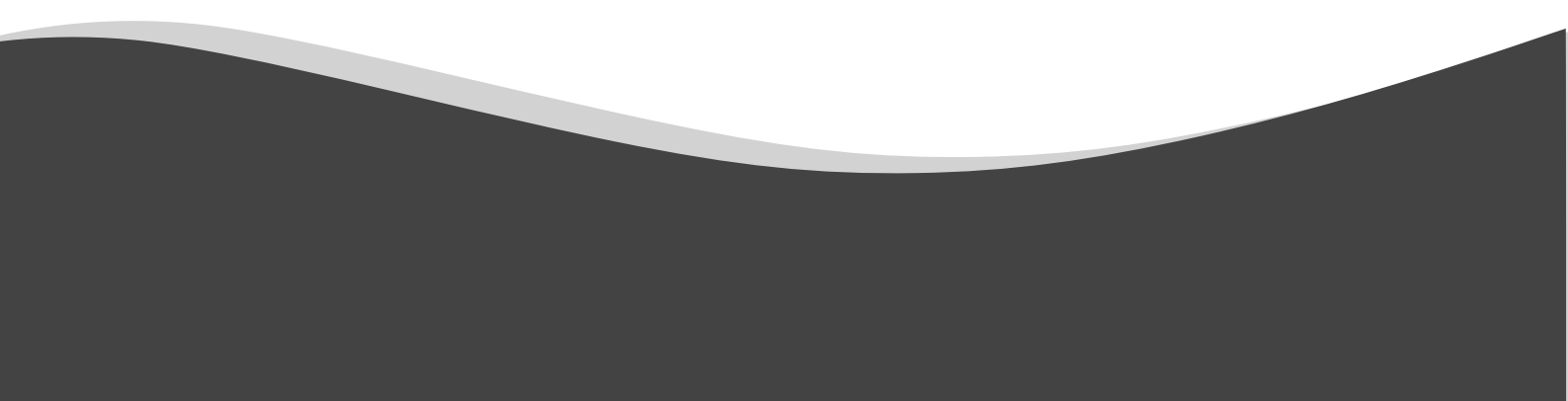
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Day-to-day management of the organisation is the responsibility of the Chief Executive. Regular reports are made by the Chief Executive to the Trustees to ensure they are aware of operational activities. Trustees are responsible for the overall management of the Charity.

**Policies, Procedures and Risk Management**

Vision North Somerset has policies and procedures in place to assist with the operation of the Charity; these include Health and Safety, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Volunteer Disciplinary, Grievance, Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults policies. All are reviewed on a regular schedule.

Vision North Somerset maintains and regularly reviews a risk register to support the management of significant risks. Mitigating actions to avoid or manage risks are recorded by trustees.

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## **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

### **Fundraising**

Vision North Somerset undertakes the majority of its fundraising activities in-house and uses a consultant who knows our charity well for the purpose of large grant applications. Vision North Somerset was registered with the Fundraising Regulator during 2024. We adhere to the codes of ethics laid out by the Fundraising Regulator and The Code of Fundraising practice in relation to all fundraising activities. The Charity received no complaints about its fundraising practice in this financial year.



**Vision North Somerset  
Trustees' Report  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024  
Section Four: financial review**

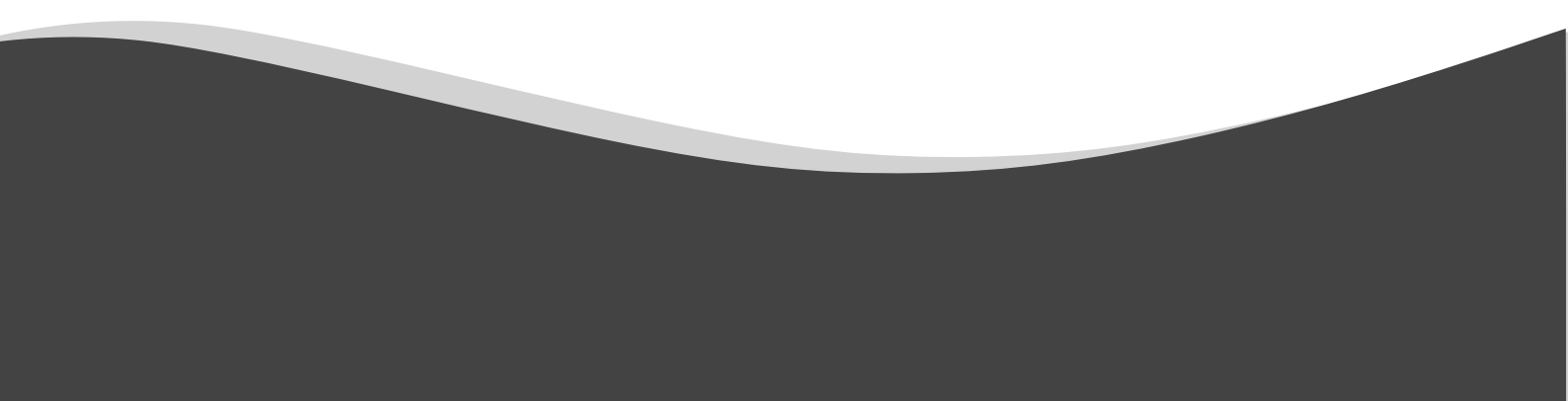
**Reserves Policy Statement**

Vision North Somerset's Reserves Policy (set in June 2022) sets aside two levels of cash reserves to be met by unrestricted funds:

- Tier one: a buffer amount that will allow the organisation to continue to operate if income is unexpectedly reduced.
- Tier Two: a closure amount that will be used if Vision North Somerset ceases activity and closes to allow the organisation to meet essential expenses.

**Actions to deliver the Policy**

At the end of the 2023-24, Vision North Somerset has sufficient reserves to meet the needs of the reserves policy. The Trustees aim to secure financial support sufficient to ensure that the minimum reserves target continues to be met, and that funds are available to cover future capital expenditure or unexpected costs.

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**Vision North Somerset  
Trustees' Report  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

**Plans for future periods**

**Developing Our Services – what we offer and how we offer it.**

- Review, hone and prioritise our service offering (detailed reviews of the needs of visually impaired children and young people and adults with hearing impairment to be revisited in 1 – 2 years)
- Expand our reach to include more people across North Somerset, especially those outside Weston-super-Mare and younger people with visual impairment. Link to wider community to raise awareness of services available
- Continue to build partnerships with other organisations and strengthen our existing networks

**Building Strong Foundations – long term investment in our organisation.**

- Achieve income growth from different sources to stabilise the organisation and reach more people with our services
- Build a team of outstanding staff and a growing number of volunteers who feel supported and empowered to deliver excellent services
- Review and develop the organisation's structures, processes, policies and systems to ensure that they support excellent service delivery, with an initial focus on outcome measurement, reviewing our database and upgrading the website.

**Vision North Somerset  
Trustees' Report  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

**Principal Funding Sources**

Vision North Somerset is primarily funded by grants from trusts, foundations and other sources including grant funding from North Somerset Council.

We are grateful to the individuals, local organisations and businesses who choose to support our vital local work with donations. We thank the visually impaired people and their families who have chosen to leave a gift in their Will or give a gift in memory of a loved one.

The Charity is seeking to grow local fundraising so that it can continue to help the increasing number of local people who come to us for support.



## **Vision North Somerset Trustees' Report For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

During 2023-24 the Charity is grateful for financial support from the following:

- Quartet Community Foundation
- St Monica Trust
- Postcode Local Trust
- Ashwell's Charitable Trust
- Uk Government through the UK Social Prosperity Fund
- Age UK Bristol
- Town and Parish councils including: Yatton Parish Council and Clevedon Parish Council.

North Somerset Council is a significant funder of Vision North Somerset as the Charity delivers some statutory services on behalf of the council. The grant supports specific activities within the scope of our grant agreement and contributes towards operational costs.

**Vision North Somerset**

**Trustees' Report**

**For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

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).

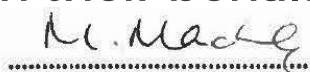
The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the income and expenditure of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

**Vision North Somerset  
Trustees' Report  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

- 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business

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

Approved by the board on 16 October 2024 and signed  
on their behalf by:



M Mackle Trustee

**Vision North Somerset**  
**Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees**  
**For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

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**Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Vision North Somerset**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts for Vision North Somerset ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity'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 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Charity'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, 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not comply with these records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the 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 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.



Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA  
Albert Goodman LLP  
Goodwood House  
Blackbrook Park Avenue  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 2PX

Dated: 17.10.2024.....

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**Vision North Somerset**  
Statement of Financial Activities  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024


	Notes	Unre- stricted Funds	Re- stricted Funds	Total 2024	Unre- stricted Funds	Re- stricted Funds	Total 2023
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations (including grants)	2	35,875	265,102	300,977	37,116	255,921	293,037
Other trading activities	3	16,750	-	16,750	16,477	-	16,477
Income from investments	4	5,152	-	5,152	1,994	-	1,994
<b>Total</b>		<b>57,777</b>	<b>265,102</b>	<b>322,879</b>	<b>55,587</b>	<b>255,921</b>	<b>311,508</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	5	35,616	278,088	313,704	74,654	267,229	341,883
<b>Total</b>		<b>35,616</b>	<b>278,088</b>	<b>313,704</b>	<b>74,654</b>	<b>267,229</b>	<b>341,883</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the year before transfers</b>		<b>22,161</b>	<b>(12,986)</b>	<b>9,175</b>	<b>(19,067)</b>	<b>(11,308)</b>	<b>(30,375)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,673</b>	<b>(10,673)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other recognised losses:</b>							
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	15	62,067	-	62,067	8,000	-	8,000
<b>Net movements in funds</b>		<b>84,228</b>	<b>(12,986)</b>	<b>71,242</b>	<b>(394)</b>	<b>(21,981)</b>	<b>(22,375)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Fund balances at 1 April		285,886	27,097	312,983	286,280	49,078	335,358
<b>Fund balances at 31 March</b>		<b>370,114</b>	<b>14,111</b>	<b>384,225</b>	<b>285,886</b>	<b>27,097</b>	<b>312,983</b>

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

Vision North Somerset  
Balance sheet  
As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	8	401,963	411,414
Current assets			
Stock		13,722	3,316
Debtors		103	80
Cash at bank and in hand		229,272	212,942
Investments	9	66,000	66,000
		309,097	282,338
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(168,373)	(380,769)
Net current assets		140,724	(98,431)
		542,687	312,983
Creditors due more than one year			
Defined benefit pension scheme liabilities	11	(158,462)	-
Total net assets including pension liabilities		384,225	312,983
Unrestricted funds	12	370,114	285,886
Restricted funds	12	14,111	27,097
Total funds		384,225	312,983

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16 October 2024, and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....  
M Mackle  
Trustee



**1 Accounting policies**  
The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows.

**1.1 Basis of preparation**  
The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

**1.2 Income**  
Income from grants and donations is recognised in the year in which they are receivable when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from government grants and local authorities 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. Where no conditions are attached to the grant income they are recognised within donations and legacies and where conditions relating to performance of services are attached, grant income is recognised in income from charitable activities within the Statement of Financial Activities.

Income from other trading activities is included in the period in which the Charity is entitled to receipt, it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the entity and the amount can be reliably measured.

**1.3 Expenditure**  
Resources expended are recognised on the accruals basis to match the period in which the expenditure was incurred.

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

**1.4 Tangible fixed assets**  
Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rate:

Freehold property	– 1% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	– 25% straight line

Fixed assets are capitalised where the expenditure incurred is in excess of £500 and the asset purchased is considered to have a long term benefit to the organisation.

## 1.5 Debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for services performed in the ordinary activities of the Charity.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Charity will not be able to collect all amounts due to according to the original terms of the receivables.

Other debtors comprise amounts due from prepayments. Amounts due from prepayments arise from the payments for services prior to benefit from those services.

## 1.6 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.

## 1.7 Creditors

Creditors 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 are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

## 1.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost is calculated on a first in, first out basis.

## 1.9 Taxation

Vision North Somerset is a registered Charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to charitable purposes.

## 1.10 Investments

Investments are held at fair value determined by the amounts held in National Savings and Investments bonds.

## 1.11 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets this criterion is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

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

## Vision North Somerset Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year ended 31 March 2024

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### 1.12 Local Government Pension Scheme

Retirement benefits to employees of Vision North Somerset are provided by the Avon Pension Fund Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). This is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme, that is contracted out of State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme ('SERPS'), and the assets are held separately from those at Vision North Somerset.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of Vision North Somerset in separate trustee administered funds. Pension Scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current the current service cost and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credit adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

During the ended 31 March 2023, the final entrant in the scheme left the employment of the charity thereby crystallising the scheme at this point. During the year, negotiations have been entered into with the pension provider, and a draft agreement for repayment is in discussion. The balance owing at the year end of £266,400 is included in creditors, split between amounts due in more than and less than one year based on the anticipated repayment scheme.

### 1.13 Defined contribution pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme (NEST). A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions (7.5% employer contribution) are paid into a pension fund and the Charity has no legal or contrastive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as staff pension expenses through the SOFA when they are due.

### 1.14 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to the events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of the period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

The Trustees have concluded that the likelihood is that funding will be available to support the objectives of the Charity and that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

## 1.15 Financial instruments

The Charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the Charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank – is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Vision North Somerset  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024

2 Donations and legacies	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Grant income						
Ian Karten Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	9,503	9,503
St Monica Trust - Digital	-	35,000	35,000	-	-	-
North Somerset Council Social Services*	-	165,598	165,598	-	164,885	164,885
VANS Chat & Connect	-	-	-	-	4,829	4,829
Thomas Pocklington Trust	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Postcode Local Trust	-	-	-	-	22,423	22,423
Quartet - Volunteering	-	19,280	19,280	-	19,726	19,726
NSC - Social Prescribing Destination*	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
UK Social Prescribing Destination	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
St Monica - Community Impact	-	16,890	16,890	-	16,581	16,581
Quartet - Resilience fund	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
St Monica Trust - Impact Improving	-	3,334	3,334	-	-	-
Tesco - Groundwork UK - Digital	-	-	-	-	500	500
Age UK Bristol - Digital Inclusion	-	-	-	-	1,974	1,974
VANS	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
St Monica - Coronation	-	-	-	-	500	500
	-	265,102	265,102	-	255,921	255,921
Donations	35,875	-	35,875	37,116	-	37,116
	<u>35,875</u>	<u>265,102</u>	<u>300,977</u>	<u>37,116</u>	<u>255,921</u>	<u>293,037</u>

\*denotes government funding

**Vision North Somerset**  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024

3 Other trading activities	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Other	4,166	-	4,166	947	-	947
Re-sale equipment	8,614	-	8,614	10,092	-	10,092
Room hire	3,970	-	3,970	5,438	-	5,438
	<u>16,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,750</u>	<u>16,477</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,477</u>

4 Investment income	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>5,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,152</u>	<u>1,994</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,994</u>

5 Direct charitable expenditure	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Wages and salaries	6,032	214,438	220,470	33,304	195,712	229,016
Core and operating costs	59,208	10,216	69,424	3,680	58,921	62,601
Legal and professional	2,027	-	2,027	2,419	9,396	11,815
Re-sale equipment purchased	731	5,335	6,066	13,425	-	13,425
Project costs	10,810	4,907	15,717	21,826	3,200	25,026
Contribution to core costs	(43,192)	43,192	-	-	-	-
	<u>35,616</u>	<u>278,088</u>	<u>313,704</u>	<u>74,654</u>	<u>267,229</u>	<u>341,883</u>

6 Employees	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	198,207	203,495
Social security costs	9,606	7,939
Pension costs	12,657	17,582
	<u>220,470</u>	<u>229,016</u>

Vision North Somerset  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024

No individual was paid over £60,000 (2023: none).

The average number of employees for the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Number of staff	10	10

One person is considered key management personnel of the Charity, being the Chief Executive Officer. Total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £47,325 (2023: £42,572), including employers national insurance and employers pension contributions.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The charge in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year is shown above. Contributions totalling £nil (2023: £nil) were payable to the schemes at the year end and are included in creditors.

7	Net incoming resources before transfers	2024	2023
		£	£
	This is stated after charging:		
	Depreciation	9,451	9,450
	Accountants remuneration	1,427	1,630
	- independent examination		
	- other	600	1,080

Vision North Somerset  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year ended 31 March 2024

8	Tangible assets	Freehold property	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
			£	£
	Cost			
	As at 01.04.2023	425,000	129,824	554,824
	Additions	-		-
	As at 31.03.2024	425,000	129,824	554,824
	Depreciation			
	As at 01.04.2023	29,762	113,648	143,410
	Charge for period	4,252	5,199	9,451
	As at 31.03.2024	34,014	118,847	152,861
	Net book value			
	As at 31.03.2024	390,986	10,977	401,963
	As at 31.03.2023	395,238	16,176	411,414

The pension deficit (to a maximum of £200,000) is secured against the property.

9	Investments	2024 £	2023 £
	National Savings Bond investments	66,000	66,000
		66,000	66,000

## 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals & deferred income	56,443	37,835
Other creditors	3,992	2,934
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	107,938	340,000
	<u>168,373</u>	<u>380,769</u>
Deferred income	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income brought forward	35,000	-
Released in year	(35,000)	-
Deferred in the year	53,416	35,000
	<u>53,416</u>	<u>35,000</u>
Deferred income carried forward	53,416	35,000

Deferred income relates grants received from the St Monica Trust which will start 1 April 2024 or do not meet the criteria for recognition.

## 11 Creditors: amounts falling due over one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	158,462	-
	<u>158,462</u>	<u>-</u>
Pension scheme liability	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts due < 1 year	107,938	340,000
Amounts due > 1 year	158,462	-
	<u>266,400</u>	<u>340,000</u>
Total pension scheme liability	266,400	340,000

**Vision North Somerset**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

<b>12 Statement of Funds</b>	<b>Balance 01.04.23 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Transfers/ (losses) £</b>	<b>Balance 31.03.24 £</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
St Monica Trust - Digital	-	35,000	(29,582)	-	5,418
VANS	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
UK Social Prescribing Destination	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Postcode Local Trust	7,396	-	(7,396)	-	-
Quartet - Resilience Fund	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
North Somerset Council - Social Prescribing Destination	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Quartet - Volunteering	3,651	19,280	(22,931)	-	-
St Monica Trust - Community Impact	8,616	16,890	(16,813)	-	8,693
St Monica Trust - Coronation	500	-	(500)	-	-
Age UK Bristol - Digital Inclusion	1,934	-	(1,934)	-	-
St Monica - Improving Connections	-	3,334	(3,334)	-	-
North Somerset Council	-	165,598	(165,598)	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>27,097</b>	<b>265,102</b>	<b>(278,088)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,111</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds excluding pension reserve	285,886	57,777	(35,616)	62,067	370,114
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>285,886</b>	<b>57,777</b>	<b>(35,616)</b>	<b>62,067</b>	<b>370,114</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>312,983</b>	<b>322,879</b>	<b>(313,704)</b>	<b>62,067</b>	<b>384,225</b>

**Vision North Somerset**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 31 March 2024**

	Balance 01.04.22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers/ (losses) £	Balance 31.03.23 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Ian Karten Centre	-	9,503	(605)	(8,898)	-
VANS Chat & Connect	-	4,829	(4,829)	-	-
VANS	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
The Big Lottery	25,884	-	(25,884)	-	-
Postcode Local Trust	-	22,423	(15,027)	-	7,396
Thomas Pocklington Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Quartet Express Grant	155	-	(155)	-	-
Awards for all	3,639	-	(3,639)	-	-
Quartet - Talking for health	8,567	-	(6,872)	(1,695)	-
Quartet - Volunteering	-	19,726	(16,075)	-	3,651
St Monica Trust - Community Impact	8,411	16,581	(16,376)	-	8,616
St Monica Trust - Coronation	-	500	-	-	500
Age UK Bristol - Digital Inclusion	-	1,974	(40)	-	1,934
Tesco - Groundwork UK - Digital	-	500	(500)	-	-
NSC Infection Control Fund	2,422	-	(2,422)	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>49,078</b>	<b>255,921</b>	<b>(267,229)</b>	<b>(10,673)</b>	<b>27,097</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds excluding pension reserve	634,280	55,587	(74,654)	(329,327)	285,886
Pension reserve	(348,000)	-	-	348,000	-
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>286,280</b>	<b>55,587</b>	<b>(74,654)</b>	<b>18,673</b>	<b>285,886</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>335,358</b>	<b>311,508</b>	<b>(341,883)</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>312,983</b>

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The purposes for material funds are as follows:

- St Monica Trust – Digital Inclusion – delivering technology advice and training to people with visual impairment and relevant professional partners.
- UK Social Prescribing Destination – developing social support for people with visual impairment.
- Postcode Local Trust – developing and growing social and wellbeing support for people with visual impairment.
- Quartet Resilience Fund – developing the infrastructure and resilience of the charity through training and communications.
- Quartet Community Foundation Volunteering – the development and growth of the volunteering programme.
- St Monica Trust – Community Impact is for delivering peer support and social inclusion activities such as social groups and support groups.
- North Somerset Council – delivering statutory services and a contribution towards essential costs for the charity.
- Ian Karten Centre fund are amounts received for the purchase of information technology assets that will aid the training of the visually impaired. Fund is reduced by the purchase and depreciation of assets.
- The Big Lottery Fund is to fund the ‘In Sight, In Touch’ project providing a suite of services to people with visual impairment.
- Thomas Pocklington Trust – funding to develop a new long-term strategy for the charity.

When fixed assets have been purchased with restricted funds, upon purchase, a transfer has been made from restricted to unrestricted. During the year, this amounted to £0 of fixed assets being purchased using restricted funds (2023: £10,593).

13 Related party transactions

No remuneration has been paid to Trustees during the year (2023: none). No trustees were reimbursed travelling expenses during the year (2023: two - £334).

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted Funds £	Re- stricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Tangible assets	401,963	-	401,963	411,414	-	411,414
Net current assets	126,613	14,111	140,724	(125,528)	27,097	(98,431)
Creditors due > 1 year	(158,462)	-	(158,462)	-	-	-
	<u>370,114</u>	<u>14,111</u>	<u>384,225</u>	<u>285,886</u>	<u>27,097</u>	<u>312,983</u>

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15 Pension commitments

Some of the Charity’s employees belonged to the Local Government Pension Schemes (LGPS) managed by the Avon Pension Fund (“APF”).

During the ended 31 March 2023, the final entrant in the scheme left the employment of the charity thereby crystallising the scheme at this point. An amount has been included within creditors due under one year and due in more than one year for the final balance owed which is on a different valuation basis to that of the previous actuarial valuations. There is therefore no actuarial valuation carried out for the scheme as at 31 March 2024 or 31 March 2023.

The pension valuation included in the accounts was an estimated value, which has since been updated to reflect the amount of repayment due under a draft agreement.

	2024 £	2023 £
Pension scheme liability b/fwd	340,000	348,000
Repayments	(11,533)	-
Revaluation in year	(62,067)	(8,000)
Pension scheme liability c/fwd	266,400	340,000