

Trustees Annual Report

Introduction

Another year has passed quickly, and, as you will see from the content of this report, it has been a mixed year for our organisation, which has included a decrease in the amounts received through donations, however we have managed to help more people who have been impacted by stroke, not only here in Stockport but nationally and indeed globally. This has included recruiting more people who have been impacted personally by stroke onto paid employment within the charity.

I continue to enjoy chairing the Board of Trustees, and also my involvement with Stroke Information in general, which includes assisting with awareness training, attendance at the monthly disability board meeting at Disability Stockport and also assisting in ways to ensure equality in all areas.

I am extremely proud of the good work done by Stroke Information throughout the wider community. I simply like the fact that we are able to help others who find themselves where we once were and does what it can to assist people in those situations, and it is the main ethos of our organisation.

We continue to strive to get the stroke survivor back into some form of normality and provide them with a renewed sense of worth which had been robbed from them by their stroke.

This last year we have successfully managed to get many stroke survivors back to gainful employment which they absolutely love and that is a great testament to the charity.

I always look forward to my visits to our high street office, and always feel welcomed by everyone I meet. I would like to thank the Board, the Directors, volunteers for making this organisation something to be proud of, and long may it continue.

The Directors, who are the trustees of the charity, present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Reporting Framework

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 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, effective January 1 2015 (as amended by Update Bulletin 1).

Governing Document

The Charity is a charitable incorporated organisation and is governed by its constitution dated April 2016 and is registered with the Charity Commission. The Charity was previously a limited company, registered at Companies House.

Membership of the charity is open to any adult resident in the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport and beyond who has been impacted by stroke, they may have been left with a disability or an interest in disability matters. They must firstly be approved by the Trustees who have the powers to in certain circumstances to remove a person from attending our drop-in facility.

Board of Trustees – composition and appointment

The Trustees must be a minimum number of three with a maximum of fourteen of whom not more than ten may be elected at a general meeting (the “elected Trustees”). All elected Trustees must be members of the charity.

One third of the elected Trustees must retire at each AGM, those longest in office retiring first. A retiring Trustee who remains qualified may stand again.

The Trustees may co-opt any adult who is qualified to be appointed a Trustee to fill a vacancy in their number or as an additional Trustee, but co-opted Trustees only hold office until the next AGM. A co-opted trustee does not necessarily need to be a member of the charity.

Our Current Trustees

We are not yet fully strong with Trustees and are always looking for excellent committed people who wish to join us.

Trustees during the 2023-24 financial year include

- Mr Nicholas Clarke
- Mr Peter Clarke
- Mrs Susan Whitney
- Cllr Laura Booth
- Ms Riona Kelly
- Mr Cary Hill (resigned 06/12/2023)

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The organisation has a defined process for recruiting and induction to the Board of Directors and is led by the needs and skill requirements of the organisation. The induction process for any new Trustee comprises an initial meeting with the CEO and some of the trustees. The welcome pack includes a brief history of the Charity, copies of Committee, the Constitution and the Charity Commission’s guidance – ‘The Essential Trustee: What You Need to Know’.

Organisation

The Trustees as a body administer the Charity and meet at least three times per year, normally quarterly.

The Trustees are assisted by the work of the following sub-groups: Finance, Governance and Policy, and Media & Marketing, Business and Project Development, Nominations, Recruitment and Training

The day-to-day operations of the Charity are the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer, to whom the Trustees delegate authority for operational matters including finance, employment and development, within the overall strategy agreed by the Trustees.

Volunteers – Impact/significance in the charity

Volunteers have always been important throughout the history of Stroke Information. Those people who have assisted are on our books showing that they are supporting our work.

It is not just in terms of finance they contribute but also in added quality of support and a diverse range of skills and experience. Volunteers in return receive training and support as well as feedback. Many volunteers are matched with their experience around a particular need for support and help to build confidence and independence.

All volunteers are DBS checked as appropriate and offered participation in the organisation and personal development. This also has the benefit of helping to develop a skilled workforce resource for the local area and beyond some of them will choose a career outside of the charity because of their positive experience.

Risk Management

The Charity Trustees have considered the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and have reviewed those risks and established systems and procedures to manage those risks.

A Risk Register is maintained, to identify the principal risks which could affect the Charity and to categorise them per impact (low, medium, high) and probability (low, medium, high).

The Trustees consider that the charity is exposed to significant risks in maintaining its financial stability whilst continuing to meet the needs of its beneficiaries.

Larger organisations (and possible mainstream funders to us) such as Local authorities and NHS are facing significant reductions in their own core grants which impacts on their ability to support us with grant funding.

For each significant risk, the Trustees will agree actions and a timescale to mitigate the risks identified and a Trustee or member of staff has been assigned to oversee the actions. All risks will continue to be reviewed at least annually.

Trustees are fully insured through Trustee indemnity insurance.

Objectives and Activities

The charity's objectives are:

"To offer help, support, guidance and real hope to those who have been impacted by stroke who are resident in the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport and beyond (the "area of benefit").

To meet its objectives, the Charity aims to:

- Provide information and advice on stroke, this advice includes preventative training as well as coping mechanisms for the stroke survivor and their families
- Raise awareness of issues and concerns of those impacted by stroke
- Advocate on behalf of stroke patients and their families
- Monitor and evaluate services to stroke patients
- Provide a range of services that help to meet the needs of those impacted by stroke.
- Promote and provide opportunities for partnership working to assist people who have been impacted by stroke and does so through the provision of a range of services provided from its central premises in Stockport and via the website.

Public Benefit

The charity has had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. We have a central location and fully accessible building that is both easy to reach and welcoming. This means that all our public services such as information, advocacy, and advice can encourage people to drop in and use our facilities, such as meeting rooms, interview rooms and training room.

The counselling service is available any day and with prior arrangement in the evenings and is available to the public, currently free of charge. Volunteer counsellors also use our office facilities for administration and supervision.

Stroke Information is a registered charity helping to educate others about the impact a stroke has to a member of the public and is a provider of training focusing not only on the preventative measures but also the coping strategies, we operate through a variety of service delivery mechanisms including face to face meetings and workshops.

Services are currently available at our registered offices, but we also provide services as "pop ups" where we take a stand in a supermarket or office building with prior arrangement.

Benefits to the Community

It is satisfying to report back on a successful year for Stroke Information, we have gone on to significantly expand and increase our support for the wider community whilst donations received were lower.

Equally satisfying is that we have progressed our previously unachieved ambition of making a reliable drop in facility to be welcoming.

We maintain this service by using peer support in a community-based approach that is fully inclusive regardless of condition, diagnosis or circumstance. In other words, about people, stroke survivors, family and carers which is not restricted by their ability.

Our support mechanisms range from face-to-face peer support, information and advice to email consultation and even a live chat portal and centralised helpline telephone number. Providing a great freedom of choice to those impacted by stroke not only regionally but indeed nationally and beyond, sometimes even globally.

Whilst acknowledging that there is some way to reach the level of the recognised national stroke charity we are pleased with our progress to date and given the opportunity I feel that Stroke Information should be able to work alongside others including other larger national charities which will mean more people are offered an alternative rather than the traditional pathway on their recovery journey.

Each stroke is different but so is the recovery journey and we feel that we have that unprecedented advantage to truly deliver a service which cannot be matched elsewhere in that we provide a tailored approach that gives choices. Given that flexibility of service delivery, some people choose not to use our services or benefit from them so well that they no longer need our service, but we see this as entirely positive for everyone, because at the end of the day we consider that it is and should be all about that freedom of choice.

The many positive stories and outcomes are testament to this accomplishment, and we will continue to assist in those success stories.

In the last twelve months we have continued to receive preferential rates with suppliers and supporters such as Disability Stockport whereby we have been able to piggyback onto their wellbeing service thus meaning that it is allowing us to use their shared office and space and include us within their support network.

Going forward we are looking to increase our presence of the drop in to include alternative days, training facilities, and workspace for administrative duties.

This has also allowed us to establish a presence in the town centre, which is in a central location on good transport links and is fully DDA compliant.

We have begun the early stages of launching “Eddie’s Club,” a way of promoting the charity to businesses in the local area. This has received positive feedback, and we are looking forward to our First Annual Eddie’s Club (Eddie’s Easter Extravaganza) Evening event in April 2025.

The CEO and Trustees have worked hard to support and underpin the work of the organisation and are always willing to be hands on when needed.

The Trustees would like to thank all our executive team, volunteers, supporters and benefactors who have been indispensable in helping us continue to make a difference and this includes donors, who contribute sums great and small to our organisation. We also wish to thank everyone who has sponsored an event on our behalf and all those who contributed their valuable time to our organisation.

Nick Clarke
17th January 2025

**STROKE INFORMATION LIMITED
DIRECTORS' REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Stroke Information Limited Contents

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**Stroke Information Limited
Company Information
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024**

Directors	Mr Nicholas Clarke Mr Peter Clarke Mrs Susan Whitney Cllr Laura Booth Ms Riona Kelly
Company Number	09535824
Registered Office	23 High Street Stockport SK1 1EG
Accountants	De La Wyche Baker Limited 7 St Petersgate Stockport Cheshire SK1 1EB

Stroke Information Limited
Company No. 09535824
Directors' Report For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Directors

The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

Mr Nicholas Clarke

Mr Cary Hill Resigned 06/12/2023

Mr Peter Clarke

Mrs Susan Whitney

Cllr Laura Booth

Ms Riona Kelly

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing the financial statements the directors are required to:

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

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Small Company Rules

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

On behalf of the board

Mr Nicholas Clarke

Director

17 January 2025

**Stroke Information Limited
Accountants' Report
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024**

Report to the directors on the preparation of the unaudited statutory accounts of Stroke Information Limited for the year ended 31 March 2024

It is your duty to ensure that Stroke Information Limited has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory accounts that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of Stroke Information Limited. You consider that Stroke Information Limited is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the accounts of Stroke Information Limited. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial statements.

Signed

17 January 2025

De La Wyche Baker Limited
7 St Petersgate
Stockport
Cheshire
SK1 1EB

Stroke Information Limited
Statement of Income and Retained Earnings
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
TURNOVER		18,491	30,794
Cost of sales		(616)	(3,934)
GROSS PROFIT		17,875	26,860
Administrative expenses		(17,809)	(13,717)
OPERATING PROFIT AND PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		66	13,143
RETAINED EARNINGS			
As at 1 April 2023		51,776	38,633
As at 31 March 2024		51,842	51,776

The notes on pages 6 to 7 form part of these financial statements.

Stroke Information Limited
Balance Sheet
As At 31 March 2024

		2024	2023
	Notes	£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	4	453	719
		453	719
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		54,206	53,284
		54,206	53,284
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	6	(2,717)	(2,127)
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		51,489	51,157
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		51,942	51,876
NET ASSETS		51,942	51,876
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	7	100	100
Profit and Loss Account		51,842	51,776
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		51,942	51,876

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

On behalf of the board

Mr Nicholas Clarke

Director

17 January 2025

The notes on pages 6 to 7 form part of these financial statements.

Stroke Information Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. General Information

Stroke Information Limited is a private company, limited by shares, incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 09535824. The registered office is 23 High Street, Stockport, SK1 1EG.

2. Accounting Policies

2.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 section 1A Small Entities "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006.

2.2. Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of discounts and value added taxes. Turnover includes revenue earned from the sale of goods and from the rendering of services. Turnover is reduced for estimated customer returns, rebates and other similar allowances.

Sale of goods

Turnover from the sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods has transferred to the buyer. This is usually at the point that the customer has signed for the delivery of the goods.

Rendering of services

Turnover from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion of a contract is measured by comparing the costs incurred for work performed to date to the total estimated contract costs. Turnover is only recognised to the extent of recoverable expenses when the outcome of a contract cannot be estimated reliably.

2.3. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Computer Equipment	33.3% Straight Line
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3. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees, including directors, during the year was: 4 (2023: 2)

4. Tangible Assets

	Computer Equipment £
Cost	
As at 1 April 2023	6,185
As at 31 March 2024	6,185
Depreciation	
As at 1 April 2023	5,466
Provided during the period	266
As at 31 March 2024	5,732
Net Book Value	
As at 31 March 2024	453
As at 1 April 2023	719

Stroke Information Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

5. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due within one year	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	<u>2,717</u>	<u>2,127</u>

7. Share Capital

	2024	2023
	£	£
Allotted, called up and fully paid		
100 Ordinary Shares of £1.00 each	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Stroke Information Limited
Trading Profit and Loss Account
For The Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
TURNOVER				
Donations received		18,491		30,794
COST OF SALES				
Charitable activities	616		3,334	
Hire and leasing of plant, equipment and vehicles	-		600	
		(616)		(3,934)
GROSS PROFIT		17,875		26,860
Administrative Expenses				
Directors' salaries	7,440		6,720	
Wages and salaries	5,627		2,650	
Travel and subsistence expenses	8		150	
Other vehicle costs	650		-	
Computer and IT consumables	813		208	
Insurance	459		569	
Printing, postage and stationery	210		233	
Advertising and marketing costs	258		240	
Telecommunications and data costs	477		559	
Accountancy fees	960		882	
Legal and professional fees	90		40	
Subscriptions	40		40	
Charitable donations	50		101	
Depreciation charge	266		1,010	
Sundry expenses	461		315	
		(17,809)		(13,717)
OPERATING PROFIT AND PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		66		13,143