

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

England & Wales · Charity number 1166821

Details

Other names SAMARITANS LTD BIRMINGHAM

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-04-28

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address The Samaritans
13 Bow Street
Birmingham
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Phone 01216225165

Email birmingham.director@samaritans.org

Website <https://www.samaritans.org/branches/birmingham/>

Activities

Objects: TO ENABLE PERSONS IN BIRMINGHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AS WELL AS ELSEWHERE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FEELINGS OF DISTRESS OR DESPAIR, INCLUDING THOSE WHO MAY BE AT RISK OF SUICIDE, TO RECEIVE CONFIDENTIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THEIR EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF SUICIDE; TO PROMOTE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING IN SOCIETY OF SUICIDE, SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR AND THE VALUE OF EXPRESSING FEELINGS WHICH MAY OTHERWISE LEAD TO SUICIDE OR IMPAIRED EMOTIONAL HEALTH; AND TO COLLABORATE WITH AND SUPPORT SAMARITANS CENTRAL CHARITY AND ITS AFFILIATED BRANCHES IN FULFILLING THESE OBJECTS.

Activities: Samaritans provides completely confidential emotional support 24-hours a day by telephone, face-to-face, email and text, at festivals and outside our centres in prisons, hospitals, schools and workplaces and with the homeless through a network of over 200 branches in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Birmingham Samaritans acts as one of these branches.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BIRMINGHAM AND SURROUNDING AREA
- Birmingham City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£120,441	£96,232	-	-
2024-03-31	£102,649	£93,852	-	-
2023-03-31	£66,902	£90,487	-	-
2022-03-31	£43,599	£65,960	-	-
2021-03-31	£96,701	£75,943	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Lorraine Green	Chair	2025-03-13
Anne Burge		2025-09-11
Caroline Lesley Cresswell		2025-09-11
Emily Jane Lawson		2025-09-11
John David Rutter		2024-09-09
Mark Williams		2020-09-28
Michael John Kinsella		2025-09-11
Penny Thompson		2026-03-12
Robert Allan Cluley		2022-07-19

Linked charities

- THE BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS (1166821-1)

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1166821

Accounts

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Registered Charity No. 1166821

Annual Report and Accounts

31st March 2025

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS **12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ABOUT BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

The Samaritans organisation provides confidential emotional support 24 hours a day by telephone, e-mail, face-to-face, and online chat through a network of over 200 branches in the UK and Republic of Ireland, and also at festivals, in prisons, hospitals, schools and workplaces, and with the homeless. Birmingham Samaritans is one of those branches.

Our Vision:

Samaritans **Vision** is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to make sure there's someone there for anyone who needs someone, to give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others, and to campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority. Together we can make change that saves lives.

Our Values:

We have five core values

- ~ Listening - Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them
- ~ Confidentiality - If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings
- ~ Non-judgemental - We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection
- ~ People making their own decisions wherever possible - We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them
- ~ Human contact - Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Thank you for your continued interest, generosity, and belief in the mission of Birmingham Samaritans. Your support enables us to be there day in, day out for anyone struggling to cope. I hope you find this report on our recent activities insightful and inspiring.

As I step into the role of Branch Director, it is with both heartfelt gratitude and a deep sense of loss that I write to you. Our former Director, Jason, sadly passed away earlier this year. Jason was not only a dedicated and compassionate leader, but also someone who left our branch in a stronger, more resilient position than ever before. His legacy lives on in the strength of our team, the progress we've made, and the countless lives touched by his work. He is deeply missed by all who knew him.

With the continued support of an incredibly dynamic leadership team, I am both honoured and energised to carry forward Jason's vision and lead the branch into its next chapter. We are united in purpose and inspired by the belief that, together, we can achieve even more over the next three years.

Thanks to your unwavering support, Birmingham Samaritans continues to serve as a vital lifeline in our community. In 2024–25, we answered 24,000 calls for help and offered emotional support at 119 outreach events. Our phone lines, inboxes, and outreach volunteers were there whenever someone needed to talk no matter what they were facing.

In my first two months as Director, we've already taken part in several impactful outreach events, including sessions at Empower Poetry Reading, the Men's Prosperity Club, Network Rail, and Jobcentre Plus venues across the city. And this is just the beginning. We are expanding our outreach to meet the needs of Birmingham's incredibly diverse communities because everyone deserves someone to listen.

We also had the tremendous honour of welcoming a new patron to the branch: Birmingham's own *Kash "The Flash" Gill*, four-time world kickboxing champion and long-standing community advocate. Kash brings with him a powerful platform, a deep commitment to mental health awareness, and an unwavering belief in the importance of listening. His support will be instrumental as we reach further into Birmingham's richly diverse communities.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Looking ahead, a key focus will be on ensuring our volunteers reflect the full vibrancy of our city - its cultures, faiths, identities, and lived experiences. We want every caller to feel understood and represented. To that end, we are investing in targeted recruitment and retention initiatives aimed at increasing diversity across our volunteer base.

We remain firmly committed to building new partnerships, strengthening our community presence, and being available for our callers 24/7.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Green', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Lorraine Green, Director

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN THE PERIOD

Public Benefit

Birmingham Samaritans is a public benefit entity. In planning our activities for the year we have kept in mind the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Samaritans service is open to people who are suicidal, despairing or in distress. The branch provides a service for the benefit of people in Birmingham and the surrounding area and works with all Samaritans branches to provide 24 hour availability of the service across the UK. Samaritans does not charge anyone for the service provided.

Emotional Support

During the 12 months a considerable amount of work was undertaken by our 194 volunteers. Approximately 24,000 contacts were made to Birmingham branch by phone, email, face-to face or online chat.

Prison Support

We select and train prisoners to work as Listeners in Birmingham Prison. Listeners provide emotional support to fellow inmates in distress. Our prison team supports Listeners through meetings in Birmingham Prison and, if required, attends the prison at any other time.

Training

During the year we ran 5 courses for new volunteers, with each volunteer attending 6 initial training sessions. Also continuing development for our experienced volunteers took place during the year. We also have a system of ongoing mentoring for experienced volunteers.

Fund Raising

All fund raising is carried out by branch volunteers. Our thanks to those volunteers who have given up their free time to carry out this essential task as without them the branch would struggle to continue in existence.

Publicity and Outreach

Excellent publicity is central to both our outreach programme and volunteer recruitment. To this end we place publicity in a very wide variety of places. We undertake a large range of outreach activities, aiming to reach sections of the community who would be less likely to contact us. We work with the homeless and we also have a partnership with Network Rail. We take part in Birmingham Pride and we play our part in local initiatives such as the Birmingham Suicide Prevention Plan.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustees

The Trustees of Birmingham Samaritans comprise 9 members, including the Director, who chairs the Trustees and is an ex-officio member. Nominations for new elected trustees are taken prior to the Annual General Meeting and if necessary elections will take place. All Trustees receive training in their duties and responsibilities. The Trustees meet on a monthly basis.

The Director

Lorraine Green became Director in March 2025, after wide consultation amongst the volunteers within the branch, and also with the involvement of the Samaritans Regional Director. The Director is responsible for and has authority over the day-to-day conduct and management of the work of the branch. This enables the branch's objectives to be pursued without undue restriction, provided always that the Director acts in accordance with policies determined by the Trustees and the wider Samaritans organisation.

The Leadership team

The Director allocates duties within the Branch. This is achieved by the appointment of a team of Deputy Directors in addition to the Trustees.

The Deputy Directors meet on a monthly basis. 13 Deputy Directors cover recruitment, training, volunteer development, rota, prisons, outreach, volunteer support, publicity and communication, leaders, volunteer commitment, equity, diversity and inclusion, and mentors.

Different individual trustees take responsibility for overseeing facilities, health and safety, fundraising, IT support and risk management.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the branch is exposed and actions to mitigate their potential impact are in place.

The risk register is fully reviewed every 6 months. Risks are classified into governance, operations, finance and external working and the likelihood and impact of the risks are considered, both before and after controls.

The Trustees have taken out a comprehensive insurance policy to protect against a wide variety of risks. This policy also includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

The leadership team have every confidence in the quality of the services that the branch continues to provide and that they continue to represent excellent value for money. Throughout the year the leadership team monitors all aspects of the work undertaken.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Our principal funding sources include Birmingham City Council, numerous grant donating trusts and individual donations. We would like to thank everyone who has made financial contributions to enable us to continue to support our callers.

Income and Expenditure

This year we received a very high level of donations, £35,000 compared with £8,000 in the previous year. We continued to receive excellent financial support from charitable trusts and from Birmingham City Council. As a result our income this year was £17,800 higher than the previous year. Our expenditure reduced by £17,600, principally as a result of a £11,200 reduction in premises costs.

The high level of donations and reduced expenditure enabled us to make donations totalling £20,000 to our neighbouring branch, Walsall Samaritans, who are raising funds to replace their existing building which is not fit for purpose. Overall our total funds increased by £26,600 following a £9,300 increase last year.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and have decided that we should aim to hold a minimum level of reserves of £110,000. This is to enable continuity of service should a material financial risk occur. The major risks considered in determining our target reserves were uncertainty over future income levels, unexpected costs in connection with our building, and fluctuations in the value of our investments.

Investment policy

Approximately half of our target minimum reserves are invested in a high return charitable fund consisting of equities. This investment can be volatile but has given very good returns over the 30 year period for which we have held it, including excellent investment income.

Results for the year

Our high level of income and reduced expenditure has increased our reserves and at 31st March 2025 they were £168,400 compared with our minimum target level of £110,000. In addition we have designated £6,000 towards improvement of the facilities in our building.



David Rutter, Treasurer

Date

10th July 2025

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BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 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 accounts on a 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 that 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 constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor/ Examiner

A resolution for the re-appointment of Jerroms will be proposed at the next annual general meeting

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 10th July 2025

Signed on its behalf by:

Chair




Lorraine Green

Treasurer
Birmingham Samaritans
13 Bow Street, Birmingham.

David Rutter

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the 12 months ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Richard Alan Horton FCCA
Jerroms
Chartered and Certified Accountants

Lumaneri House
Blythe Gate
Blythe Valley Park
Solihull
B90 8AH

Date 10th July 2025

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES****FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	75,185	11,500	86,685	68,386
Charitable activities	3	2,039	25,000	27,039	29,179
Other fundraising activities		102	-	102	1,224
Investments		3,484	-	3,484	2,062
Deposit account interest		3,131	-	3,131	1,798
Total		<u>83,941</u>	<u>36,500</u>	<u>120,441</u>	<u>102,649</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		191	-	191	215
Donation to Walsall Samaritans		20,000	-	20,000	-
Charitable activities:	4				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care		2,832	500	3,332	4,321
Premises	5	22,800	15,557	38,357	49,570
Telephone		-	2,411	2,411	3,647
Publicity & Outreach		1,851	2,759	4,610	4,839
Travel expenses		4,396	16,878	21,274	23,493
Administration		1,600	1,420	3,020	2,913
Central Charity charge		3,766	(1,790)	1,976	3,930
Governance costs		635	426	1,061	924
Total expenditure on charitable activities		<u>37,880</u>	<u>38,161</u>	<u>76,041</u>	<u>93,637</u>
Total		<u>58,071</u>	<u>38,161</u>	<u>96,232</u>	<u>93,852</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		2,395	-	2,395	493
Net movement in funds		<u>28,265</u>	<u>(1,661)</u>	<u>26,604</u>	<u>9,290</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		411,507	11,597	423,104	413,814
Total funds carried forward		439,772	9,936	449,708	423,104

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	272,904	295,826
Investments	7	58,454	56,059
<u>Current assets:</u>			
Debtors	8	1,719	2,330
Deposit accounts		111,302	63,224
Cash at bank		11,798	14,271
		<u>124,819</u>	<u>79,825</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(6,469)</u>	<u>(8,606)</u>
Net Current Assets		118,350	71,219
Total net assets		<u>449,708</u>	<u>423,104</u>
The funds of the charity:	11		
Restricted income funds	12	9,936	11,597
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds		6,000	-
Other unrestricted funds		433,772	411,507
Total unrestricted funds		<u>439,772</u>	<u>411,507</u>
Total charity funds		<u>449,708</u>	<u>423,104</u>

signed on 10th July 2025



Lorraine Green, Chair



David Rutter, Treasurer

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Principal Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102, and applicable charity law in the UK. The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

(b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or grant-maker.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes

(c) Income

All income is included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income, there is reasonable certainty of receipt and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to

- donations - these are accounted for when received
- legacies - entitlement is the earlier of the charity receiving the final estate accounts or the legacy being received; no value is included where the legacy is subject to a life interest held by another party
- donated goods/services - these are included at the value to the charity, where this can be quantified
- grants - where these are related to performance and specific deliverables they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance; where income is received in advance, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors; where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued; all other grants are accounted for as income in the SOFA as soon as received.

(d) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. The following specific policies apply to categories of expenditure:-

Raising funds - expenditure on raising funds includes direct fundraising costs such as the cost of purchase of goods for sales.

Premises - premises costs comprise rent and rates, light and heat, repairs and maintenance, cleaning, and depreciation, and are detailed in note 5 to the

Depreciation - depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis so as to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows -

- Long leasehold property - over the remaining life of the lease which ends in 2087
 - Furniture, Fixtures & internal building work - 5 years
 - Equipment - 3 years
- Fixed assets costing more than £1500 are capitalised

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Investments

Investments are included at closing market mid-market value on the balance sheet date. Any realised and unrealised gains and losses on revaluation or disposal are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts or, in the case of prepayments, as the amount the charity has paid in advance for goods and services it will receive.

(g) Creditors

Creditors are measured as the amounts owed by the charity, including amounts owed for goods and services received but not paid for by the balance sheet date.

2	Donations, grants and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2025	2025	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Donations	35,051	-	35,051	8,036
	Legacies	534	-	534	5,000
	Grant donating trusts	39,600	11,500	51,100	55,350
		<u>75,185</u>	<u>11,500</u>	<u>86,685</u>	<u>68,386</u>

3	Income from Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2025	2025	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Birmingham City Council	-	25,000	25,000	25,000
	Prison Income	2,039	-	2,039	4,179
		<u>2,039</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>27,039</u>	<u>29,179</u>

4 Charitable activities

Birmingham Samaritans have one primary activity - helping people to talk through their concerns, worries and troubles. This activity is undertaken directly and no grant funding is made to third parties. All costs relate to this activity.

5	Premises costs	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2025	2025	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Rent and rates	-	2,266	2,266	2,156
	Light and heat	-	3,865	3,865	5,360
	Repairs and maintenance	-	7,502	7,502	17,155
	Depreciation	22,800	122	22,922	22,921
	Cleaning	-	1,802	1,802	1,978
		<u>22,800</u>	<u>15,557</u>	<u>38,357</u>	<u>49,570</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Tangible Fixed assets

	Long leasehold buildings £	Furniture, equipment & internal building work £	Total £
Cost:			
At 31 March 2024	324,200	143,458	467,658
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>324,200</u>	<u>143,458</u>	<u>467,658</u>
Depreciation			
At 31 March 2024	83,664	88,168	171,832
Charge	3,811	19,111	22,922
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>87,475</u>	<u>107,279</u>	<u>194,754</u>
Net Book Value:			
At 31 March 2025	236,725	36,179	272,904
At 31 March 2024	240,536	55,290	295,826

7 Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
M & G Charifund Units		
At Valuation brought forward	56,059	35,566
Additions	-	20,000
Net revaluation gain/(loss)	2,395	493
At Valuation carried forward	<u>58,454</u>	<u>56,059</u>

The historical cost of investments at 31 March 2025 was £33,372 (2024 £33,372)

The M&G Charifund is an equities investment fund for charities.

8 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	601	2,330
Other debtors	1,118	-
	<u>1,719</u>	<u>2,330</u>

9 Creditors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	2,703	4,676
Owed to Samaritans Central Charity	3,766	3,930
	<u>6,469</u>	<u>8,606</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10 Statement of financial activities analysed by class of fund

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations, grants and legacies	75,185	48,636	11,500	19,750
Charitable activities	2,039	4,179	25,000	25,000
Other trading activities	102	1,224	-	-
Investments	3,484	2,062	-	-
Deposit account interest	3,131	1,798	-	-
Total	83,941	57,899	36,500	44,750
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	191	215	-	-
Donation to Walsall Samaritans	20,000	-	-	-
Charitable activities:				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care	2,832	3,074	500	1,247
Premises	22,800	27,396	15,557	22,174
Telephone	-	-	2,411	3,647
Publicity	1,851	3,792	2,759	1,047
Travel expenses	4,396	13,099	16,878	10,394
Administration	1,600	2,284	1,420	629
Central Charity charge	3,766	2,140	(1,790)	1,790
Governance costs	635	924	426	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	37,880	52,709	38,161	40,928
Total	58,071	52,924	38,161	40,928
Net gains (losses) on investments	2,395	493	-	-
Net movement in funds	28,265	5,468	(1,661)	3,822

11 Analysis of funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
At beginning of the year	411,507	11,597	423,104	413,814
Net incoming resources for the year	28,265	(1,661)	26,604	9,290
At end of year	<u>439,772</u>	<u>9,936</u>	<u>449,708</u>	<u>423,104</u>
Tangible Fixed assets	265,372	7,532	272,904	295,826
Investments	58,454	-	58,454	56,059
Deposit Accounts	111,302	-	111,302	63,224
Cash at bank	9,394	2,404	11,798	14,271
Debtors less creditors	(4,750)	-	(4,750)	(6,276)
Total	<u>439,772</u>	<u>9,936</u>	<u>449,708</u>	<u>423,104</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12 Restricted funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£
Running costs	-	33,000	33,000	-
Outreach	-	3,500	2,259	1,241
Recruitment	2,720	-	2,720	-
Disability Access	8,877	-	182	8,695
Total	11,597	36,500	38,161	9,936

13 Statements of cash flows	Total funds	
	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activity	42,121	29,193
Cash flows from investing activity:		
Dividends	3,484	2,062
Purchase of property and equipment	-	-
Purchase of investments	-	(20,000)
Net cash provided by investing activities	3,484	(17,938)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	45,605	11,255
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the reporting period	77,495	66,240
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	123,100	77,495

14 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities	Total funds	
	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period	26,604	9,290
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	22,921	22,921
(Gains)/Losses on investments	(2,395)	(493)
Dividends	(3,484)	(2,062)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	611	(1,336)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(2,136)	873
Net cash provided by operating activities	42,121	29,193

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	Total funds	
	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash at bank	11,798	14,271
Deposit account	111,302	63,224
Total cash and cash equivalents	123,100	77,495

16 Expenses paid to trustees
During the year no trustees were paid expenses (2024: £nil).

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

TRUSTEES

The trustees in office at 31st March 2025 were:

Lorraine Green, Chair
Selina Sfeir, Secretary
David Rutter, Treasurer
Mark Williams
Robert Cluley
George Lee
Paul Singh
Siwei Liu
Rose Pardo-Roques

The following were also Trustees for a part of the period

Jason Ward
Rachel Norman
Linda Jones
Peter Kahn
Ryan Bell

REGISTERED ADDRESS

13 Bow Street
Birmingham
B1 1DW

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.

1166821

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (Continued)

ADVISORS

The trustees are assisted by professional advisors:

Independent examiner	Jerroms Chartered and Certified Accountants Lumaneri House Blythe Gate Blythe Valley Park Solihull B90 8AH
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Martineau Johnson No 1 Colmore Square Birmingham B4 6AA

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters. Every donation we receive helps us to provide vital services to people in emotional distress.

We are also very grateful to many grant making bodies that have contributed to our work. We received grants from the following

Baron Davenport's Charity	Birmingham City Council
The Birmingham District Nursing Charitable Trust	CB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust
The Cole Charitable Trust	Dumbreck Charity
The Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust	GJW Turner Trust
George Fentham Birmingham Charity	The George Henry Collins Charity
Gowling WLG (UK) Charitable Trust	The Grimley Charity
The Grimmitt Trust	H J Sayer and J Hopkins Charities
Heart of England Community Foundation: The Harry Payne Fund	
Heart of England Community Foundation: The Inclusive Communities Fund	
Holgate Dolphin CIO	IMI Charitable Appeals Committee
The Kelton Charitable Trust	Limoges Charitable Trust
The Lord Austin Trust	The Lord Mayor of Birmingham's Charity
MN Floor Training Ltd	The Pamela Barlow Charitable Trust
Richard Kilcuppe's Charity	The Roger & Douglas Turner Charitable Trust
The Roughley Charitable Trust	TW Greeves Trust
Warwickshire Mark Benevolent Fund	The W E Dunn Trust
William A Cadbury Charitable Trust	

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1166821

Accounts

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Registered Charity No. 1166821

Annual Report and Accounts

31st March 2024

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ABOUT BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

The Samaritans organisation provides confidential emotional support 24 hours a day by telephone, e-mail, face-to-face, and online chat through a network of over 200 branches in the UK and Republic of Ireland, and also at festivals, in prisons, hospitals, schools and workplaces, and with the homeless. Birmingham Samaritans is one of those branches.

Our Vision:

Samaritans **Vision** is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to make sure there's someone there for anyone who needs someone, to give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others, and to campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority. Together we can make change that saves lives.

Our Values:

We have five core values

- ~ Listening - Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them
- ~ Confidentiality - If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings
- ~ Non-judgemental - We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection
- ~ People making their own decisions wherever possible - We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them
- ~ Human contact - Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Thank you for your interest in Birmingham Samaritans, I do hope you find the report on our activities of interest.

As I approach the final year of my term as branch director, I would like to thank the branch for the trust it has placed in me to lead our branch.

I would like to express my thanks to every member of the branch leadership team. Their guidance, support, and dedication have been key in raising awareness and delivering our services to the community. Without their support and leadership, we would not have been able to make such significant strides forward or reach those in need of our support.

This year, we have continued our journey of raising awareness in the economically challenged areas of Birmingham. We have strived to ensure that our message resonates across all corners of the city. Our radio interviews with Unity FM, the largest Muslim community radio station in the UK, have helped us to reach audiences who may not have known about our services and what we are able to offer.

Outreach has been a top priority for us this year, with our outreach activities increasing by around 300% over the past few years. We have built a strong relationship with a local food bank, offering our emotional support to the homeless community on a weekly basis. Additionally, we have been working closely with job centres across Birmingham, providing emotional support to those facing unemployment during these challenging times.

We have also worked with local universities which has been very well received. During freshers' week and through a roadshow at the University of Birmingham, we were able to offer on-premises emotional support to students.

Furthermore, we have initiated discussions with Birmingham City Football Club, aiming to raise awareness of our services. While in its early stages, we are hopeful that this will strengthen throughout the upcoming year.

Last year, our branch responded to over 26,000 contacts from callers through various channels, including email, phone, and online chat. This underscores the role we play in providing support to those in need.

As we look ahead, I am sure we will continue with the amazing work we have been doing as we look to foster new relationships across the community as well as build on existing ones, while ensuring we strive to make our branch available to our callers 24/7

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Ward', written in a cursive style.

Jason Ward

Director

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN THE PERIOD

Public Benefit

Birmingham Samaritans is a public benefit entity. In planning our activities for the year we have kept in mind the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Samaritans service is open to people who are suicidal, despairing or in distress. The branch provides a service for the benefit of people in Birmingham and the surrounding area and works with all Samaritans branches to provide 24 hour availability of the service across the UK. Samaritans does not charge anyone for the service provided.

Emotional Support

During the 12 months a considerable amount of work was undertaken by our 192 volunteers. Approximately 26,000 contacts were made to Birmingham branch by phone, email, face-to face or online chat.

Prison Support

We select and train prisoners to work as Listeners in Birmingham Prison. Listeners provide emotional support to fellow inmates in distress. Our prison team supports Listeners through meetings in Birmingham Prison and, if required, attends the prison at any other time.

Training

During the year we ran 6 courses for new volunteers, with each volunteer attending 6 initial training sessions. Also compulsory continuing development for our experienced volunteers took place during the year. We also have a system of ongoing mentoring for experienced volunteers.

Fund Raising

All fund raising is carried out by branch volunteers. Our thanks to those volunteers who have given up their free time to carry out this essential task as without them the branch would struggle to continue in existence.

Publicity and Outreach

Excellent publicity is central to both our outreach programme and volunteer recruitment. To this end we place publicity in community centres, hospitals, churches, health centres, libraries, and at railway stations. We undertake a wide variety of outreach activities, aiming to reach sections of the community who would be less likely to contact us. We work with the homeless and we also have a partnership with Network Rail. We take part in Birmingham Pride and we play our part in local initiatives such as the Birmingham Suicide Prevention Plan.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustees

The Trustees of Birmingham Samaritans comprise 9 members, including the Director, who chairs the Trustees and is an ex-officio member. Nominations for new elected trustees are taken prior to the Annual General Meeting and if necessary elections will take place. All Trustees receive training in their duties and responsibilities. The Trustees meet on a monthly basis.

The Director

Jason Ward became Director in March 2022, after wide consultation amongst the volunteers within the branch, and also with the involvement of the Samaritans Regional Director. The Director is responsible for and has authority over the day-to-day conduct and management of the work of the branch. This enables the branch's objectives to be pursued without undue restriction, provided always that the Director acts in accordance with policies determined by the Trustees and the wider Samaritans organisation.

The Leadership team

The Director allocates duties within the Branch. This is achieved by the appointment of a team of Deputy Directors in addition to the Trustees.

The Deputy Directors meet on a monthly basis. 14 Deputy Director roles cover recruitment, training, volunteer development, rota, capacity improvement, prisons, volunteer support, publicity and communication, leaders, outreach, volunteer commitment, schools and speakers, equity, diversity and inclusion, and special projects. Different individual trustees take responsibility for overseeing facilities, health and safety, fundraising, IT support and risk management.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the branch is exposed and actions to mitigate their potential impact are in place.

The risk register is fully reviewed every 4 months. Risks are classified into governance, operations, finance and external working and the likelihood and impact of the risks are considered, both before and after controls.

The Trustees have taken out a comprehensive insurance policy to protect against a wide variety of risks. This policy also includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

The leadership team have every confidence in the quality of the services that the branch continues to provide and that they continue to represent excellent value for money. Throughout the year the leadership team monitors all aspects of the work undertaken.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Our principal funding sources include Birmingham City Council, numerous grant donating trusts and individual donations. We would like to thank everyone who has made financial contributions to enable us to continue to support our callers.

Income and Expenditure

Towards the end of 2022 we resumed applying for grants from charitable trusts, having stopped for a period because our reserves were very high. As a result our income this year was £35,700 higher than the previous year. Our expenditure increased by £3,400, principally as a result of a £8,100 increase in repairs and maintenance costs. Overall our funds increased by £9,300 having fallen by £25,900 last year

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and have decided that we should aim to hold a minimum level of reserves of £115,000. This is to enable continuity of service should a material financial risk occur. The major risks considered in determining our target reserves were uncertainty over future income levels, unexpected costs in connection with our building, and fluctuations in the value of our investments.

Investment policy

Approximately half of our target minimum reserves are invested in a high return charitable fund consisting of equities. We increased our investment in this fund by £20,000 during the year. This investment can be volatile but has given very good returns over the 30 year period for which we have held it, including good investment income.

Results for the year

This year we have been very fortunate to have received the continued support of our donors, particularly Birmingham City Council, who renewed their funding from October.

Our higher level of income has enabled us to rebuild our reserves and at 31st March 2024 they were £123,334 compared with our minimum target level of £115,000



Rachel Norman, Treasurer

Date

10th July 2024

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BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF
THE ACCOUNTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 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 accounts on a 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 that 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 constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor/ Examiner

A resolution for the re-appointment of Jerroms will be proposed at the next annual general meeting

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 10th July 2024

Signed on its behalf by:

Chair



Jason Ward

Treasurer
Birmingham Samaritans
13 Bow Street, Birmingham.



Rachel Norman

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the 12 months ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Richard Alan Horton FCCA
Jerroms
Chartered and Certified Accountants

Lumaneri House
Blythe Gate
Blythe Valley Park
Solihull
B90 8AH

Date 10th July 2024

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES****FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	48,636	19,750	68,386	35,994
Charitable activities	3	4,179	25,000	29,179	27,493
Other fundraising activities		1,224	-	1,224	346
Investments		2,062	-	2,062	2,002
Deposit account interest		1,798	-	1,798	1,067
Total		57,899	44,750	102,649	66,902
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		215	-	215	42
Charitable activities:	4				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care		3,074	1,247	4,321	8,950
Premises	5	27,396	22,174	49,570	40,028
Telephone		-	3,647	3,647	3,748
Publicity & Outreach		3,792	1,047	4,839	1,277
Travel expenses		13,099	10,394	23,493	31,046
Administration		2,284	629	2,913	2,877
Central Charity charge		2,140	1,790	3,930	1,575
Governance costs		924	-	924	944
Total expenditure on charitable activities		52,709	40,928	93,637	90,445
Total		52,924	40,928	93,852	90,487
Net gains/(losses) on investments		493	-	493	(2,315)
Net movement in funds		5,468	3,822	9,290	(25,900)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		406,039	7,775	413,814	439,714
Total funds carried forward		411,507	11,597	423,104	413,814

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	295,826	318,747
Investments	7	56,059	35,566
Current assets:			
Debtors	8	2,330	994
Deposit accounts		63,224	61,458
Cash at bank		14,271	4,782
		<u>79,825</u>	<u>67,234</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(8,606)</u>	<u>(7,733)</u>
Net Current Assets		71,219	59,501
Total net assets		<u>423,104</u>	<u>413,814</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	11	11,597	7,775
Unrestricted funds	12		
Designated funds		-	-
Other unrestricted funds		<u>411,507</u>	<u>406,039</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>411,507</u>	<u>406,039</u>
Total charity funds		<u>423,104</u>	<u>413,814</u>

signed on 10th July 2024



Jason Ward, Chair



Rachel Norman, Treasurer

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Principal Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102, and applicable charity law in the UK. The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

(b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or grant-maker.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes

(c) Income

All income is included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income, there is reasonable certainty of receipt and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:-

- donations - these are accounted for when received
- legacies - entitlement is the earlier of the charity receiving the final estate accounts or the legacy being received; no value is included where the legacy is subject to a life interest held by another party
- donated goods/services - these are included at the value to the charity, where this can be quantified
- grants - where these are related to performance and specific deliverables they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance; where income is received in advance, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors; where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued; all other grants are accounted for as income in the SOFA as soon as received.

(d) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. The following specific policies apply to categories of expenditure:-

Raising funds - expenditure on raising funds includes direct fundraising costs such as the cost of purchase of goods for sales.

Premises - premises costs comprise rent and rates, light and heat, repairs and maintenance, cleaning, and depreciation, and are detailed in note 5 to the accounts.

Depreciation - depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis so as to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows -

- Long leasehold property - over the remaining life of the lease which ends in 2087
 - Furniture, Fixtures & internal building work - 5 years
 - Equipment - 3 years
- Fixed assets costing more than £1500 are capitalised

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Investments

Investments are included at closing market mid-market value on the balance sheet date. Any realised and unrealised gains and losses on revaluation or disposal are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts or, in the case of prepayments, as the amount the charity has paid in advance for goods and services it will receive.

(g) Creditors

Creditors are measured as the amounts owed by the charity, including amounts owed for goods and services received but not paid for by the balance sheet date.

2	Donations, grants and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
	Donations	8,036	-	8,036	16,144
	Legacies	5,000	-	5,000	-
	Grant donating trusts	35,600	19,750	55,350	19,850
		<u>48,636</u>	<u>19,750</u>	<u>68,386</u>	<u>35,994</u>

3	Income from Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
	Birmingham City Council	-	25,000	25,000	25,625
	Prison Income	4,179	-	4,179	1,868
		<u>4,179</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>29,179</u>	<u>27,493</u>

4 Charitable activities

Birmingham Samaritans have one primary activity - helping people to talk through their concerns, worries and troubles. This activity is undertaken directly and no grant funding is made to third parties. All costs relate to this activity.

5	Premises costs	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
	Rent and rates	-	2,156	2,156	2,142
	Light and heat	-	5,360	5,360	4,323
	Repairs and maintenance	4,597	12,558	17,155	9,065
	Depreciation	22,799	122	22,921	22,921
	Cleaning	-	1,978	1,978	1,577
		<u>27,396</u>	<u>22,174</u>	<u>49,570</u>	<u>40,028</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6 Tangible Fixed assets

	Long leasehold buildings £	Furniture, equipment & internal building work £	Total £
Cost:			
At 31 March 2023	324,200	143,458	467,658
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>324,200</u>	<u>143,458</u>	<u>467,658</u>
Depreciation			
At 31 March 2023	79,853	69,058	148,911
Charge	3,811	19,110	22,921
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>83,664</u>	<u>88,168</u>	<u>171,832</u>
Net Book Value:			
At 31 March 2024	240,536	55,290	295,826
At 31 March 2023	244,347	74,400	318,747

7 Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
M & G Charifund Units		
At Valuation brought forward	35,566	37,881
Additions	20,000	-
Net revaluation gain/(loss)	493	(2,315)
At Valuation carried forward	<u>56,059</u>	<u>35,566</u>

The historical cost of investments at 31 March 2024 was £33,372 (2023 £13,372)
The M&G Charifund is an equities investment fund for charities.

8 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	2,330	461
Other debtors	-	532
	<u>2,330</u>	<u>994</u>

9 Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	4,676	6,158
Owed to Samaritans Central Charity	3,930	1,575
	<u>8,606</u>	<u>7,733</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Statement of financial activities analysed by class of fund

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2024 £	Restricted 2023 £
Income from:				
Donations, grants and legacies	48,636	35,994	19,750	-
Charitable activities	4,179	1,868	25,000	25,625
Other trading activities	1,224	346	-	-
Investments	2,062	2,002	-	-
Deposit account interest	1,798	1,067	-	-
Total	57,899	41,277	44,750	25,625
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	215	42	-	-
Charitable activities:				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care	3,074	8,950	1,247	-
Premises	27,396	27,585	22,174	12,443
Telephone	-	-	3,647	3,748
Publicity	3,792	1,277	1,047	-
Travel expenses	13,099	21,490	10,394	9,556
Administration	2,284	2,877	629	-
Central Charity charge	2,140	1,575	1,790	-
Governance costs	924	944	-	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	52,709	64,698	40,928	25,747
Total	52,924	64,740	40,928	25,747
Net gains (losses) on investments	493	(2,315)	-	-
Net movement in funds	5,468	(25,778)	3,822	(122)

11 Analysis of funds

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
At beginning of the year	406,039	7,775	413,814	439,714
Net incoming resources for the year	5,468	3,822	9,290	(25,900)
At end of year	411,507	11,597	423,104	413,814
Tangible Fixed assets	288,173	7,653	295,826	318,747
Investments	56,059	-	56,059	35,566
Deposit Accounts	63,224	-	63,224	61,458
Cash at bank	10,327	3,944	14,271	4,782
Debtors less creditors	(6,276)	-	(6,276)	(6,739)
Total	411,507	11,597	423,104	413,814

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12 Restricted funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£
Running costs	-	35,500	35,500	-
Recruitment	-	7,000	4,280	2,720
Disability Access	7,775	2,250	1,148	8,877
Total	7,775	44,750	40,928	11,597

13 Statements of cash flows	Total funds	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activity	29,193	(9,029)
Cash flows from investing activity:		
Dividends	2,062	2,002
Purchase of property and equipment	-	(87,233)
Purchase of investments	(20,000)	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	(17,938)	(85,231)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	11,255	(94,260)
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the reporting period	66,240	160,500
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	77,495	66,240

14 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities	Total funds	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Net Income for the reporting period	9,290	(25,900)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	22,921	22,921
(Gains)/Losses on investments	(493)	2,315
Dividends	(2,062)	(2,002)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,336)	1,492
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	873	(7,855)
Net cash provided by operating activities	29,193	(9,029)

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	Total funds	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash at bank	14,271	4,782
Deposit account	63,224	61,458
Total cash and cash equivalents	77,495	66,240

16 Expenses paid to trustees
During the year no trustees were paid expenses (2023: £1,761).

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

TRUSTEES

The trustees in office at 31st March 2024 were:

Jason Ward, Chair
Selina Sfeir, Secretary
Rachel Norman, Treasurer
Mark Williams
Robert Cluley
Linda Jones
Paul Singh
Peter Kahn
Rose Pardo-Roques

The following were also Trustees for a part of the period

Kathie Hoskins
Ranbir Sandher
Jonathan Shapiro
Avneet Khangure
Marion Norris

REGISTERED ADDRESS

13 Bow Street
Birmingham
B1 1DW

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.

1166821

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (Continued)

ADVISORS

The trustees are assisted by professional advisors:

Independent examiner

Jerroms
Chartered and Certified Accountants
Lumanerl House
Blythe Gate
Blythe Valley Park
Solihull B90 8AH

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Martineau Johnson
No 1 Colmore Square
Birmingham B4 6AA

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters. Every donation we receive helps us to provide vital services to people in emotional distress.

We are also very grateful to many grant making bodies that have contributed to our work. Last year we received grants from the following

Baron Davenport's Charity	Birmingham City Council
The Birmingham District Nursing Charitable Trust	CB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust
The Cole Charitable Trust	Dumbreck Charity
The Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust	The Eric W. Vincent Trust Fund
GJW Turner Trust	George Fentham Birmingham Charity
The George Henry Collins Charity	Gowling WLG (UK) Charitable Trust
The Grimley Charity	The Grimmit Trust
Heart of England Community Foundation: The Harry Payne Fund	H J Sayer and J Hopkins Charities
IMI Charitable Appeals Committee	The Kelton Charitable Trust
Limoges Charitable Trust	The Lord Austin Trust
The Michael Marsh Charitable Trust	The Keith and Joan Mindelsohn Charitable Trust
National Lottery Community Fund	The Pamela Barlow Charitable Trust
The Ratcliff Foundation	Richard Kicuppe's Charity
The Roger & Douglas Turner Charitable Trust	The Roughley Charitable Trust
TW Greeves Trust	The W E Dunn Trust
William A Cadbury Charitable Trust	

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1166821

Accounts

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Registered Charity No. 1166821

Annual Report and Accounts

31st March 2023

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ABOUT BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

The Samaritans organisation provides confidential emotional support 24 hours a day by telephone, e-mail, and on-line chat through a network of over 200 branches in the UK and Republic of Ireland, and also at festivals, in prisons, hospitals, schools and workplaces, and with the homeless. Birmingham Samaritans is one of those branches.

Our Vision:

Samaritans **Vision** is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to make sure there's someone there for anyone who needs someone, to give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others, and to campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority. Together we can make change that saves lives.

Our Values:

We have five core values

- ~ Listening - Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them
- ~ Confidentiality - If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings
- ~ Non-judgemental - We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection
- ~ People making their own decisions wherever possible - We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them
- ~ Human contact - Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Thank you for your interest in Birmingham Samaritans, I do hope you find the report on our 60th year informative.

I would like to thank the branch for continuing to put their trust in me to lead the branch.

I would like to extend my thanks to every member of the branch leadership team who continue to offer me such great support and guidance and continue to help us raise awareness and deliver our service to the community.

We have paid particular attention to diversity within the branch and we have focussed on raising awareness in some of the more economically challenged areas of Birmingham. We are striving to ensure our message reaches all areas of the Birmingham area, and are actively looking at ways to ensure our branch reflects the diversity of the City in which we live.

Our service is needed more than ever with our branch taking over 23,000 calls from vulnerable callers.

We recognise that our volunteers have very busy lives. We have recently reviewed our volunteer journey to look at ways to make it easy to volunteer with us, whilst ensuring our volunteers are equipped with the skills and experience to deliver a safe and consistent service.

I am pleased to say that we completed our branch renovation, which means we now have 9 available telephony booths. This generated some local attention, including a visit by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham. We were able to capitalise on this and take the opportunity to raise awareness of our service and draw this to the attention of potential volunteers.

Our volunteers were there offering support after the Babs Mill tragedy which has had an impact on so many members of the local community.

We continue to offer an essential service to the community by supporting callers who are going through a period of emotional distress.

We could not offer our service without the kindness and generosity of our financial supporters and we recognise and give thanks to our supporters who, despite the economic challenges, continue to provide the funds to enable us to operate and be there for our service users.

Jason Ward

Director

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS **12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN THE PERIOD

Public Benefit

Birmingham Samaritans is a public benefit entity. In planning our activities for the year we have kept in mind the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Samaritans service is open to people who are suicidal, despairing or in distress. The branch provides a service for the benefit of people in Birmingham and the surrounding area and works with all Samaritans branches to provide 24 hour availability of the service across the UK. Samaritans does not charge anyone for the service provided.

Emotional Support

During the 12 months a considerable amount of work was undertaken by our 207 volunteers. Almost 30,000 contacts were made to Birmingham branch by phone, email, or webchat. We undertake outreach activities, including a partnership with Network Rail.

Prison Support

We select and train prisoners to work as Listeners in Birmingham Prison. Listeners provide emotional support to fellow inmates in distress. Our prison team supports Listeners through meetings in Birmingham Prison and, if required, attends the prison at any other time.

Training

During the year we ran 6 courses for new volunteers, with each volunteer attending 6 initial training sessions. Also compulsory continuing development for our experienced volunteers took place during the year. We also have a system of ongoing mentoring for experienced volunteers.

Fund Raising

All fund raising is carried out by branch volunteers. Our thanks to those volunteers who have given up their free time to carry out this essential task as without them the branch would struggle to continue in existence.

Publicity and Outreach

Excellent publicity is central to both our outreach programme and volunteer recruitment. To this end we place publicity in community centres, hospitals, churches, health centres, libraries, and at railway stations. Our volunteers set up publicity stalls at local events when possible. We also play our part in local initiatives such as the Birmingham Suicide Prevention Plan.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustees

The Trustees of Birmingham Samaritans comprise 10 members, including the Director, who chairs the Trustees and is an ex-officio member. Nominations for new elected trustees are taken prior to, or at, the Annual General Meeting and if necessary elections will take place. All Trustees receive training in their duties and responsibilities. The Trustees meet on a monthly basis.

The Director

Jason Ward became Director in March 2022, after wide consultation amongst the volunteers within the branch, and also with the involvement of the Samaritans Regional Director. The Director is responsible for and has authority over the day-to-day conduct and management of the work of the branch. This enables the branch's objectives to be pursued without undue restriction, provided always that the Director acts in accordance with policies determined by the Trustees and the wider Samaritans organisation.

The Leadership team

The Director allocates duties within the Branch. This is achieved by the appointment of a team of Deputy Directors in addition to the Trustees.

The Deputy Directors meet on a monthly basis.

12 Deputy Director roles cover recruitment, training, volunteer development, volunteer support, rota, prisons, publicity and communication, leaders, outreach, schools and speakers, equity, diversity and inclusion, and special projects.

Different individual trustees take responsibility for overseeing facilities, health and safety, IT support and risk management.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the branch is exposed and actions to mitigate their potential impact are in place.

The risk register is fully reviewed every 4 months. Risks are classified into governance, operations, finance and external working and the likelihood and impact of the risks are considered, both before and after controls.

The Trustees have taken out a comprehensive insurance policy to protect against a wide variety of risks. This policy also includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

The leadership team have every confidence in the quality of the services that the branch continues to provide and that they continue to represent excellent value for money. Throughout the year the leadership team monitors all aspects of the work undertaken.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Our principal funding sources include Birmingham City Council, numerous grant donating trusts and individual donations. We would like to thank everyone who has made financial contributions to enable us to continue to support our callers.

Income and Expenditure

During the year we resumed applying for grants from charitable trusts, having stopped for a period because our reserves were very high. As a result our income during the year was £23,000 higher than the previous year. Our expenditure was also higher as many of our costs, including utilities and volunteers' travel costs, increased significantly. We also completed the refurbishment of our first floor and as a result our depreciation charge increased by £14,000. In total expenditure increased by £25,000 and overall our funds fell by £26,000.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and have decided that we should aim to hold a minimum level of reserves of £100,000. This is to enable continuity of service should a material financial risk occur. The major risks considered in determining our target reserves were uncertainty over future income levels, unexpected costs in connection with our building, and fluctuations in the value of our investments.

Investment policy

Just over one-third of our target minimum reserves are invested in a high return charitable fund consisting of equities. This investment can be volatile but has given very good returns over the 30 year period for which we have held it. However it decreased in value over the 12 month period. The fund also generates good investment income.

Results for the year

This year we have been very fortunate to have received the continued support of our donors, particularly Birmingham City Council, who have guaranteed their funding until September 2023.

During the year we carried out significant refurbishment of our first floor, including building a second duty room so that we can accommodate an increased number of volunteers on shift, and improving our training facilities. We also improved our car park area. As at 31st March 2023 our reserves (excluding fixed assets) were £95,067.



Rachel Norman, Treasurer

Date 11th July 2023

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BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF
THE ACCOUNTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 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 accounts on a 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 that 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 constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

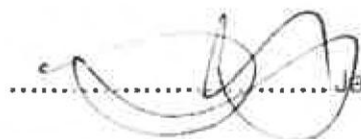
Auditor/ Examiner

A resolution for the re-appointment of Jerroms will be proposed at the next annual general meeting

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 11th July 2023

Signed on its behalf by:

Chair

 Jason Ward

Treasurer

Birmingham Samaritans

13 Bow Street, Birmingham.

 Rachel Norman

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the 12 months ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Richard Alan Horton FCCA
Jerroms
Chartered and Certified Accountants

Lumaneri House
Blythe Gate
Blythe Valley Park
Solihull
B90 8AH

Date 11th July 2023

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES****FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Notes	2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	35,994	-	35,994	12,904
Charitable activities	3	1,868	25,625	27,493	27,426
Other fundraising activities		346	-	346	850
Investments		2,002	-	2,002	1,799
Deposit account interest		1,067	-	1,067	620
Total		41,277	25,625	66,902	43,599
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		42	-	42	275
Charitable activities:	4				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care		8,950	-	8,950	4,756
Premises	5	27,585	12,443	40,028	22,173
Telephone		-	3,748	3,748	3,601
Publicity & Outreach		1,277	-	1,277	1,307
Travel expenses		21,490	9,556	31,046	19,698
Administration		2,877	-	2,877	2,703
Central Charity charge		1,575	-	1,575	10,841
Governance costs		944	-	944	606
Total expenditure on charitable activities		64,698	25,747	90,445	65,685
Total		64,740	25,747	90,487	65,960
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(2,315)	-	(2,315)	2,573
Net movement in funds		(25,778)	(122)	(25,900)	(19,788)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		431,817	7,897	439,714	459,502
Total funds carried forward		406,039	7,775	413,814	439,714

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	318,747	254,436
Investments	7	35,566	37,881
<u>Current assets:</u>			
Debtors	8	994	2,486
Deposit accounts		61,458	151,750
Cash at bank		4,782	8,750
		<u>67,234</u>	<u>162,986</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(7,733)</u>	<u>(15,589)</u>
Net Current Assets		59,501	147,397
Total net assets		<u>413,814</u>	<u>439,714</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	11	7,775	7,897
Unrestricted funds	12		
Designated funds		-	43,747
Other unrestricted funds		<u>406,039</u>	<u>388,070</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>406,039</u>	<u>431,817</u>
Total charity funds		<u>413,814</u>	<u>439,714</u>

signed on 11th July 2023


.....
Jason Ward, Chair


.....
Rachel Norman, Treasurer

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Principal Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102, and applicable charity law in the UK. The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

(b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or grant-maker.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes

(c) Income

All income is included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income, there is reasonable certainty of receipt and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:-

- donations - these are accounted for when received

- legacies - entitlement is the earlier of the charity receiving the final estate accounts or the legacy being received; no value is included where the legacy is subject to a life interest held by another party

- donated goods/services - these are included at the value to the charity, where this can be quantified

- grants - where these are related to performance and specific deliverables they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance; where income is received in advance, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors; where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued; all other grants are accounted for as income in the SOFA as soon as received.

(d) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. The following specific policies apply to categories of expenditure:-

Raising funds - expenditure on raising funds includes direct fundraising costs such as the cost of purchase of goods for sale plus an apportionment of postage, stationery and photocopying costs.

Premises - premises costs comprise rent and rates, light and heat, repairs and maintenance, cleaning, and depreciation, and are detailed in note 5 to the accounts.

Depreciation - depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis so as to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows -

Long leasehold property - over the remaining life of the lease which ends in 2087

Furniture, Fixtures & internal building work - 5 years

Equipment - 3 years

Fixed assets costing more than £1500 are capitalised

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Investments

Investments are included at closing market mid-market value on the balance sheet date. Any realised and unrealised gains and losses on revaluation or disposal are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts or, in the case of prepayments, as the amount the charity has paid in advance for goods and services it will receive.

(g) Creditors

Creditors are measured as the amounts owed by the charity, including amounts owed for goods and services received but not paid for by the balance sheet date.

2 Donations, grants and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations	16,144	-	16,144	8,154
Grant donating trusts	19,850	-	19,850	4,750
	<u>35,994</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,994</u>	<u>12,904</u>

3 Income from Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Birmingham City Council	-	25,625	25,625	25,000
Prison Income	1,868	-	1,868	2,426
	<u>1,868</u>	<u>25,625</u>	<u>27,493</u>	<u>27,426</u>

4 Charitable activities

Birmingham Samaritans have one primary activity - helping people to talk through their concerns, worries and troubles. This activity is undertaken directly and no grant funding is made to third parties. All costs relate to this activity.

5 Premises costs	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Rent and rates	-	2,142	2,142	2,252
Light and heat	-	4,323	4,323	1,863
Repairs and maintenance	4,786	4,279	9,065	7,071
Depreciation	22,799	122	22,921	9,223
Cleaning	-	1,577	1,577	1,764
	<u>27,585</u>	<u>12,443</u>	<u>40,028</u>	<u>22,173</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Tangible Fixed assets

	Long leasehold buildings £	Furniture, equipment & internal building work £	Total £
Cost:			
At 31 March 2022	324,200	59,145	383,345
Additions	-	87,233	87,233
Disposals	-	(2,920)	(2,920)
At 31 March 2023	324,200	143,458	467,658
Depreciation			
At 31 March 2022	76,042	52,867	128,909
Charge	3,811	19,111	22,922
Disposals	-	(2,920)	(2,920)
At 31 March 2023	79,853	69,058	148,911
Net Book Value:			
At 31 March 2023	244,347	74,400	318,747
At 31 March 2022	248,158	6,278	254,436

7 Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
M & G Charifund Units		
At Valuation brought forward	37,881	35,308
Net revaluation gain/(loss)	(2,315)	2,573
At Valuation carried forward	35,566	37,881

The historical cost of investments at 31 March 2023 was £13,372 (2022 £13,372)
The M&G Charifund is an equities investment fund for charities.

8 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	461	2,486
Other debtors	532	-
	994	2,486

9 Creditors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	6,158	3,566
Owed to Samaritans Central Charity	1,575	12,023
	7,733	15,589

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10 Statement of financial activities analysed by class of fund

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2023 £	Restricted 2022 £
Income from:				
Donations, grants and legacies	35,994	12,404	-	500
Charitable activities	1,868	2,426	25,625	25,000
Other trading activities	346	850	-	-
Investments	2,002	1,799	-	-
Deposit account interest	1,067	620	-	-
Total	41,277	18,099	25,625	25,500
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	42	275	-	-
Charitable activities:				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care	8,950	4,756	-	-
Premises	27,585	10,051	12,443	12,122
Telephone	-	-	3,748	3,601
Publicity	1,277	1,307	-	-
Travel expenses	21,490	9,800	9,556	9,898
Administration	2,877	2,703	-	-
Central Charity charge	1,575	10,841	-	-
Governance costs	944	606	-	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	64,698	40,064	25,747	25,621
Total	64,740	40,339	25,747	25,621
Net gains (losses) on Investments	(2,315)	2,573	-	-
Net movement in funds	(25,778)	(19,667)	(122)	(121)

11 Analysis of funds

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
At beginning of the year	431,817	7,897	439,714	459,502
Net incoming resources for the year	(25,778)	(122)	(25,900)	(19,788)
At end of year	406,039	7,775	413,814	439,714
Tangible Fixed assets	310,972	7,775	318,747	254,435
Investments	35,566	-	35,566	37,881
Deposit Accounts	61,458	-	61,458	151,749
Cash at bank	4,782	-	4,782	8,750
Debtors less creditors	(6,739)	-	(6,739)	(13,103)
Total	406,039	7,775	413,814	439,714

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12 Restricted funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£
Birmingham City Council - running costs	-	25,625	25,625	-
Disability Access	7,897	-	122	7,775
Total	7,897	25,625	25,747	7,775

13 Statements of cash flows	Total funds	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activity	(9,029)	(19,514)
Cash flows from investing activity:		
Dividends	2,002	1,799
Purchase of property and equipment	(87,233)	(6,428)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(85,231)	(4,630)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(94,260)	(24,144)
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the reporting period	160,500	184,644
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	66,240	160,500

14 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities	Total funds	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period	(25,900)	(19,788)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	22,921	9,223
(Gains)/Losses on investments	2,315	(2,573)
Dividends	(2,002)	(1,799)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	1,492	(2,081)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(7,855)	(2,496)
Net cash provided by operating activities	(9,029)	(19,514)

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	Total funds	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at bank	4,782	8,750
Deposit account	61,458	151,749
Total cash and cash equivalents	66,240	160,499

- 16 **Expenses paid to trustees**
 During the year 3 trustees were paid travel expenses totalling £1,761 (2022: £nil).
 £290 of this was donated back to the branch as part of our gift aid scheme.
 No other expenses were paid to trustees.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

TRUSTEES

The trustees in office at 31st March 2023 were:

Jason Ward, Chair
Selina Sfeir, Secretary
Rachel Norman, Treasurer
Mark Williams
Kathie Hoskins
Ranbir Sandher
Jonathan Shapiro
Avneet Khangure
Marion Norris
Robert Cluley

The following were also Trustees for a part of the period

Pam Rutter
David Rutter
Natasha Dawson
Elizabeth Lee

REGISTERED ADDRESS

13 Bow Street
Birmingham
B1 1DW

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.

1166821

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (Continued)

ADVISORS

The trustees are assisted by professional advisors:

Independent examiner	Jerroms Chartered and Certified Accountants Lumaneri House Blythe Gate Blythe Valley Park Solihull B90 8AH
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Martineau Johnson No 1 Colmore Square Birmingham B4 6AA

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters. Every donation we receive helps us to provide vital services to people in emotional distress.

We are also very grateful to many grant making bodies that have contributed to our work. In recent years we have received grants from the following

Baron Davenport's Charity	The Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust
The Birmingham District Nursing Charitable Trust	Birmingham City Council
CB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust	The Charles Brotherton Trust
The Cole Charitable Trust	Dumbreck Charity
The Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust	The Eveson Trust
GJW Turner Trust	The Garfield Weston Foundation
George Fentham Birmingham Charity	The George Henry Collins Charity
Gowling WLG (UK) Charitable Trust	The Grimley Charity
The Grimmitt Trust	Heart of England Community Foundation: The Harry Payne Fund
IMI Charitable Appeals Committee	Jarman Charitable Trust
H J Sayer and J Hopkins Charities	The Kelton Charitable Trust
Limoges Charitable Trust	The Lord Austin Trust
Mazars Charitable Trust	The Keith and Joan Mindelsohn Charitable Trust
Richard Kilcuppe's Charity	The Pamela Barlow Charitable Trust
The Patrick Trust	Ratcliff Foundation
The Roger & Douglas Turner Charitable Trust	The Roughley Charitable Trust
TW Greeves Trust	Warwickshire Mark Benevolent Fund
Warwickshire Masonic Charitable Association	The W E Dunn Trust
William A Cadbury Charitable Trust	

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1166821

Accounts

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Registered Charity No. 1166821

Annual Report and Accounts

31st March 2022

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

ABOUT BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

The Samaritans organisation provides confidential emotional support 24 hours a day by telephone, e-mail, and on-line chat through a network of over 200 branches in the UK and Republic of Ireland, and also at festivals, in prisons, hospitals, schools and workplaces, and with the homeless. Birmingham Samaritans is one of those branches.

Our Vision:

Samaritans Vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to make sure there's someone there for anyone who needs someone, to give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others, and to campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority. Together we can make change that saves lives.

Our Values:

We have five core values

- ~ Listening - Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them
- ~ Confidentiality - If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings
- ~ Non-judgemental - We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection
- ~ People making their own decisions wherever possible - We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them
- ~ Human contact - Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Thank you for your interest in the Birmingham Samaritans, I do hope you find the report on our 59th year informative.

I was honoured to be asked by members of the branch to become the branch Director from March 2022.

I would like to thank the branch for putting their trust in me to lead the branch for the next 3 years. I would also like to pay particular thanks to every member of the branch leadership team who offer me such great support and guidance and continue to help us raise awareness and deliver our service to the community.

I am privileged to lead such an amazing group of volunteers who all give their time in different ways to support callers using various media, including online chat, which is currently being piloted and is proving a popular way for younger callers in particular to reach us for support.

I am pleased to say that we were able to continue to offer our core service all throughout the pandemic, answering over 20,000 calls from vulnerable callers and responding to over 10,000 emails. I would like to thank the training team for their proactive approach throughout this challenging period which allowed us to continue to recruit and train new volunteers throughout.

We are currently in the process of renovating the upstairs of our building; this will enable us to have 4 more listening booths, bringing our total number of listening booths in the branch to 9, which will help us to ensure we are able to offer our service to even more callers.

We have started to recommence some of our outreach activities. We recently attended the Brew Monday campaign at Birmingham New Street. We also attended Birmingham Pride and have now attended several outreach events to various organisations.

We want to further increase awareness of our service in the community and have some exciting publicity and outreach events in the pipeline. We are actively looking to work with other community groups and charities to raise awareness of what we are able to offer, as well as help us to better support our callers.

We firmly believe that we offer an essential service to the community by supporting callers who are going through a period of emotional distress. We could not offer our service without the kindness and generosity of our financial supporters who continue to provide the funds to enable us to operate and be there for our service users.

This coming year is an exciting year for our branch, as it will be our 60th year in Birmingham. We are hoping to mark this special event in some way and thank all our volunteers and stakeholders for all their ongoing support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JW', written in a cursive style.

Jason Ward

Director

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN THE PERIOD

Public Benefit

Birmingham Samaritans is a public benefit entity. In planning our activities for the year we have kept in mind the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Samaritans service is open to people who are suicidal, despairing or in distress. The branch provides a service for the benefit of people in Birmingham and the surrounding area and works with all Samaritans branches to provide 24 hour availability of the service across the UK. Samaritans does not charge anyone for the service provided.

Emotional Support

During the 12 months a considerable amount of work was undertaken by our 227 volunteers. 33,000 contacts were made to Birmingham branch by phone or email. We undertake outreach activities, including a partnership with Network Rail.

Prison Support

We select and train prisoners to work as Listeners in Birmingham Prison. Listeners provide emotional support to fellow inmates in distress. Our prison team supports Listeners through meetings in Birmingham Prison and, if required, attends the prison at any other time. Visits to the prison have now resumed following the pandemic.

Training

During the year we ran 6 courses for new volunteers, with each volunteer attending 7 initial training sessions. Also compulsory continuing development for our experienced volunteers took place during the year. We also have a system of ongoing mentoring for experienced volunteers.

Fund Raising

All fund raising is carried out by branch volunteers. Our thanks to those volunteers who have given up their free time to carry out this essential task as without them the branch would struggle to continue in existence.

Publicity and Outreach

Excellent publicity is central to both our outreach programme and volunteer recruitment. To this end we place publicity in community centres, hospitals, churches, health centres, libraries, and at railway stations. Our volunteers set up publicity stalls at local events when possible. We also play our part in local initiatives such as the Birmingham Suicide Prevention Plan.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustees

The Trustees of Birmingham Samaritans comprise 9 members, including the Director, who chairs the Trustees and is an ex-officio member. Nominations for new elected trustees are taken prior to, or at, the Annual General Meeting and if necessary elections will take place. All Trustees receive training in their duties and responsibilities. The Trustees meet on a monthly basis.

The Director

Jason Ward became Director in March 2022, after wide consultation amongst the volunteers within the branch, and also with the involvement of the Samaritans Regional Director. The Director is responsible for and has authority over the day-to-day conduct and management of the work of the branch. This enables the branch's objectives to be pursued without undue restriction, provided always that the Director acts in accordance with policies determined by the Trustees and the wider Samaritans organisation.

The Leadership team

The Director allocates duties within the Branch. This is achieved by the appointment of a team of Deputy Directors in addition to the Trustees.

The Deputy Directors meet on a monthly basis. Joint meetings of the full leadership team (Trustees and Deputy Directors) are held every 4 months. 9 Deputy Director roles cover recruitment, training, volunteer support, rota, communication, prisons, leaders, outreach, and special projects. Different individual trustees take responsibility for overseeing facilities, health and safety, IT support and risk management.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the branch is exposed and actions to mitigate their potential impact are in place.

The risk register is fully reviewed every 4 months. Risks are classified into governance, operations, finance and external working and the likelihood and impact of the risks are considered, both before and after controls.

The Trustees have taken out a comprehensive insurance policy to protect against a wide variety of risks. This policy also includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

The leadership team have every confidence in the quality of the services that the branch continues to provide and that they continue to represent excellent value for money. Throughout the year the leadership team monitors all aspects of the work undertaken.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Our principal funding sources include Birmingham City Council, numerous grant donating trusts and individual donations. We would like to thank everyone who has made financial contributions to enable us to continue to support our callers.

Income and Expenditure

During the year we decided not to seek grants from charitable trusts for at least 12 months as our reserves were very high. As a result our income during the year was much lower than usual. Our expenditure was also lower than the previous year and overall our funds fell by approximately £20,000.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and have decided that we should aim to hold a minimum level of reserves of £100,000. This is to enable continuity of service should a material financial risk occur. The major risks considered in determining our target reserves were uncertainty over future income levels, unexpected costs in connection with our building, and fluctuations in the value of our investments.

Investment policy

Just over one-third of our target minimum reserves are invested in a high return charitable fund consisting of equities. This investment can be volatile but has given very good returns over the 30 year period for which we have held it, and increased in value again over the 12 month period. The fund also generates good investment income.

Results for the year

This year we have been very fortunate to have received the continued support of our donors, particularly Birmingham City Council, who have guaranteed their funding until September 2023.

Our future plans include refurbishment of our first floor to build a second duty room so that we can accommodate an increased number of volunteers on shift, and to improve our training facilities. We also plan to further improve our car park area. We designated £50,000 towards this work of which we have spent £7,377 so far. After allowing for this and a further small designation to allow us to respond to potential future events impacting on Birmingham our reserves at 31st March 2022 (excluding fixed assets) were £141,531.



David Rutter, Treasurer

Date

12 July 2022

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BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF
THE ACCOUNTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 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 accounts on a 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 that 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 constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.


Auditor/ Examiner

A resolution for the re-appointment of Jerroms will be proposed at the next annual general meeting

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 12 July 2022

Signed on its behalf by:

Chair



..... Jason Ward

Treasurer



..... David Rutter

Birmingham Samaritans
13 Bow Street, Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

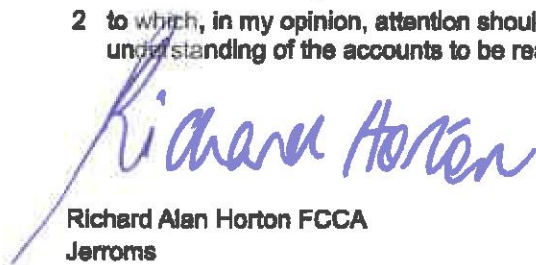
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Richard Alan Horton FCCA
Jerroms
Chartered and Certified Accountants

Lumaneri House
Blythe Gate
Bythe Valley Park
Solihull
B90 8AH

Date 12 July 2022

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES****FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	12,404	500	12,904	67,725
Charitable activities	3	2,426	25,000	27,426	26,314
Other fundraising activities		850		850	742
Investments		1,799		1,799	1,547
Deposit account interest		620		620	373
Total		18,099	25,500	43,599	96,701
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		275		275	323
Charitable activities:	4				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care		4,756	-	4,756	2,943
Premises	5	10,051	12,122	22,173	30,180
Telephone		-	3,601	3,601	3,625
Publicity & Outreach		1,307	-	1,307	1,718
Travel expenses		9,800	9,898	19,698	22,473
Administration		2,703	-	2,703	2,163
Central Charity charge		10,841	-	10,841	11,981
Governance costs		606	-	606	537
Total expenditure on charitable activities		40,064	25,621	65,685	75,620
Total		40,339	25,621	65,960	75,943
Net gains/(losses) on investments		2,573		2,573	6,641
Net movement in funds		(19,667)	(121)	(19,788)	27,399
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		451,484	8,018	459,502	432,103
Total funds carried forward		431,817	7,897	439,714	459,502

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	254,436	257,230
Investments	7	37,881	35,308
<u>Current assets:</u>			
Debtors	8	2,486	405
Deposit accounts		151,750	151,130
Cash at bank		8,750	33,514
		<u>162,986</u>	<u>185,049</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(15,589)</u>	<u>(18,085)</u>
Net Current Assets		147,397	166,964
Total net assets		<u>439,714</u>	<u>459,502</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	11		
Unrestricted funds	12	7,897	8,018
Designated funds		43,747	51,125
Other unrestricted funds		<u>388,070</u>	<u>400,359</u>
Total unrestricted funds		431,817	451,484
Total charity funds		<u>439,714</u>	<u>459,502</u>

signed on 12 July 2022


.....
Jason Ward, Chair


.....
David Rutter, Treasurer

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Principal Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102, and applicable charity law in the UK. The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

(b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or grant-maker.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes

(c) Income

All income is included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income, there is reasonable certainty of receipt and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:-

- donations - these are accounted for when received
- legacies - entitlement is the earlier of the charity receiving the final estate accounts or the legacy being received; no value is included where the legacy is subject to a life interest held by another party
- donated goods/services - these are included at the value to the charity, where this can be quantified
- grants - where these are related to performance and specific deliverables they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance; where income is received in advance, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors; where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued; all other grants are accounted for as income in the SOFA as soon as received.

(d) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. The following specific policies apply to categories of expenditure:-

Raising funds - expenditure on raising funds includes direct fundraising costs such as the cost of purchase of goods for sale plus an apportionment of postage, stationery and photocopying costs.

Premises - premises costs comprise rent and rates, light and heat, repairs and maintenance, cleaning, and depreciation, and are detailed in note 5 to the accounts.

Depreciation - depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis so as to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows -

- Long leasehold property - over the remaining life of the lease which ends in 2087
- Furniture & Fixtures - 5 years
- Equipment - 3 years

All fixed assets purchased prior to 1 July 2013 are capitalised; for assets purchased since 1 July 2013 only those costing more than £1500 are capitalised

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Investments

Investments are included at closing market mid-market value on the balance sheet date. Any realised and unrealised gains and losses on revaluation or disposal are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts or, in the case of prepayments, as the amount the charity has paid in advance for goods and services it will receive.

(g) Creditors

Creditors are measured as the amounts owed by the charity, including amounts owed for goods and services received but not paid for by the balance sheet date.

2 Donations, grants and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	8,154	-	8,154	22,325
Grant donating trusts	4,250	500	4,750	44,400
Legacy	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>12,404</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>12,904</u>	<u>67,725</u>

3 Income from Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Birmingham City Council	-	25,000	25,000	25,000
Prison income	2,426	-	2,426	1,314
	<u>2,426</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>27,426</u>	<u>26,314</u>

4 Charitable activities

Birmingham Samaritans have one primary activity - helping people to talk through their concerns, worries and troubles. This activity is undertaken directly and no grant funding is made to third parties. All costs relate to this activity.

5 Premises costs	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Rent and rates	-	2,252	2,252	2,225
Light and heat	-	1,863	1,863	2,527
Repairs and maintenance	950	6,121	7,071	10,598
Depreciation	9,102	121	9,223	13,468
Cleaning	-	1,764	1,764	1,362
	<u>10,052</u>	<u>12,121</u>	<u>22,173</u>	<u>30,180</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6 Tangible Fixed assets

	Long leasehold buildings £	Furniture & equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
At 31 March 2021	324,200	52,716	376,916
Additions		6,428	6,428
Disposals			-
At 31 March 2022	<u>324,200</u>	<u>59,144</u>	<u>383,344</u>
Depreciation			
At 31 March 2021	72,232	47,455	119,687
Charge	3,810	5,412	9,222
Disposals			-
At 31 March 2022	<u>76,042</u>	<u>52,867</u>	<u>128,909</u>
Net Book Value:			
At 31 March 2022	248,158	6,278	254,436
At 31 March 2021	251,968	5,261	257,230

7 Investments

	2022 £	2021 £
M & G Charifund Units		
At Valuation brought forward	35,308	28,667
Net revaluation gain/(loss)	2,573	6,641
At Valuation carried forward	<u>37,881</u>	<u>35,308</u>

The historical cost of investments at 31 March 2022 was £13,372 (2021 £13,372)
The M&G Charifund is an equities investment fund for charities.

8 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	2,486	405
	<u>2,486</u>	<u>405</u>

9 Creditors

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	3,566	6,104
Owed to Samaritans Central Charity	12,023	11,981
	<u>15,589</u>	<u>18,085</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

10 Statement of financial activities analysed by class of fund

	Unrestricted 2022 £	Unrestricted 2021 £	Restricted 2022 £	Restricted 2021 £
Income from:				
Donations, grants and legacies	12,404	49,475	500	18,250
Charitable activities	2,428	1,314	25,000	25,000
Other trading activities	850	742		
Investments	1,799	1,547		
Deposit account interest	620	373		
Total	18,099	53,451	25,500	43,250
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	275	323	-	-
Charitable activities:				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care	4,758		-	2,943
Premises	10,051	12,946	12,122	17,234
Telephone		-	3,601	3,625
Publicity	1,307	93	-	1,625
Travel expenses	9,800	6,828	9,898	15,645
Administration	2,703	-	-	2,163
Central Charity charge	10,841	11,981	-	-
Governance costs	606	-	-	537
Total expenditure on charitable activities	40,064	31,848	25,621	43,772
Total	40,339	32,171	25,621	43,772
Net gains on investments	2,573	6,641	-	-
Net movement in funds	(19,667)	27,921	(121)	(522)

11 Analysis of funds

	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
At beginning of the year	451,484	8,018	459,502	432,103
Net incoming resources for the year	(19,667)	(121)	(19,788)	27,399
At end of year	431,817	7,897	439,714	459,502
Tangible Fixed assets	246,539	7,897	254,436	257,230
Investments	37,881		37,881	35,308
Deposit Accounts	151,750		151,750	151,130
Cash at bank	8,750	-	8,750	33,514
Debtors less creditors	(13,103)		(13,103)	(17,680)
Total	431,817	7,897	439,714	459,502

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

12 Restricted funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£
Birmingham City Council - running costs	-	25,000	25,000	-
Other Grants for running costs	-	500	500	-
Disability Access	8,018		121	7,897
Total	8,018	25,500	25,621	7,897

13 Statements of cash flows	Total funds	
	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activity	(19,514)	39,518
Cash flows from investing activity:		
Dividends	1,799	1,547
Purchase of property and equipment	(6,428)	(1,892)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(4,630)	(345)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(24,144)	39,173
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the reporting period	184,844	145,470
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	160,500	184,644

14 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities	Total funds	
	2022	2021
	£	£
Net Income for the reporting period	(19,788)	27,399
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	9,223	13,468
(Gains)/Losses on investments	(2,573)	(6,641)
Dividends	(1,799)	(1,547)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(2,081)	(30)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(2,496)	6,869
Net cash provided by operating activities	(19,514)	39,518

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	Total funds	
	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash at bank	8,750	33,514
Deposit account	151,750	151,130
Total cash and cash equivalents	160,500	184,644

- 16 Expenses incurred by trustees**
During the year no trustees claimed any expenses other than under our gift aid scheme where volunteers claim mileage expenses and then donate them back to the branch enabling us to claim gift aid on their donation.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

TRUSTEES

The trustees in office at 31st March 2022 were:

Jason Ward, Chair
Elizabeth Lee, Secretary
David Rutter, Treasurer
Rachel Norman, Deputy Treasurer
Mark Williams
Pam Rutter (resigned 12th April 2022)
Kathie Hoskins
Natasha Dawson
Jonathan Shapiro
Avneet Khangure

The following were also Trustees for a part of the period

Joshua Savage
Lena Scott

REGISTERED ADDRESS

13 Bow Street
Birmingham
B1 1DW

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.

1166821

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (Continued)

ADVISORS

The trustees are assisted by professional advisors:

Independent examiner

Jerroms
Chartered and Certified Accountants
Lumaneri House
Blythe Gate
Blythe Valley Park
Solihull B90 8AH

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Martineau Johnson
No 1 Colmore Square
Birmingham B4 6AA

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters. Every donation we receive helps us to provide vital services to people in emotional distress.

We are also very grateful to many grant making bodies that have contributed to our work. In recent years we have received grants from the following

Baron Davenports Charity
Birmingham and District Nurses Charitable Trust
CB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust
Cole Charitable Trust
Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust
GJW Turner Trust
George Fentham Birmingham Charity
Gowling WLG
Harry Payne Charitable Trust
Jarman Charitable Trust
Kelton Charitable Trust
Lord Austin Trust
The Keith and Joan Mindelsohn Charitable Trust
Pamela Barlow Charitable Trust
Ratcliffe Foundation Charitable Trust
Roughley Trust
Warwickshire Mark Benevolent Fund
W E D Charitable Trust

The Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust
Birmingham City Council
Charles Brotherton Trust
Dumbreck Charity
Eveson Charitable Trust
Garfield Weston Foundation
George Henry Collins Trust
Grimmitt Trust
IMI Charitable Trust
The Joseph Hopkins and Henry James Sayer Charity
Limoges Trust
Mazars Charitable Trust
Richard Kilcuppe's Charity
Patrick Trust
Roger & Douglas Turner Trust
TW Greeves Trust
Warwickshire Masonic Charitable Association
William A Cadbury Trust

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1166821

Accounts

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Registered Charity No. 1166821

Annual Report and Accounts

31st March 2021

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS **12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

ABOUT BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

The Samaritans organisation provides confidential emotional support 24 hours a day by telephone, e-mail, and face-to-face through a network of over 200 branches in the UK and Republic of Ireland, and also at festivals, in prisons, hospitals, schools and workplaces, and with the homeless. Birmingham Samaritans is one of those branches.

The Vision:

Samaritans **Vision** is that fewer people die by suicide.

The Mission

Our mission is to make a big impact on the world around us by

- Reducing the feelings of distress and crisis that can lead to suicide
- Increasing access to support for people in distress and crisis
- Reducing the risk of suicide in specific settings and vulnerable groups
- Influencing governments and other agencies to take action to reduce suicide

The Values:

We hold the following values at the core of our service:

- ~ Listening - Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them
- ~ Confidentiality - If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings
- ~ Non-judgemental - We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection
- ~ People making their own decisions wherever possible - We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them
- ~ Human contact - Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

Thank you for your interest in Birmingham Samaritans, we hope that you find the report on our 58th year of operation to be interesting and informative.

I was very proud to be asked by the branch members to become Director from November 2020. Directors serve for a three year period and I would like to pay a big tribute to my predecessor, Sara Hickin, for her excellent leadership of the team during the previous three years. Sara's thoroughness and personal touch will be an impossible act to follow, but I will do my best. Sara's last 8 months coincided with the impact of Covid. I will say more later but, with her leadership and the hard work of many members of the team, the branch continued to operate in much the same way as usual.

I am lucky to be surrounded by incredibly dedicated Samaritans, supporting callers via the telephone and the written word. The need for someone to 'be there' as Samaritans, 24/7, has never been greater, with very high demand for our services and support.

In addition as Samaritans we carry out a wide variety of tasks to ensure that the branch operates smoothly. These tasks cover a wide spectrum, from recruitment and training of new Samaritans, arranging rotas, through to maintenance and even redecoration of our building. All this is carried out by volunteers at no cost other than occasional expenses - we do not have any employees and therefore our service is amazingly cost effective.

We are extremely grateful to our financial supporters who provide the funds for us to continue to be there for callers. Birmingham City Council help us with a grant which is a vital contribution to our annual income and I would like to thank them for their continued support. I would also like to thank the various Trusts, and individual fundraisers who also make a significant contribution to our income. Without you we would simply cease to run.

2020 will inevitably be remembered as the year of Covid. Parliament specifically agreed that Samaritans volunteers could continue going into branches and we were, and still are, proud to be considered an essential service alongside other organisations continuing to provide frontline support.

We were impacted in a number of relatively small ways. Our face to face service is suspended, we have not carried out outreach work, and a number of volunteers took temporary leave as either they themselves or a member of their household needed to shield. However other volunteers increased their shifts, we

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organised a temporary second duty room to ensure social distancing whilst on shift, and Birmingham Samaritans rose to the challenge to ensure callers got the support they needed during this difficult time.

We also managed to quickly switch recruitment and training to be carried out on-line so that these important aspects of the branch were largely unaffected.

The vast majority of volunteers who were on temporary Covid leave have now returned and I am pleased to report that our number of volunteers is now higher than it has been for many years.

As always, the Samaritans in branch are committed and working hard in all sorts of ways to keep the branch healthy and strong. We anticipate that our work in Winson Green prison can recommence in the near future and we look forward to recommencing other external activities that raise our profile, such as taking part in the Birmingham Pride Parade.

Currently we are financially secure, and we are continuing to invest in our infrastructure to 'future proof' the branch for future generations of Samaritans and callers. In particular, as our number of volunteers continues to grow, we are considering how best to design and equip a permanent second duty room.

I would like to thank the Trustees and Deputy Directors who make up the Branch Leadership Team for their continued wisdom and hard work. I would also like to thank every Birmingham Samaritan who has offered support to our callers – thank you for giving up your time. I'd like to thank every Birmingham Samaritan who is involved in a team and has taken on extra responsibilities – the work you do is phenomenal, and we wouldn't be able to function without you.

Finally, I would like to thank the support volunteers of our branch, your contribution to the Branch is greatly valued and appreciated.



Lena Scott
Director

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN THE PERIOD

Public Benefit

Birmingham Samaritans is a public benefit entity. In planning our activities for the year we have kept in mind the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Samaritans service is open to people who are suicidal, despairing or in distress. The branch provides a service for the benefit of people in Birmingham and the surrounding area and works with all Samaritans branches to provide 24 hour availability of the service across the UK. Samaritans does not charge anyone for the service provided.

Emotional Support

During the 12 months a considerable amount of work was undertaken by our 223 volunteers. 35,000 contacts were made to Birmingham branch by phone or email. We undertake outreach activities, including partnerships with Network Rail and with GPs.

Prison Support

We select and train prisoners to work as Listeners in Birmingham Prison. Listeners provide emotional support to fellow inmates in distress. The Samaritans prison team supports Listeners through meetings in Birmingham Prison and, if required, attends the prison at any other time. Visits to the prison have inevitably been put on hold during the pandemic.

Training

During the year we ran 6 courses for new volunteers, with each volunteer attending 6 initial training sessions. Also compulsory ongoing training for our experienced volunteers took place online during the year. We also have a system of ongoing mentoring for experienced volunteers.

Fund Raising

All fund raising is carried out by branch volunteers. Our thanks to those volunteers who have given up their free time to carry out this essential task as without them the branch would struggle to continue in existence.

Publicity and Outreach

Excellent publicity is central to both our outreach programme and volunteer recruitment. To this end we place publicity in community centres, hospitals, churches, health centres, libraries, and at railway stations. Our volunteers set up publicity stalls at local events when possible. We also play our part in local initiatives such as the Birmingham Suicide Prevention Plan.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustees

The Trustees of Birmingham Samaritans comprise 11 members, including the Director, who chairs the Trustees and is an ex-officio member. Nominations for new elected trustees are taken prior to, or at, the Annual General Meeting and if necessary elections will take place. All Trustees receive training in their duties and responsibilities. The Trustees meet on a monthly basis.

The Director

Lena Scott became Director in November 2020, after wide consultation amongst the volunteers within the branch, and also with the involvement of the Samaritans Regional Director.

The Director is responsible for and has authority over the day-to-day conduct and management of the work of the branch. This enables the branch's objectives to be pursued without undue restriction, provided always that the Director acts in accordance with policies determined by the Trustees and the wider Samaritans organisation.

The Leadership team

The Director is responsible for the allocation of duties within the Branch. This is achieved by the appointment of a team of Deputy Directors in addition to the Trustees. The team of Deputy Directors meet on a monthly basis.

The 9 Deputy Director roles cover recruitment, training, volunteer support, caller support, rota, communication, leaders, facilities, and special projects.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the branch is exposed and actions to mitigate their potential impact are in place.

The risk register is fully reviewed six-monthly. Risks are classified into operational, regulatory, management, financial, volunteer well-being, and volunteer risk and the likelihood and impact of the risks are considered, both before and after controls.

The Trustees have taken out a comprehensive insurance policy to protect against a wide variety of risks. This policy also includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

The leadership team have every confidence in the quality of the services that the branch continues to provide and that they continue to represent excellent value for money. Throughout the year the leadership team monitor all aspects of the work undertaken.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Our principal funding sources include Birmingham City Council, numerous grant donating trusts and individual donations. We would like to thank everyone who has made financial contributions to enable us to continue to support our callers.

Income and Expenditure

Expenditure incurred during the year was much lower than the budget agreed at the beginning of the year, and income was well in excess of budget. Donations were higher than usual, and our reserves increased substantially.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and have decided that we should aim to hold a reserve of £95,000. This is to enable continuity of service should a material financial risk occur. The major risks considered in determining our target reserves were uncertainty over future income levels, unexpected costs in connection with our building, and fluctuations in the value of our investments. We are also uncertain of the impact of the new Clean air zone charge on our costs.

Investment policy

Just over one-third of our target reserves is invested in a high return charitable fund. Although this fund has given excellent returns in most recent years, its valuation can be volatile, in line with market conditions. During the last 12 months the fund's value has increased substantially, and has recovered the majority of the fall it suffered in March 2020. The fund generates good investment income.

Results for the year

This year we have been very fortunate to have received the continued support of our donors, particularly Birmingham City Council, and our income has exceeded our expenditure. However there are uncertainties regarding our future finances. Our Birmingham City Council funding is only guaranteed until September 2021, we have lost most of our prison income (approx £5,000p.a.) and we will have to meet the Clean air zone charges that volunteers incur in coming to their shifts (possibly £10,000p.a.).

Our future plans include consideration of how to improve our car park area and, as at 31st March 2021, £50,000 of reserves were designated to this project. We also designated £1500 to improving our resilience to potential future events impacting on Birmingham, of which we have spent £375. After these designations our reserves at 31st March 2021 (excluding fixed assets) were £151,147. We are also planning to improve our upstairs facilities at the branch, including creating a new duty room so that we can accommodate an increased number of volunteers on shift.



David Rutter, Treasurer

Date

6 July 2021

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BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 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 accounts on a 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 that 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 constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

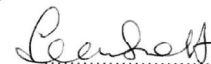
Auditor/ Examiner

A resolution for the re-appointment of Jerroms will be proposed at the next annual general meeting

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 6 July 2021

Signed on its behalf by:

Chair

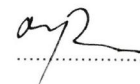


..... Lena Scott

Treasurer

Birmingham Samaritans

13 Bow Street, Birmingham.



..... David Rutter

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the 12 months ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
 have not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard Alan Horton FCCA
 Jerroms
 Chartered and Certified Accountants

Lumaneri House
 Blythe Gate
 Bythe Valley Park
 Solihull
 B90 8AH

Date 6 July 2021

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	49,475	18,250	67,725	45,601
Charitable activities	3	1,314	25,000	26,314	30,200
Other trading activities		742		742	622
Investments		1,547		1,547	2,002
Deposit account interest		373		373	565
Total		53,451	43,250	96,701	78,990
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		323		323	942
Charitable activities:					
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care	4		2,943	2,943	5,450
Premises	5	12,946	17,234	30,180	33,862
Telephone		-	3,625	3,625	2,930
Publicity & Outreach		93	1,625	1,718	1,139
Travel expenses		6,828	15,645	22,473	18,762
Administration		-	2,163	2,163	2,799
Central Charity charge		11,981	-	11,981	7,098
Governance costs		-	537	537	510
Total expenditure on charitable activities		31,848	43,772	75,620	72,550
Total		32,171	43,772	75,943	73,492
Net gains/(losses) on investments		6,641		6,641	(8,238)
Net movement in funds		27,921	(522)	27,399	(2,740)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		423,563	8,539	432,103	434,843
Total funds carried forward		451,484	8,018	459,502	432,103

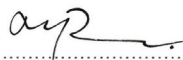
BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS**BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	257,230	268,806
Investments	7	35,308	28,667
Current assets:			
Debtors	8	405	375
Deposit accounts		151,130	75,757
Cash at bank		<u>33,514</u>	<u>69,713</u>
		185,049	145,845
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(18,085)</u>	<u>(11,217)</u>
Net Current Assets		166,964	134,629
Total net assets		<u>459,502</u>	<u>432,102</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	11		
Unrestricted funds	12	8,018	8,539
Designated funds		51,125	51,125
Other unrestricted funds		<u>400,359</u>	<u>372,438</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>451,484</u>	<u>423,563</u>
Total charity funds		<u>459,502</u>	<u>432,102</u>

signed on 6 July 2021



Lena Scott, Chair



David Rutter, Treasurer

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
1 Principal Accounting Policies**(a) Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102, and applicable charity law in the UK. The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

(b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or grant-maker.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes

(c) Income

All income is included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income, there is reasonable certainty of receipt and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:-

- donations - these are accounted for when received
- legacies - entitlement is the earlier of the charity receiving the final estate accounts or the legacy being received; no value is included where the legacy is subject to a life interest held by another party
- donated goods/services - these are included at the value to the charity, where this can be quantified
- grants - where these are related to performance and specific deliverables they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance; where income is received in advance, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors; where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued; all other grants are accounted for as income in the SOFA as soon as received.

(d) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. The following specific policies apply to categories of expenditure:-

Raising funds - expenditure on raising funds includes direct fundraising costs such as the cost of purchase of goods for sale plus an apportionment of postage, stationery and photocopying costs.

Premises - premises costs comprise rent and rates, light and heat, repairs and maintenance, cleaning, and depreciation, and are detailed in note 5 to the accounts.

Depreciation - depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis so as to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows -

- Long leasehold property - over the remaining life of the lease which ends in 2087
- Furniture & Fixtures - 5 years
- Equipment - 3 years

All fixed assets purchased prior to 1 July 2013 are capitalised; for assets purchased since 1 July 2013 only those costing more than £1500 are capitalised

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Investments

Investments are included at closing market mid-market value on the balance sheet date. Any realised and unrealised gains and losses on revaluation or disposal are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts or, in the case of prepayments, as the amount the charity has paid in advance for goods and services it will receive.

(g) Creditors

Creditors are measured as the amounts owed by the charity, including amounts owed for goods and services received but not paid for by the balance sheet date.

2 Donations, grants and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations	22,325	-	22,325	7,651
Grant donating trusts	26,150	18,250	44,400	37,950
Legacy	1,000	-	1,000	-
	<u>49,475</u>	<u>18,250</u>	<u>67,725</u>	<u>45,601</u>

3 Income from Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Birmingham City Council	-	25,000	25,000	24,700
Prison Income	1,314	-	1,314	5,500
	<u>1,314</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>26,314</u>	<u>30,200</u>

4 Charitable activities

Birmingham Samaritans have one primary activity - helping people to talk through their concerns, worries and troubles. This activity is undertaken directly and no grant funding is made to third parties. All costs relate to this activity.

5 Premises costs	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Rent and rates	-	2,225	2,225	2,184
Light and heat	-	2,527	2,527	2,165
Repairs and maintenance	-	10,598	10,598	14,171
Depreciation	12,946	522	13,468	12,997
Cleaning	-	1,362	1,362	2,345
	<u>12,946</u>	<u>17,234</u>	<u>30,180</u>	<u>33,862</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6 Tangible Fixed assets

	Long leasehold buildings	Furniture & equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost:			
At 31 March 2020	324,200	50,824	375,024
Additions	-	1,892	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	<u>324,200</u>	<u>52,716</u>	<u>376,916</u>
Depreciation			
At 31 March 2020	68,421	37,797	106,218
Charge	3,811	9,657	13,468
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	<u>72,232</u>	<u>47,455</u>	<u>119,686</u>
Net Book Value:			
At 31 March 2021	251,968	5,261	257,230
At 31 March 2020	255,779	13,027	268,806

7 Investments

	2021	2020
	£	£
M & G Charifund Units		
At Valuation brought forward	28,667	36,905
Net revaluation gain/(loss)	6,641	(8,238)
At Valuation carried forward	<u>35,308</u>	<u>28,667</u>

The historical cost of investments at 31 March 2021 was £13,372 (2020 £13,372)
The M&G Charifund is an equities investment fund for charities.

8 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Prepayments	405	375
	<u>405</u>	<u>375</u>

9 Creditors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	6,104	4,070
Owed to Samaritans Central Charity	11,981	7,147
	<u>18,085</u>	<u>11,217</u>

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10 Statement of financial activities analysed by class of fund	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations, grants and legacies	49,475	31,601	18,250	14,000
Charitable activities	1,314	5,500	25,000	24,700
Other trading activities	742	622		
Investments	1,547	2,002		
Deposit account interest	373	565		
Total	53,451	40,290	43,250	38,700
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	323	942	-	-
Charitable activities:				
Recruitment, Training & Volunteer care			2,943	5,450
Premises	12,946	22,794	17,234	11,068
Telephone	-	-	3,625	2,930
Publicity	93	-	1,625	1,139
Travel expenses	6,828	2,979	15,645	15,783
Administration	-	-	2,163	2,799
Central Charity charge	11,981	5,550	-	1,548
Governance costs	-	-	537	510
Total expenditure on charitable activities	31,848	31,323	43,772	41,227
Total	32,171	32,265	43,772	41,227
Net gains on investments	6,641	(8,238)	-	-
Net movement in funds	27,921	(214)	(522)	(2,527)

11 Analysis of funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
At beginning of the year	423,563	8,539	432,103	434,843
Net incoming resources for the year	27,921	(522)	27,399	(2,740)
At end of year	<u>451,484</u>	<u>8,018</u>	<u>459,502</u>	<u>432,102</u>
Tangible Fixed assets	249,212	8,018	257,230	268,806
Investments	35,308		35,308	28,667
Deposit Accounts	151,130		151,130	75,757
Cash at bank	33,514	-	33,514	69,713
Debtors less creditors	(17,680)		(17,680)	(10,842)
Total	451,484	8,018	459,502	432,102

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12 Restricted funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£
Birmingham City Council - running costs	-	25,000	25,000	-
Other Grants for running costs	-	18,250	18,250	-
Disability Access	8,139		121	8,018
Boiler replacement	400		400	-
Total	8,539	43,250	43,771	8,018

13 Statements of cash flows	Total funds	
	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activity	39,518	19,813
Cash flows from investing activity:		
Dividends	1,547	2,002
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,892)	
Net cash provided by investing activities	(345)	2,002
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	39,173	21,815
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the reporting period	145,470	123,656
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	184,644	145,470

14 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities	Total funds	
	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period	27,399	(2,740)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	13,468	13,089
(Gains)/Losses on investments	(6,641)	8,238
Dividends	(1,547)	(2,002)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(30)	2,070
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	6,869	1,158
Net cash provided by operating activities	39,518	19,813

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	Total funds	
	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash at bank	33,514	69,713
Deposit account	151,130	75,757
Total cash and cash equivalents	184,644	145,470

16 Expenses incurred by trustees
During the year no trustees claimed any expenses other than under our gift aid scheme where volunteers claim mileage expenses and then donate them back to the branch enabling us to claim gift aid on their donation.

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

TRUSTEES

The trustees in office at 31st March 2021 were:

Lena Scott, Chair
Josh Savage, Secretary
David Rutter, Treasurer
Rachel Norman, Deputy Treasurer
Bridget Bowen
Pam Rutter
Michael Kinsella
Kathie Hoskins
Jason Ward
Lizzie Lee
Mark Williams

The following were also Trustees for a part of the period
Sara Ilickin
Andy Harper

REGISTERED ADDRESS

13 Bow Street
Birmingham
B1 1DW

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.

1166821

BIRMINGHAM SAMARITANS
12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (Continued)

ADVISORS

The trustees are assisted by professional advisors:

Independent examiner	Jerroms Chartered and Certified Accountants Lumaneri House Blythe Gate Blythe Valley Park Solihull B90 8AH
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Martineau Johnson No 1 Colmore Square Birmingham B4 6AA

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters. Every donation we receive helps us to provide vital services to people in emotional distress.

We are also very grateful to many grant making bodies that have contributed to our work. During the 12 month period grants were received from the following

Baron Davenports Charity	The Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust
Birmingham and District Nurses Charitable Trust	CB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust
Charles Brotherton Trust	Cole Charitable Trust
Dumbreck Charity	Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust
Eveson Charitable Trust	GJW Turner Trust
Garfield Weston Foundation	George Fentham Birmingham Charity
IMI Charitable Trust	Jarman Charitable Trust
The Joseph Hopkins and Henry James Sayer Charity	Kelton Charitable Trust
Limoges Trust	Mazars Charitable Trust
The Keith and Joan Mindelsohn Charitable Trust	Richard Kilcuppe's Charity
Roger & Douglas Turner Trust	Roughley Trust
TW Greeves Trust	Warwickshire Mark Benevolent Fund
Warwickshire Masonic Charitable Association	W E D Charitable Trust
William A Cadbury Trust	