



## Sandycroft Charity

Empowering Communities and individuals to reach their full potential in life

**Report of the Trustees for the period start date 01 April 2020 ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

### **Administration**

Charity Name: Sandycroft

Registered Charity Number 1169610

Charity's principal address: West Avenue, Smallwood. Redditch. B98 7DH

### **Names of Charity Trustees**

Tanweer Dean Chairperson

Charlotte Hallett Trustee

Donna Millimono Trustee

Chief Executive Officer Lee Mckenzie

The Sandycroft Trustees present their first report and financial statements as a Charitable Incorporated organization (CIO) for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

The financial statement complies with current statutory requirements including Accounting and reporting by charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts.

This CIO was incorporated on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2016.

Type of Governing document: Foundation

Summary of Purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document:

**To advance and empower communities to reach their full potential in life by removing barriers by offering a holistically tailored package of support irrespective of race, age, sexuality, status and disability through education, advice & Guidance, mental health and family support as well as through positive activities.**

### **Purposes and Aims**

Sandycroft is a charitable organization dedicated to supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged communities within Redditch and its environs.

We aim to support our service users by empowering individuals and communities so that they can become more active citizens and increase resilience. We have a strong emphasis on Mental Health, Domestic Abuse, Education and Training, the alleviation of poverty and social inclusion. By offering multiple services under one roof, we can pursue our objectives by offering high quality services so that individuals can develop the skills, experience, and capabilities to succeed in life and removing barriers to their progress.

Sandycroft welcomes joint working with other organizations and universities so that they add value to our services as well as offer financial security by partnership working to reduce high staffing costs.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Sandycroft Trustees review the aims, objectives, and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The Sandycroft charity reports the success of each activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it was set up to help. The review also helps the Trustees to ensure the Charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes. During this period the main emphasis of the Charity has been to alleviate the suffering of those impacted by the Pandemic. This has been through offering Therapeutic interventions and solution focus therapy, food and fuel help for those financially struggling, Crisis management and supporting local GP surgeries and the NHS by reducing the pressure on their services within Redditch.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. The trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and

objectives set. We are expecting that the coming year ahead there will still be a reliance in us to support those affected by Covid also any economic downturn that will follow after such a national crisis.

### **Achievements and performance.**

The Charity continues to grow and is making a significant contribution to the lives of many disadvantaged individuals living in Redditch and its surrounding areas.

### **Counselling Agency**

**To develop further our commitment to improve the Counselling agency through the following actions, we have seen a significant movement in these areas with trebling our recruited Counselling placements and improved relationships and networking pathways with educational providers throughout the West Midlands as well as Hereford and Worcestershire.**

*Invest in recruiting and retaining high caliber, dedicated staff, both paid and voluntary, to enable the Charity to deliver its charitable aims:*

*To continue to be the provider of choice for affordable counselling and counselling training within the local community.*

*To provide services within its resources to ensure optimal financial resilience for the long-term satisfaction of the Charities objectives.*

*To focus on marketing its skills to the community to ensure that the services on offer are made available to as wide a user group as possible.*

*To explore the provision of counselling to Children and young people.*

*To continue to offer free counselling and alleviate waiting lists on the NHS*

### **Education**

Due to covid we have been significantly impacted in the provision we could offer to students. We have been only able to offer wellbeing programs for clients whose mental Health has been especially impacted by the Pandemic such as Anger management, Stress and Anxiety management and Confidence Building. Originally and then were able to offer a small amount of non-wellbeing courses the later end of the Academic year. We have remained in contact with our external providers to maintain a relationship and it is our plan to start reintroducing courses more in the following academic year. This has meant that we have lost revenue from our Education Department from provision, but we have remained stable due to covid emergency funding which has reduced the impact.



## **Domestic Abuse Services**

Sandycroft's Domestic Abuse Services known as The Eve Project delivers a high-quality service to women, men and children who are experiencing or have experienced Domestic Abuse in Redditch and Bromsgrove.

Provision at present includes:

1:1 support to individuals across Redditch & Bromsgrove. Providing intensive support and advice and intervention to individuals and families affected by Domestic abuse.

IDVA Service provides crisis intervention to reduce risk to high-risk victims of Domestic Abuse where there is a risk of homicide or serious harm.

We offer advocacy services for service users which provides a holistic package of support to assist families in moving forward with their lives.

Service User Groups provides Peer Support for service users.

Drop in sessions providing information, support and advice around domestic abuse.

Freedom Programme – A course raising awareness of Domestic Abuse.

Wellbeing programs assist in building confidence and esteem.

Trauma Counselling

We provide a holistic package of support to individuals and families who have been exposed to domestic abuse. We provide one to one emotional support where they can receive an initial triage assessment to identify support that is needed. We can undertake a DASH risk assessment where required which identifies the current level of risk for the service user and their family.

A safety plan is then compiled then implemented with the agreement of the service user. Support plans are reviewed on a frequent basis to meet the changing needs, enabling survivors to make effective choices, thus changing the quality of their lives and those of their children.

During the pandemic we have seen the need for our services escalate especially where the victim has still been living with the perpetrator or there has been more contact due to shared children and the issue with isolating. We were funded by the West Mercia Police Commissioner with MOJ funding to help those victims affected through the Pandemic who were subjected to Domestic or sexual abuse. Our IDVA service saw a rise in the complexities of the cases plus the significant impact this had on the victim's mental health. Here the Domestic Abuse Department and the Counselling Agency worked together to improve the safety and wellbeing of those in significant harm or distress. The Pandemic also had an affect on clients still struggling with past historical trauma or child abuse, isolating for long periods of time has had a significant impact on

those who were not able to access their support networks under these exceptional circumstances.

During the lockdowns and restrictions, we were given exemption status to remain open to make sure that the most vulnerable were able to access support and have a safe space to explore their feelings, assess their risk and have access to multiple services aligned to help with multiple complex cases.

## **Wellbeing and Social Inclusion**

Sandycroft offers an array of Wellbeing programs that have been impacted by Covid but have still remained well participated due to our exemption status to offer support services to those deemed as most vulnerable. The social groups did not operate within lockdowns, but we offered telephone support using peer supporters to remain open, so the public have remained engaged and less isolated where possible. We did not offer online provision, which was readily available elsewhere, so we concentrated our efforts on the more vulnerable or at risk where face to face work was more suitable.

By offering a choice we have been able to offer individually tailored support that needs the needs of the client not vice versa and the client needing to fit around the organization.

Programs include, Anger management, Mindfulness, Stress & Anxiety Management, Confidence Building and Assertiveness. We also introduced a Health and Wellbeing set of programs that looked more at Physical & mental wellbeing including help for those tackling obesity or have not been active for a considerable amount of time.

The Peer Support Service continues to run successfully where we select a suitable Peer Supporter (Expert by Experience) to work with a service user. This allows service users a safe space to talk about their day to day living where they may have poor resilience or are vulnerable and isolated. This service can also help with waiting lists when we have service users either waiting for Counselling or any specialist support service like Family work with our Social Worker.

## **Beneficiaries**

We remain focused with working with individuals and families from a diverse range of communities with a specialism with Women Specific services who we see through our Eve Project Department. We also have remained committed to advocating and supporting communities from marginalized groups for example the BME communities so that we can address equality.

The Pandemic did not really change the demographics or beneficiaries within our services as we receive referrals front door and through multiple pathways especially GP surgeries.

Whilst a large proportion of our services are aimed mainly at 18+ Adults we have begun to offer more opportunities and support for those under 18. Some Domestic Abuse and therapeutic Counselling is undertaken, and we are looking to expand our Mental Health offer for children

and young people in the next 12 months We have worked in partnership with West Mercia Women's aid to offer facilities so that they can offer specific age-appropriate DA support to those ages between 5yrs and 12 years and 13yrs to 19 yrs.

### **Chief Executive Report**

Our robust risk management procedures and the great work of all staff, volunteers and Trustees and the support of all stakeholders has really mitigated the impact of any financial risk from Covid-19 and has allowed us to end the year in a sound financial position. Our financial position has put us in good stead for the next financial year with the opportunity to build upon reserves.

We have also been in a good position to do a considerable amount of renovation and maintenance to the building improving the quality of provision for service users and staff which has had an impact on our ability to attract funding from external room hire for revenue.

We have seen an increase of professional placements within the Centre which allows us to continue to offer a quality responsive service to those struggling with Mental Health and Domestic Abuse.

We have been involved in some exciting new projects and are making strong partnerships with major stakeholders and are envisaging a more prosperous, sustainable, and bright future for Sandycroft.

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regards to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties. The public benefit of the Charity is the support and enablement of disadvantaged people, and these have been achieved by the services that has been offered and the engagement and retention of service users.

### **Structure and Governance**

Sandycroft was established in October 2016 after identifying a need. The Trustees and management board have developed services and a budget to achieve the objectives of the Charity and the Chief Executive Officer has been charged by the board to be responsible for the delivery of this plan, reporting to the board on performance.

The Trustees delegate responsibility for the day-to-day operation and management of the Charity to The Chief Executive Officer. The CEO attends charity networking events and meets

colleagues so that any relevant, such as new charity Commission requirements, and sectoral relating to good practice and impact measurement, are reported to the Trustees.

The Trustees consider recruitment of new trustees the need arises. Applications from suitable candidates would be sought by identifying specific gaps in professional skills and seeking recommendations of professionally qualified candidates. Applicants would be provided with an information pack outlining the history of the organization, its structure, activities and objectives, roles, and responsibilities plus any other supporting information. A new Trustee would be provided with information on the activities, financing, and management structure of the Charity, together with the Charity Commission guidance and codes of conduct relating to the roles and responsibilities of Trustees.

### **Financial Overview**

The results of the CIO'S Accounting Period were in line with the Trustees expectation with regards future planning and good cashflow regulation. Income has come mainly from our Mental Health and Domestic Abuse Departments., this financial year we have seen a significant decrease in income In Education as expected due to Covid restrictions, this was expected so we planned for it, which meant we were able to navigate it with mitigating risk. While we have had a downturn from the previous accounts regards Education as our main income generator, we have utilized public goodwill and volunteer time to really help with our outgoings and savings have been made by careful financial controls. We have seen a significant increase in grant funding from our County Council with an emphasis on our Mental Health and Domestic Abuse services which are confident will continue to our raised profile. The Trustees plan to continue with the planned program of services whilst continuing to build upon the partnerships now made from commissioners and key stakeholders who are in a position to champion our Charity and its need for fair access to funding.

We have also requested an opportunity to repurchase the building back from Redditch Borough council, the purchase price was only £15,000 due to covenants and claw back which we would expect to see reflected upon an agreed purchase or at least more favorable terms which would still equate to a saving due to our contribution to the Redditch population.

We have made good progress with Partner agencies, commissioners and networking and are placed well to move into the next financial with confidence and less reliance on generating income from (Educational) room hire to contracts.

### **Reserves and On-Going Concern**

Sandycroft has remained committed to setting a target for 3-month reserves of annual expenditure which it is working towards. The Trustees would eventually like to review that target to increase it to six months to offer security.



This reserve would act as a contingency for any unforeseen day to day operational expenses out of the agreed annual budget.

Match funding for any agreed contracts that are not running at full cost recovery.

Meet the working capital requirements of the charity.

Fund additional projects that are not funded through grants but meet the Charities aims and objectives.

#### **Statement of Trustee responsibilities**

**The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.**

**Trustees are required to:**

**Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.**

**Observe the methods and principles in Charities SORP;**

**Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.**

**State whether applicable UK Accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.**

**Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable CIO will continue in business.**

**The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable CIO and enable them to ensure that the financial statement comply.**

**They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the CIO and hence take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.**

**This report was approved by the Trustees on 20/04/2022**

**Signed:** T. Dean.

**Chair of Trustees**

**Date: 20/04/2022**

Registered Office: West Avenue, Smallwood, Redditch, Worcestershire. B98 7DH.

Charity Registration 1169610



**Receipts and Payments Accounts For the Year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021**

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Room Hire	1,425	-	1,425	19,158
Education & Training	6,580	-	6,580	50
Support Services	11,500	-	11,500	14,745
Worcestershire Council	29,299	-	29,299	-
MOJ Emergency funding	-	52,963	52,963	-
West Mercia Police	630	-	630	-
BARN Winter Grant	-	17,550	17,550	-
Redditch Borough Council	19,431	-	19,431	-
Just Giving	-	2,000	2,000	-
Donations	197	-	197	2,215
Grants	-	-	-	5,970
Bank Interest	-	-	-	1
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>69,062</b>	<b>72,513</b>	<b>141,575</b>	<b>42,139</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Salaries and Wages	4,420	10,004	14,424	7,481
Sub Contractors	6,041	11,605	17,646	5,874
Staff Welfare	1,791	-	1,791	1,231
Recruitment Costs	260	-	260	120
Telephone & Internet	3,378	-	3,378	2,416
Business Insurance	289	-	289	347
Advertising	585	-	585	323
Bank Charges	- 286	-	- 286	212
Printing, Postage & Stationery	1,173	-	1,173	1,676
Travel & Subsistence	4,457	-	4,457	4,351
Accountancy Fee	-	-	-	918
Subscriptions	1,086	-	1,086	398
Training Costs	610	4,355	4,965	-
Rent	8,783	-	8,783	3,625
Light and Heat	10,376	-	10,376	6,183
Water	2,000	-	2,000	-
Cleaning	5,540	-	5,540	-
Repairs & Maintenance	6,980	-	6,980	2,994
Waste Services	580	-	580	191
Uniform	86	-	86	-
Winter Grant	-	17,785	17,785	-
Just Giving Grant	-	2,100	2,100	-
Sundry Expenses	287	-	287	33
Loan Repayment	-	-	-	395
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>58,436</b>	<b>45,848</b>	<b>104,284</b>	<b>38,766</b>
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>10,626</b>	<b>26,665</b>	<b>37,291</b>	<b>3,373</b>
Asset and Investment Purchases	9,090	1,219	10,309	2,312
<b>Net Receipts/(Payments)</b>	<b>1,536</b>	<b>25,446</b>	<b>26,982</b>	<b>1,061</b>
Cash Funds at 31.03.2020 (31.03.2019)	5,953	-	5,953	4,892
<b>Cash Funds at 31.03.2021 (31.03.2020)</b>	<b>7,489</b>	<b>25,446</b>	<b>32,935</b>	<b>5,953</b>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st March 2021

		Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds
Cash Funds	Cash at Bank and in Hand	£ 7,489	£ 25,446	£ 32,935
	<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<b>7,489</b>	<b>25,446</b>	<b>32,935</b>
		Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds
Other Monetary Assets	Customer Invoices not yet Paid	£ -	£ -	£ -
		Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds
Assets retained for the Charity's own use	Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings	£ 13,321	£ 1,219	£ 14,540
		Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds
Liabilities	Amounts due to Staff	£ -	£ -	£ -
	Supplier Invoices not yet Paid	3,909	-	3,909
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,909</b>

Approved by:

T. Dean  
Tanweer Dean (Chair)

Date: 20-04-22

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sandycroft**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the Accounts of Sandycroft for the Year Ended 31st March 2021.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Charity Trustees of Sandycroft, you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of Sandycroft's Accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The Accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*S. Karsy*

Sandra Karsy

Redditch Tax Advisers

Mason House, 96 Evesham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 5ES

20th April 2022