

CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS

England & Wales · Charity number 1170862

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-12-20

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

Contact

Address 36 Upper Northgate st
Chester
CH1 4EF

Phone 01244 565069

Email samchester36@gmail.com

Website www.samaritans.org/chester

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE:1) TO ENABLE PERSONS IN CHESTER AND DISTRICT 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;2) 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; AND3) TO COLLABORATE WITH AND SUPPORT SAMARITANS CENTRAL CHARITY AND ITS AFFILIATED BRANCHES IN FULFILLING THESE OBJECTS

Activities: Samaritans' main aim is to reduce the incidence of death by suicide but we also support anyone in distress of any kind. Samaritans provide a 24/7 support service to anyone distressed or in despair by Freephone telephone line, e-mail and Web Chat. We are also committed to local outreach work to make our service known.

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

- Cheshire West & Chester
- Flintshire
- Wirral
- Wrexham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£47,740	£45,385	-	-
2024-03-31	£33,361	£52,843	-	-
2023-03-31	£28,226	£48,643	-	-
2022-03-31	£50,882	£50,262	-	-
2021-03-31	£78,897	£55,567	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Bernie Woods		2018-07-10
Pauline Lynne Casey		2022-12-07
Sally Marie Roberts-Dennis		2024-08-06
Simon Stephen Barrett		2023-09-26
jane elizabeth bryan		2025-08-01

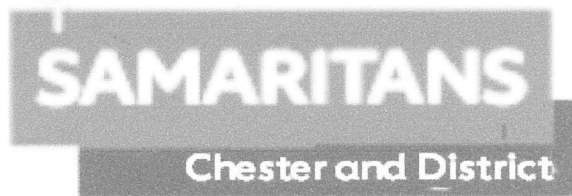
Linked charities

- THE SAMARITANS OF CHESTER AND DISTRICT (1170862-1)

CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1170862

Accounts



Chester & District Samaritans CIO

Registered charity number:
1170862

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st March 2025**

Registered office:

36 Upper Northgate Street
CHESTER. CH1 4EF

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended :

31st March 2025

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The following pages do not form part of the financial statements

Detailed statement of financial activities * 10, 11 & 12

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025

LEGAL STATUS

Chester and District Samaritans CIO is registered with the Charity Commission. The Registered Charity Number is 1170862. The charity is governed by its Rules, which are in force since the charity was registered on 20 December 2016. It came into operation on 1 April 2017 when it took over the operations, assets and liabilities of the former charity Samaritans of Chester & District (Reg. No. 256460). This change took place at the behest of the Samaritans Central Charity to improve the operation of the service. Chester & District Samaritans is an affiliated branch of Samaritans Central Charity.

OBJECTIVES OF CHESTER & DISTRICT SAMARITANS

Samaritans exist to provide confidential support to anyone going through crisis and in danger of taking their own lives and grow our branch to better support our local community, 365 days a year.

INVESTMENT POWERS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Trustees are required to keep a general bank account and any other accounts for specific purposes. All money not required for current expenses shall be invested. The reserves policy is described on page 4.

It has a current account with HSBC Bank plc for branch general expenses. There is also a savings account with Virgin Money.

THE BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chester & District Samaritans has a branch leadership team consisting of Trustees and Deputy Directors. The Trustees are elected by the branch membership and are responsible for maintaining the branch premises and all the facilities necessary for the continued safe and secure operation of the listening service. There are four Trustees: The Director, Treasurer (who also takes responsibility for building maintenance), Secretary and another who takes responsibility for Health & Safety. Responsibility for fund-raising is taken on by The Director currently. The Deputy Directors are appointed by the Director to look after specific areas of branch operations.

The full leadership team meets at least four times per year but the Trustees and Directors also meet separately as and when required.

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Director / Chair	Ms	Lynne	Casey	
Secretary	Mrs	Barbara	Smith	(to 5 Aug 24)
Trustee	Mr	Steffan	Roughsedge	(to 31 August 24)
Trustee	Mr	Bernard	Woods	
Treasurer	Mr	Simon	Barrett	
Secretary	Mrs	Sally-Marie	Roberts-Davies	(From 6 Aug 24)

Dennis

RESULTS

The financial results for the year, and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Chester and District Samaritans are available to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair including those which may lead to suicide. This service is provided by an average of 92 listening volunteers backed up by 11 support volunteers whose primary aim is fund-raising.

During this period 15,577 telephone contacts have been received and 689 e-mails responded to. The branch has continued to support the on-line chat service dealing with 968 contacts. Our outreach team have also supported 69 people face to face at events held in the Chester and District area.

Outreach - We have continued to work within our communities to develop contacts, show who we are, and show our support to community events. The Outreach team have attended some key community events and we will continue to push this further to help our local communities with support for those in emotional need.

Prison Team - Our Samaritan trained Listener teams have continued to offer vital support to men who are struggling to cope with their time in prison. Officers have worked with our Listeners to ensure, where possible, that when a prisoner asks for a Listener, he is able to see one.

Statistics show that the risk of dying by suicide is significantly higher in UK prisons than in the general population. Our vision, both Listeners and Samaritans is that fewer people die by suicide.

Funding was provided from a variety of sources. We benefited from donations by Paypal Giving fund, Tarporley Rotary Club, Bristol Myers Squibb, among others as well as generous donations from private benefactors. Fund-raising was again difficult during the year.

A more detailed description of our activities can be found in the Annual Report submitted to our 2025 AGM.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Whitehead was confirmed as the Independent Examiner at the 2024 AGM

Signed by order of the Trustees



Honorary Secretary

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S UNQUALIFIED REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS CIO
CHARITY NUMBER: 1170862

I report on the accounts of Chester & District Samaritans CIO (the Charity) for the year ended 31st March 2025. The Charity prepares receipts and payments accounts and had an income less than £250,000 in the relevant financial year.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 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 in any material respect that:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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.

David Whitehead F.C.C.A.
21 Highlander Road
Saighton
Chester CH3 6DH

Dated: 23 July 2025



Chester & District Samaritans CIO

RESERVES POLICY

The branch currently holds cash reserves of £135,621

These reserves are deemed necessary for 3 purposes:

- 1 Support for on-going operations. The branch is heavily reliant on fund-raising for income and this can be variable depending on the success of particular fund-raising initiatives. It is, therefore, deemed sensible to maintain reserves equivalent to approximately 18 months expenses at minimum operating costs (£60,000) to protect the operations of the branch against significant fluctuations in income.
- 2 A small fund that can be used to pay for unexpected outlays on maintenance of existing premises. This has been set at £15,000.
- 3 Income increased during 2024/25 as a result of (1) a reduction on donations generally but an increase in private individual donations, (2) receiving the balance of 2023/24 prison grant with in the year in addition to the annual prison grant for the current year 2024/25, (3) a grant restricted for use on capital projects at the owned property, offset by (4) a lower gift aid receipt due to the annual 24/25 HMRC claim being delayed to 2025/26 year. New chairs for the Operations room and a new CCTV camera system were purchased as Capital expenditure during the year. Expenses were lower mainly as a result of the lower Berwyn prison expense claims, a decrease in the annual contribution to the Samaritans central charity, offset by a donation to support another Samaritans affiliated charity. As a result, our cash reserves increased by just over £4,000 during the year.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS	6	266,677	183,872
CURRENT ASSETS	8		
Bank		135,621	131,070
CREDITORS	7	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		135,621	131,070
NET ASSETS		402,298	314,942
REPRESENTED BY:			
TOTAL FUNDS	8	402,298	314,942

The financial statements set out on pages 6 to 9 were approved by the Trustees on 5 September 2025 and were signed on their behalf by:



Lynne Casey
Director



Simon Barrett
Treasurer

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st March 2025

	Total Funds 2025		Unrestricted Funds 2025		Restricted Funds 2025		Total Funds 2024		Unrestricted Funds 2024		Restricted Funds 2024	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES												
Donations	26,740	-	26,740	-	-	-	21,621	-	21,621	-	-	-
HMPSS Listener team grant	10,197	-	10,197	-	-	-	8,459	-	8,459	-	-	-
Grants	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid Tax Relief	228	-	228	-	-	-	2,746	-	2,746	-	-	-
Interest receivable	576	-	576	-	-	-	535	-	535	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	47,740	-	37,740	-	10,000	-	33,361	-	33,361	-	-	-
RESOURCES EXPENDED												
Costs of generating funds:	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	-	39	-	-	-
Fundraising and publicity	45,385	-	45,385	-	-	-	52,804	-	52,804	-	-	-
Support costs	45,385	-	45,385	-	-	-	52,843	-	52,843	-	-	-
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	90,770	-	90,770	-	-	-	107,986	-	107,986	-	-	-
NET OUTGOING RESOURCES	2,355	-	7,645	-	10,000	-	19,482	-	19,482	-	-	-
Funds brought forward	314,942	-	314,942	-	-	-	334,425	-	334,425	-	-	-
Revaluation of property	85,000	-	85,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Funds carried forward	402,298	-	392,298	-	10,000	-	314,942	-	314,942	-	-	-

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31st March 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on a Receipts & Payments basis, generally as set out in Charity Commission guidance CC16.

Cash flow statement

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset bearing in mind that the office equipment is in use 24 hours per day. An asset list has been set up to aid calculation of the depreciation for each item.

Freehold property	See below
Office Equipment	25%
Fixtures & fittings	10%

New assets purchased in the year were chairs for the operations room.

In August 2024, the property was subjected to a revaluation by a chartered surveyor. The outcome of this survey was that the current value of the property, if sold on the open market, was now £250,000. Therefore, this is the value which is now displayed in these accounts. The next revaluation is planned for 2034/35.

2 DONATIONS

	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£
Voluntary donations	22,840	17,131
Friends of the Samaritans	3,900	4,120
HMPPS prison team grant	10,197	8,459
Gift Aid Tax Contribution	228	2,746
Grant	10,000	-
Other income	-	371
	<u>47,164</u>	<u>32,826</u>

3 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	576	535

4 SUPPORT COSTS

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Office costs	27,251	29,245
Head Office Funding	7,186	11,645
Direct Costs	10,948	11,913
	<u>45,385</u>	<u>52,803</u>

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Fundraising		0	0	39
Publicity		0	0	0
Support Costs		5,131	45,385	52,803
		<u>5,131</u>	<u>45,385</u>	<u>52,843</u>

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the financial year amounted to:

	2025	2024
Number of support staff	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Office Equipment £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
COST				
At 31st March 2024	165,000	27,155	144,241	336,396
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Additions	85,000	2,935	0	87,935
At 31st March 2025	<u>250,000</u>	<u>30,090</u>	<u>144,241</u>	<u>424,331</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 31st March 2024	0	26,397	126,127	152,524
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Charge for the year	0	507	4,624	5,131
At 31st March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>26,904</u>	<u>130,750</u>	<u>157,654</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2024	<u>165,000</u>	<u>758</u>	<u>18,114</u>	<u>183,872</u>
At 31st March 2025	<u>250,000</u>	<u>3,187</u>	<u>13,491</u>	<u>266,677</u>

7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Creditors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

8 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Other net assets			Total £
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	
Total funds	266,677	125,621	10,000	0	402,298

CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1170862

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Chester and District

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

Registered charity number:
1170862

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st March 2024**

Registered office:

36 Upper Northgate Street
CHESTER. CH1 4EF

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended :

31st March 2024

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Chester & District Samaritans CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024

LEGAL STATUS

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OBJECTIVES OF CHESTER & DISTRICT SAMARITANS

Samaritans exist to provide confidential support to anyone going through crisis and in danger of taking their own lives and to befriend the lonely, distressed and despairing, 365 days a year.

INVESTMENT POWERS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Trustees are required to keep a general bank account and any other accounts for specific purposes. All money not required for current expenses shall be invested. The reserves policy is described on page 4.

It has a current account with HSBC Bank plc for branch general expenses. There is also a savings account with Virgin Money.

THE BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chester & District Samaritans has a branch leadership team consisting of Trustees and Deputy Directors. The Trustees are elected by the branch membership and are responsible for maintaining the branch premises and all the facilities necessary for the continued safe and secure operation of the listening service. There are five Trustees: The Director, Treasurer, Secretary and two others who take responsibility for Health & Safety and building maintenance. Responsibility for fund-raising is taken on by The Director currently. The Deputy Directors are appointed by the Director to look after specific areas of branch operations.

The full leadership team meets at least four times per year but the Trustees and Directors also meet separately as and when required.

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Director / Chair	Ms	Lynne	Casey	
Secretary	Mrs	Barbara	Smith	
Trustee	Mr	Steffan	Roughsedge	
Trustee	Mr	Bernard	Woods	
Treasurer	Mr	Simon	Barrett	(From 26 Sept 23)
Trustee	Mr	John	Milnes	(to 25 Sept 23)
Trustee	Mrs	Beverly	Grimshaw	(to 1 Aug 23)

RESULTS

The financial results for the year, and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Chester and District Samaritans are available to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair including those which may lead to suicide. This service is provided by an average of 81 listening volunteers backed up by 10 support volunteers whose primary aim is fund-raising.

During this period 15,826 telephone contacts have been received and 653 e-mails responded to. The branch has continued to support the on-line chat service dealing with 991 contacts. Our outreach team have also supported 26 people face to face at events held in the Chester and District area.

Outreach - We have continued to work within our communities to develop contacts, show who we are, and show our support to community events. The Outreach and Publicity teams have attended some key community events and we will continue to push this further to help our local communities with support for those in emotional need.

Prison Team - Our Samaritan trained Listener teams have continued to offer vital support to men who are struggling to cope with their time in prison. The COVID pandemic made access to Listeners problematic at times but it is now returning to normal. Officers have worked with our Listeners to ensure, where possible, that when a prisoner asks for a Listener, he is able to see one.

Statistics show that the risk of dying by suicide is significantly higher in UK prisons than in the general population. Our vision, both Listeners and Samaritans is that fewer people die by suicide.

Funding was provided from a variety of sources. We benefited from donations by Timpsons, Altonover, Tarporley Rotary Club, University of Chester Law School and Squire Patton solicitors among others as well as generous donations from private benefactors. Fund-raising was again difficult and Friends activities were much curtailed.

A more detailed description of our activities can be found in the Annual Report submitted to our 2024 AGM.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Whitehead was confirmed as the Independent Examiner at the 2023 AGM

Signed by order of the Trustees



Honorary Secretary

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S UNQUALIFIED REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS CIO
CHARITY NUMBER: 1170862

I report on the accounts of Chester & District Samaritans CIO (the Charity) for the year ended 31st March 2024. The Charity prepares receipts and payments accounts and had an income less than £250,000 in the relevant financial year.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 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 in any material respect that:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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.



David Whitehead F.C.C.A.
21 Highlander Road
Saighton
Chester CH3 6DH

Dated: 12 July 2024

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

RESERVES POLICY

The branch currently holds cash reserves of £131,070

These reserves are deemed necessary for 3 purposes:

- 1 Support for on-going operations. The branch is heavily reliant on fund-raising for income and this can be variable depending on the success of particular fund-raising initiatives. It is, therefore, deemed sensible to maintain reserves equivalent to approximately 18 months expenses at minimum operating costs (£58,000) to protect the operations of the branch against significant fluctuations in income.
- 2 A small fund that can be used to pay for unexpected outlays on maintenance of existing premises. This has been set at £15,000.
- 3 Income increased during 2023/24 as a result of a prison grant uplift for the year from Samaritans central charity, plus the additional part payment of the 2024/25 prison grant in advance. There was no capital expenditure during the year but expenses were higher as a result of the increased activity supporting listeners at Berwyn prison, an increase in the annual contribution to the Samaritans central charity, and roof repairs to the owned property. As a result, our cash reserves declined by just under £13,000 during the year.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS	6	<u>183,872</u>	<u>190,658</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	8		
Bank		131,070	143,767
CREDITORS	7	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>131,070</u>	<u>143,767</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>314,942</u></u>	<u><u>334,425</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
TOTAL FUNDS	8	<u><u>314,942</u></u>	<u><u>334,425</u></u>

The financial statements set out on pages 6 to 9 were approved by the Trustees on 6 August 2024 and were signed on their behalf by:



Lynne Casey
Director



Simon Barrett
Treasurer

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended

31st March 2024

	Note	Total Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	
		2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES													
Donations		21,621	-	21,621	-	-	-	22,266	-	22,266	-	-	-
HMPPS Listener team grant		8,459	-	8,459	-	-	-	2,364	-	2,364	-	962	1,403
Gift Aid Tax Relief		2,746	-	2,746	-	-	-	3,372	-	3,372	-	3,372	-
Interest receivable		535	-	535	-	-	-	224	-	224	-	224	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		33,361	-	33,361	-	-	-	28,226	-	28,226	-	26,823	1,403
RESOURCES EXPENDED													
Costs of generating funds:													
Fundraising and publicity		39		39				470		470		470	
Support costs		52,804		52,804				48,173		48,173		46,770	1,403
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		52,843	-	52,843	-	-	-	48,643	-	48,643	-	47,240	1,403
NET OUTGOING RESOURCES		-	19,482	19,482	-	-	-	20,417	-	20,417	-	20,417	-
Funds brought forward				334,425				354,842		354,842		354,842	
Revaluation of property													
Funds carried forward				314,942				334,425		334,425		334,425	

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31st March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on a Receipts & Payments basis, generally as set out in Charity Commission guidance CC16.

Cash flow statement

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset bearing in mind that the office equipment is in use 24 hours per day. An asset list has been set up to aid calculation of the depreciation for each item.

Freehold property	See below
Office Equipment	25%
Fixtures & fittings	10%

In June 2015, the property was subjected to a revaluation by a chartered surveyor. The outcome of this survey was that the current value of the property, if sold on the open market, was now £165,000. Therefore, this is the value which is now displayed in these accounts. No further revaluation has been carried out in 2023/24. The next revaluation is planned for 2024/25.

2 DONATIONS

	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£
Voluntary donations	17,131	15,794
Friends of the Samaritans	4,120	6,142
HMPPS prison team grant	8,459	2,364
Gift Aid Tax Contribution	2,746	3,372
Other income	370	330
	<u>32,826</u>	<u>28,002</u>

3 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	535	224

4 SUPPORT COSTS

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Office costs	29,245	29,301
Head Office Funding	11,645	10,083
Direct Costs	11,913	8,789
	<u>52,803</u>	<u>48,173</u>

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fundraising	0	39	39	105
Publicity	0	0	0	365
Support Costs	6,786	46,017	52,803	48,173
	<u>6,786</u>	<u>46,056</u>	<u>52,843</u>	<u>48,643</u>

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the financial year amounted to:

	2024	2023
Number of support staff	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Office Equipment £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
COST				
At 31st March 2023	165,000	27,155	144,241	336,396
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0	0
At 31st March 2024	<u>165,000</u>	<u>27,155</u>	<u>144,241</u>	<u>336,396</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 31st March 2023	0	24,577	121,161	145,738
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Charge for the year	0	1,820	4,966	6,786
At 31st March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>26,397</u>	<u>126,127</u>	<u>152,524</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2023	<u>165,000</u>	<u>2,578</u>	<u>23,080</u>	<u>190,658</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>165,000</u>	<u>758</u>	<u>18,114</u>	<u>183,872</u>

7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Creditors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

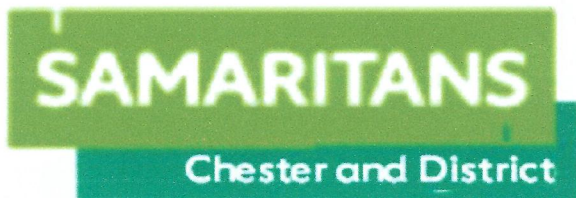
8 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Other net assets			Total £
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	
Total funds	183,872	131,070	0	0	314,942

CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1170862

Accounts



Chester & District Samaritans CIO

Registered charity number:
1170862

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st March 2023**

Registered office:

36 Upper Northgate Street
CHESTER. CH1 4EF

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended :

31st March 2023

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Detailed statement of financial activities	10, 11 & 12

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023

LEGAL STATUS

Chester and District Samaritans CIO is registered with the Charity Commission. The Registered Charity Number is 1170862. The charity is governed by its Rules, which are in force since the charity was registered on 20 December 2016. It came into operation on 1 April 2017 when it took over the operations, assets and liabilities of the former charity Samaritans of Chester & District (Reg. No. 256460). This change took place at the behest of the Samaritans Central Charity to improve the operation of the service. Chester & District Samaritans is an affiliated branch of Samaritans Central Charity.

OBJECTIVES OF CHESTER & DISTRICT SAMARITANS

Samaritans exist to provide confidential support to anyone going through crisis and in danger of taking their own lives and to befriend the lonely, distressed and despairing, 365 days a year.

INVESTMENT POWERS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Trustees are required to keep a general bank account and any other accounts for specific purposes. All money not required for current expenses shall be invested. The reserves policy is described on page 4.

It has a current account with HSBC Bank plc for branch general expenses. There is also a savings account with Virgin Money.

THE BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chester & District Samaritans has a branch leadership team consisting of Trustees and Deputy Directors. The Trustees are elected by the branch membership and are responsible for maintaining the branch premises and all the facilities necessary for the continued safe and secure operation of the listening service. There are usually six Trustees: The Director, Treasurer, Secretary and three others who take responsibility for fund-raising, Health & Safety and building maintenance. The Deputy Directors are appointed by the Director to look after specific areas of branch operations.

The full leadership team meets at least four times per year but the Trustees and Directors also meet separately as and when required.

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Director / Chair	Ms	Lynne	Casey
Treasurer	Mr	John	Milnes
Secretary	Mrs	Barbara	Smith
Trustee	Mr	Steffan	Roughsedge
Trustee	Mrs	Beverly	Grimshaw
Trustee	Mr	Bernard	Woods

RESULTS

The financial results for the year, and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Chester and District Samaritans are available to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair including those which may lead to suicide. This service is provided by an average of 73 listening volunteers backed up by 12 support volunteers whose primary aim is fund-raising.

The branch has not yet re-opened to visitors so it has not been possible to meet face-to-face callers this year. During this period 15026 telephone contacts have been received and 916 e-mails responded to. The branch has continued to support the on-line chat service and has been manning 4 shifts per week for this service dealing with 714 contacts.

Outreach - We have started to get back out within our communities to develop contacts, show who we are, and show our support to community events. The Outreach and Publicity teams have been on the ball this year with getting us out to some key community events and we need to push this further to help our local communities with support for those in emotional need.

Prison Team - Our Samaritan trained Listener teams have continued to offer vital support to men who are struggling to cope with their time in prison. The COVID pandemic made access to Listeners problematic at times but it is now returning to normal. Officers have worked with our Listeners to ensure, where possible, that when a prisoner asks for a Listener, he is able to see one.

Statistics show that the risk of dying by suicide is significantly higher in UK prisons than in the general population. Our vision, both Listeners and Samaritans is that fewer people die by suicide.

Funding was provided from a variety of sources. We benefited from donations by Timpsons, Altonover, Heswall Methodist group among others as well as generous donations from private benefactors. Fund-raising was again difficult and Friends activities were much curtailed.

A more detailed description of our activities can be found in the Annual Report submitted to our 2023 AGM.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Whitehead was confirmed as the Independent Examiner at the 2022 AGM

Signed by order of the Trustees

Honorary Secretary



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S UNQUALIFIED REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS CIO
CHARITY NUMBER: 1170862

I report on the accounts of Chester & District Samaritans CIO (the Charity) for the year ended 31st March 2023. The Charity prepares receipts and payments accounts and had an income less than £250,000 in the relevant financial year.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

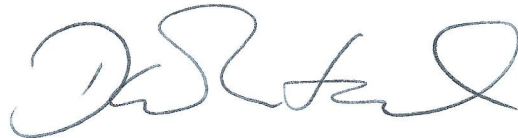
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe in any material respect that:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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.

David Whitehead F.C.C.A.
21 Highlander Road
Saighton
Chester CH3 6DH

Dated: 17 August 2023



RESERVES POLICY

The branch currently holds cash reserves of £143,767

These reserves are deemed necessary for 3 purposes:

- 1 Support for on-going operations. The branch is heavily reliant on fund-raising for income and this can be variable depending on the success of particular fund-raising initiatives. It is, therefore, deemed sensible to maintain reserves equivalent to approximately 18 months expenses at minimum operating costs (£60,000) to protect the operations of the branch against significant fluctuations in income.
- 2 A small fund that can be used to pay for unexpected outlays on maintenance of existing premises. This has been set at £15,000.
- 3 As expected, our income was significantly reduced in 2022/23 following the ending of our adopted charity status. However, capital expenditure was also low and expenses didn't rise as much as expected. Our cash reserves declined by just over £6,000 during the year. The ending of a favourable energy supply contract will mean significantly higher expenses in 2023/24 so a further decline in the reserves held will be required to maintain the service supplied by the charity.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS	6	<u>190,658</u>	<u>204,805</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	8		
Bank		143,767	150,037
CREDITORS	7	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>143,767</u>	<u>150,037</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>334,425</u></u>	<u><u>354,842</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
TOTAL FUNDS	8	<u><u>334,425</u></u>	<u><u>354,842</u></u>

The financial statements set out on pages 6 to 9 were approved by the Trustees on 26 September 2023 and were signed on their behalf by:



Lynne Casey
Director



John Milnes
Treasurer

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended

31st March 2023

	Note	Total Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES													
Donations		22,266	-	22,266	-	-	-	43,332	-	43,332	-	-	-
Covid-19 Grants		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HMPPS prison team grant		2,364	-	962	-	1,403	-	4,331	-	2,919	-	1,412	-
Gift Aid Tax Relief		3,372	-	3,372	-	-	-	3,105	-	3,105	-	-	-
Interest receivable		224	-	224	-	-	-	113	-	113	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		28,226	-	26,823	-	1,403	-	50,882	-	49,469	-	1,412	-
RESOURCES EXPENDED													
Costs of generating funds:		470	-	470	-	-	-	2,162	-	2,162	-	-	-
Fundraising and publicity		48,173	-	46,770	-	1,403	-	48,100	-	46,688	-	1,412	-
Support costs		48,643	-	47,240	-	1,403	-	50,262	-	48,849	-	1,412	-
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		96,286	-	94,480	-	2,806	-	100,524	-	97,706	-	2,824	-
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		-	20,417	20,417	-	-	-	620	620	620	-	-	-
Funds brought forward		354,842	-	354,842	-	-	-	354,222	-	354,222	-	-	-
Revaluation of property		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Funds carried forward		334,425	-	334,425	-	-	-	354,842	-	354,842	-	-	-

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31st March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on a Receipts & Payments basis, generally as set out in Charity Commission guidance CC16.

Cash flow statement

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset bearing in mind that the office equipment is in use 24 hours per day. An asset list has been set up to aid calculation of the depreciation for each item.

Freehold property	See below
Office Equipment	25%
Fixtures & fittings	10%

In June 2015, the property was subjected to a revaluation by a chartered surveyor. The outcome of this survey was that the current value of the property, if sold on the open market, was now £165,000. Therefore, this is the value which is now displayed in these accounts. No further revaluation has been carried out in 2022/23. The next revaluation is planned for 2024/25.

2 DONATIONS

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£
Voluntary donations	15794	27460
Covid-19 Grants	0	0
Friends of the Samaritans	6142	15517
HMPPS prison team grant	2364	4331
Gift Aid Tax Contribution	3372	3105
Other income	330	355
	<u>28002</u>	<u>50769</u>

3 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	224	113

4 SUPPORT COSTS

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Cleaning contract	1,728	1,536
Office costs	27,573	29,213
Head Office Funding	10,083	6,328
Direct Costs	8,789	11,023
	<u>48,173</u>	<u>48,100</u>

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Cleaning contract £	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Fundraising	0	0	105	105	1,550
Publicity	0	0	365	365	612
Support Costs	1,728	14,768	31,677	48,173	48,100
	<u>1,728</u>	<u>14,768</u>	<u>32,146</u>	<u>48,643</u>	<u>50,262</u>

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the financial year amounted to:

	2023	2022
Number of support staff	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Office Equipment £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
COST				
At 31st March 2022	165,000	26,534	144,241	335,775
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	621	0	621
At 31st March 2023	<u>165,000</u>	<u>27,155</u>	<u>144,241</u>	<u>336,396</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 31st March 2022	0	22,311	108,658	130,970
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Charge for the year	0	2,265	12,503	14,768
At 31st March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>24,577</u>	<u>121,161</u>	<u>145,738</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2022	<u>165,000</u>	<u>4,222</u>	<u>35,583</u>	<u>204,805</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>165,000</u>	<u>2,578</u>	<u>23,080</u>	<u>190,658</u>

7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Creditors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

8 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Other net assets			Total £
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	
Total funds	190,658	143,767	0	0	334,425

CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1170862

Accounts



Chester & District Samaritans CIO

Registered charity number:
1170862

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st March 2022**

Registered office:

36 Upper Northgate Street
CHESTER. CH1 4EF

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended :

31st March 2022

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The following pages do not form part of the financial statements

Detailed statement of financial activities	10, 11 & 12
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Chester & District Samaritans CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

LEGAL STATUS

Chester and District Samaritans CIO is registered with the Charity Commission. The Registered Charity Number is 1170862. The charity is governed by its Rules, which are in force since the charity was registered on 20 December 2016. It came into operation on 1 April 2017 when it took over the operations, assets and liabilities of the former charity Samaritans of Chester & District (Reg. No. 256460). This change took place at the behest of the Samaritans Central Charity to improve the operation of the service. Chester & District Samaritans is an affiliated branch of Samaritans Central Charity.

OBJECTIVES OF CHESTER & DISTRICT SAMARITANS

Samaritans exist to provide confidential support to anyone going through crisis and in danger of taking their own lives and to befriend the lonely, distressed and despairing, 365 days a year.

INVESTMENT POWERS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Trustees are required to keep a general bank account and any other accounts for specific purposes. All money not required for current expenses shall be invested. The reserves policy is described on page 4.

It has a current account with HSBC Bank plc for branch general expenses A second account used by Friends for fund-raising activities was closed when HSBC started applying charges to each current account. There is also a savings account with Virgin Money.

THE BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chester & District Samaritans has a branch leadership team consisting of Trustees and Deputy Directors. The Trustees are elected by the branch membership and are responsible for maintaining the branch premises and all the facilities necessary for the continued safe and secure operation of the listening service. There are usually six Trustees: The Director, Treasurer, Secretary and three others who take responsibility for fund-raising, Health & Safety and building maintenance. The Deputy Directors are appointed by the Director to look after specific areas of branch operations.

The full leadership team meets at least four times per year but the Trustees and Directors also meet separately as and when required.

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Director / Chair	Mr	Sean	Ravenscroft
Treasurer	Mr	John	Milnes
Secretary	Mrs	Barbara	Smith
Trustee	Mr	Michael	Nicol
Trustee	Mrs	Beverly	Grimshaw
Trustee	Mr	Bernard	Woods

RESULTS

The financial results for the year, and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Chester and District Samaritans are available to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair including those which may lead to suicide. This service is provided by an average of 100 listening volunteers backed up by 12 support volunteers whose primary aim is fund-raising.

The branch would normally be open to visitors from 10:00 until 18:00 everyday of the year. Unfortunately, owing to Covid-19 restrictions, it has not been possible to meet face-to-face callers this year. During this period 11880 telephone contacts have been received and 1750 e-mails responded to. The branch has also participated in the trial of the on-line chat service and has been manning 4 shifts per week for this service dealing with 793 contacts.

Outreach - We have started to get back out within our communities to develop contacts, show who we are, and show our support to community events. The Outreach and Publicity teams have been on the ball this year with getting us out to some key community events and we need to push this further to help our local communities with support for those in emotional need.

Prison Team - Our Samaritan trained Listener teams have continued to offer vital support to men who are struggling to cope with their time in prison. The COVID pandemic made access to Listeners problematic at times but it is now returning to normal, although COVID hasn't gone away. Officers have worked with our Listeners to ensure, where possible, that when a prisoner asks for a Listener, he is able to see one.

Statistics show that the risk of dying by suicide is significantly higher in UK prisons than in the general population. Our vision, both Listeners and Samaritans is that fewer people die by suicide.

Funding was provided from a variety of sources. We benefited from donations by Westminster Foundation and Timpsons among others. In September 2019, the branch was chosen by staff on the Eaton Estate, part of the Grosvenor Estate, to be their Adopted Charity for two years. Owing to Covid and the loss of some fund-raising opportunities, this period was extended until Dec. 2021. Working with the Friends group, this connection continued to raise substantial funds for the branch even in these difficult times.

A more detailed description of our activities can be found in the Annual Report submitted to our 2022 AGM.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Whitehead was confirmed as the Independent Examiner at the 2021 AGM

Signed by order of the Trustees



Honorary Secretary

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S UNQUALIFIED REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS CIO
CHARITY NUMBER: 1170862

I report on the accounts of Chester & District Samaritans CIO (the Charity) for the year ended 31st March 2022. The Charity prepares receipts and payments accounts and had an income less than £250,000 in the relevant financial year.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 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 in any material respect that:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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.



David Whitehead F.C.C.A.
21 Highlander Road
Saighton
Chester CH3 6DH

Dated: 3rd August 2022

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

RESERVES POLICY

The branch currently holds cash reserves of £150,037

These reserves are deemed necessary for 3 purposes:

- 1 Support for on-going operations. The branch is heavily reliant on fund-raising for income and this can be variable depending on the success of particular fund-raising initiatives. It is, therefore, deemed sensible to maintain reserves equivalent to approximately 18 months expenses at minimum operating costs (£50,000) to protect the operations of the branch against significant fluctuations in income.
- 2 A small fund that can be used to pay for unexpected outlays on maintenance of existing premises. This has been set at £10,000.
- 3 Our income has again been above expectation, mainly due to the support from Eaton Estates, whilst expenditure has been within budget with little spent on capital projects leading to a rise in the level of our reserves. 2022-23 will be a much more difficult fund-raising challenge whilst costs will rise so it is anticipated that the level of reserves will fall over the coming year.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS	6	<u>204,805</u>	<u>219,866</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	8		
Bank		150,037	134,356
CREDITORS	7	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>150,037</u>	<u>134,356</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>354,842</u>	<u>354,222</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
TOTAL FUNDS	8	<u>354,842</u>	<u>354,222</u>

The financial statements set out on pages 6 to 9 were approved by the Trustees on 30 August 2022 and were signed on their behalf by:



Sean Reavenscroft
Director



John Milnes
Treasurer

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended

31st March 2022

	Note	Total Funds 2022		Unrestricted Funds 2022		Restricted Funds 2022		Total Funds 2021		Unrestricted Funds 2021		Restricted Funds 2021	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES													
Donations	2	-	43,332	-	43,332	-	-	-	54,368	-	54,368	-	-
Covid-19 Grants	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,135	-	17,135	-	-
HMPPS prison team grant	2	-	4,331	-	2,919	-	1,412	-	2,568	-	1,027	-	1,540
Gift Aid Tax Relief	-	-	3,105	-	3,105	-	-	-	4,407	-	4,407	-	-
Interest receivable	3	-	113	-	113	-	-	-	419	-	419	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		-	50,882	-	49,469	-	1,412	-	78,897	-	77,356	-	1,540
RESOURCES EXPENDED													
Costs of generating funds:													
Fundraising and publicity	5		2,162		2,162		-		6,068		6,068		-
Support costs	4		48,100		46,688		1,412		49,499		47,958		1,540
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED			50,262		48,849		1,412		55,567		54,026		1,540
NET INCOMING RESOURCES													
			620		620		-		23,330		23,330		-
Funds brought forward			354,222		354,222		-		330,891		330,891		-
Revaluation of property	1		-		-		-		-		-		-
Funds carried forward	8		354,842		354,842		-		354,222		354,222		-

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31st March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on a Receipts & Payments basis, generally as set out in Charity Commission guidance CC16.

Cash flow statement

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset bearing in mind that the office equipment is in use 24 hours per day. An asset list has been set up to aid calculation of the depreciation for each item.

Freehold property	See below
Office Equipment	25%
Fixtures & fittings	10%

In June 2015, the property was subjected to a revaluation by a chartered surveyor. The outcome of this survey was that the current value of the property, if sold on the open market, was now £165,000.

Therefore, this is the value which is now displayed in these accounts. No further revaluation has been carried out in 2021/22.

2 DONATIONS

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Voluntary donations	27,460	28,010
Covid-19 Grants	-	17,135
Friends of the Samaritans	15,517	26,085
HMPPS prison team grant	4,331	2,568
Gift Aid Tax Contribution	3,105	4,407
Other income	355	274
	<u>50,769</u>	<u>44,207</u>

3 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

	2022	2021
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	113	419

4 SUPPORT COSTS

	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Cleaning contract	1,536	2,448
Office costs	29,213	30,748
Head Office Funding	6,328	4,017
Direct Costs	11,023	12,286
	<u>48,100</u>	<u>49,499</u>

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Cleaning contract £	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Fundraising	0	0	1,550	1,550	658
Publicity	0	0	612	612	5,410
Support Costs	1,536	15,784	30,780	48,100	49,499
	<u>1,536</u>	<u>15,784</u>	<u>32,942</u>	<u>50,262</u>	<u>55,567</u>

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the financial year amounted to:

	2022	2021
Number of support staff	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Office Equipment £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
COST				
At 31st March 2021	165,000	25,811	144,241	335,052
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	723	0	723
At 31st March 2022	<u>165,000</u>	<u>26,534</u>	<u>144,241</u>	<u>335,775</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 31st March 2021	0	19,613	95,573	115,186
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Charge for the year	0	2,699	13,085	15,784
At 31st March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>22,311</u>	<u>108,658</u>	<u>130,970</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2021	<u>165,000</u>	<u>6,198</u>	<u>48,668</u>	<u>219,866</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>165,000</u>	<u>4,222</u>	<u>35,583</u>	<u>204,805</u>

7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Creditors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

8 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Other net assets			Total £
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	
Total funds	204,805	150,037	0	0	354,842

CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS

England & Wales - Charity number 1170862

Accounts



Chester & District Samaritans CIO

Registered charity number:
1170862

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st March 2021**

Registered office:

36 Upper Northgate Street
CHESTER. CH1 4EF

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended :

31st March 2021

CONTENTS	PAGE
Trustees' annual report	1 - 2
Independent examiner's report	3
Reserves Policy	4
Balance sheet	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Notes to the financial statements	7 - 9

The following pages do not form part of the financial statements

Detailed statement of financial activities	10, 11 & 12
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Chester & District Samaritans CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021.

LEGAL STATUS

Chester and District Samaritans CIO is registered with the Charity Commission. The Registered Charity Number is 1170862. The charity is governed by its Rules, which are in force since the charity was registered on 20 December 2016. It came into operation on 1 April 2017 when it took over the operations, assets and liabilities of the former charity Samaritans of Chester & District (Reg. No. 256460). This change took place at the behest of the Samaritans Central Charity to improve the operation of the service. Chester & District Samaritans is an affiliated branch of Samaritans Central Charity.

OBJECTIVES OF CHESTER & DISTRICT SAMARITANS

Samaritans exist to provide confidential support to anyone going through crisis and in danger of taking their own lives and to befriend the lonely, distressed and despairing, 365 days a year.

INVESTMENT POWERS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Trustees are required to keep a general bank account and any other accounts for specific purposes. All money not required for current expenses shall be invested. The reserves policy is described on page 4.

It has two current accounts with HSBC Bank plc. One is for branch general expenses and the other is used by Friends for fund-raising. There is also a savings account with Virgin Money.

THE BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chester & District Samaritans has a branch leadership team consisting of Trustees and Deputy Directors. The Trustees are elected by the branch membership and are responsible for maintaining the branch premises and all the facilities necessary for the continued safe and secure operation of the listening service. There are usually six Trustees: The Director, Treasurer, Secretary and three others who take responsibility for fund-raising, Health & Safety and building maintenance. The Deputy Directors are appointed by the Director to look after specific areas of branch operations.

The full leadership team meets at least four times per year but the Trustees and Directors also meet separately as and when required.

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Director / Chair	Mr	Michael	Nicol
Treasurer	Mr	John	Milnes
Secretary	Mrs	Barbara	Smith
Trustee	Mrs	Lesley	Brown
Trustee	Mrs	Beverly	Grimshaw
Trustee	Mr	Bernard	Woods

RESULTS

The financial results for the year, and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Chester and District Samaritans are available to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair including those which may lead to suicide. This service is provided by an average of 89 listening volunteers backed up by 16 support volunteers whose primary aim is fund-raising.

The branch would normally be open to visitors from 10:00 until 18:00 everyday of the year. Unfortunately, owing to Covid-19 restrictions, it has not been possible to meet face-to-face callers this year. During this period 13237 telephone contacts have been received and 5473 e-mails responded to. The branch has also participated in the trial of the on-line chat service and has been manning 3 shifts per week for this service dealing with 225 contacts.

Covid has also stopped most Outreach activities. The film made last year with Storyhouse has been made available but could only be tested in couple of secondary schools before lockdown. Contact has been maintained with various local community groups and Outreach talks will continue as soon as conditions allow. A podcast interview was made for a company's staff wellbeing programme explaining what Samaritans do and how they can help with people they know.

It is the role of the branch prison team to support the Listeners at HMP Berwyn in their work, we do not 'listen' ourselves. Support is provided via regular meetings and emails with the Listeners and also by working with the prison authorities to find a way, for sometimes uncomfortable purposes, to co-exist.

2020 was a particularly difficult year inside prisons. 'Lock-up' was over 23 hours a day and many inmates did not see their families during the year. Self-inflicted deaths are known to be six times more likely in a prison than in the general population; we don't know yet what the impact of Covid will be. Under trying circumstances the Listener teams took over 7,000 calls and will have had many more informal conversations with those in need.

Funding was provided from a variety of sources. We benefited from donations by Westminster Foundation, Timpsons, Ardagh Metal among others. We have also qualified for Covid-19 grants from HMG Small Business Grants and Pears Foundation. In September 2019, the branch was chosen by staff on the Eaton Estate, part of the Grosvenor Estate, to be their Adopted Charity for two years. Working with the Friends group, this connection continues to raise substantial funds for the branch even in these difficult times.

A more detailed description of our activities can be found in the Annual Report submitted to our 2021 AGM.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Whitehead was confirmed as the Independent Examiner at the 2020 AGM

Signed by order of the Trustees



Honorary Secretary

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S UNQUALIFIED REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS CIO
CHARITY NUMBER: 1170862

I report on the accounts of Chester & District Samaritans CIO (the Charity) for the year ended 31st March 2021. The Charity prepares receipts and payments accounts and had an income less than £250,000 in the relevant financial year.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

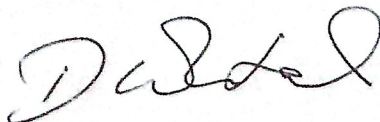
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe in any material respect that:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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.

David Whitehead F.C.C.A.
21 Highlander Road
Saighton
Chester CH3 6DH

Dated: 18/07/2021



Chester & District Samaritans CIO

RESERVES POLICY

The branch currently holds cash reserves of £134,356

These reserves are deemed necessary for 3 purposes:

- 1 Support for on-going operations. The branch is heavily reliant on fund-raising for income and this can be variable depending on the success of particular fund-raising initiatives. It is, therefore, deemed sensible to maintain reserves equivalent to approximately 18 months expenses at minimum operating costs (£50,000) to protect the operations of the branch against significant fluctuations in income.
- 2 A small fund that can be used to pay for unexpected outlays on maintenance of existing premises. This has been set at £10,000.
- 3 The work to refurbish and re-equip the training facilities on the upper floor has been completed at a cost of £24,000. This was partly funded by a Covid-19 grant (c. £7,000) with the remainder coming from designated reserves. This was less than anticipated so the remaining £21,000 of designated reserves have been released. Our income has also been higher than expected this year and expenditure lower, which means that our reserves have risen. The Branch Leadership Team will decide how best to use these reserves to improve the service we offer.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS	6	<u>219,866</u>	<u>211,659</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	8		
Bank		134,356	119,232
CREDITORS	7	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>134,356</u>	<u>119,232</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>354,222</u></u>	<u><u>330,891.45</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
TOTAL FUNDS	8	<u><u>354,222</u></u>	<u><u>330,891</u></u>

The financial statements set out on pages 6 to 9 were approved by the Trustees on 20 July 2021 and were signed on their behalf by:



Sean Reavenscroft
Director



John Milnes
Treasurer

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended

31st March 2021

	Note	Total Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	
		2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES													
Donations		54,368	-	54,368	-	-	-	35,000	-	35,000	-	-	-
Covid-19 Grants		17,135	-	17,135	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HMPs prison team grant		2,568	-	1,027	-	1,540	-	4,634	-	975	-	3,659	-
Gift Aid Tax Relief		4,407	-	4,407	-	-	-	2,605	-	2,605	-	-	-
Interest receivable		419	-	419	-	-	-	601	-	601	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		78,897	-	77,356	-	1,540	-	42,840	-	39,181	-	3,659	-
RESOURCES EXPENDED													
Costs of generating funds:													
Fundraising and publicity		6,068		6,068		-		3,904		3,904		-	
Support costs		49,499		47,958		1,540		54,387		47,728		6,659	
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		55,567		54,026		1,540		58,292		51,632		6,659	
NET INCOMING RESOURCES													
		23,330		23,330		-		15,452		12,452		3,000	
Funds brought forward		330,891		330,891		-		346,343		343,343		3,000	
Revaluation of property		-		-		-		-		-		-	
Funds carried forward		354,222		354,222		-		330,891		330,891		-	

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

Chester & District Samaritans CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31st March 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on a Receipts & Payments basis, generally as set out in Charity Commission guidance CC16.

Cash flow statement

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset bearing in mind that the office equipment is in use 24 hours per day. An asset list has been set up to aid calculation of the depreciation for each item.

Freehold property	See below
Office Equipment	25%
Fixtures & fittings	10%

In June 2015, the property was subjected to a revaluation by a chartered surveyor. The outcome of this survey was that the current value of the property, if sold on the open market, was now £165,000. Therefore, this is the value which is now displayed in these accounts. No further revaluation has been carried out in 2020/21.

2 DONATIONS

	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£
Voluntary donations	28,010	21,489
Covid-19 Grants	17,135	-
Friends of the Samaritans	26,085	13,243
HMPPS prison team grant	2,568	4,634
Gift Aid Tax Contribution	4,407	2,605
Other income	274	268
	<u>78,478</u>	<u>42,238</u>

3 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	419	601

4 SUPPORT COSTS

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Cleaning contract	2,448	2,435
Office costs	30,748	30,236
Head Office Funding	4,017	6,641
Direct Costs	12,286	15,076
	<u>49,499</u>	<u>54,387</u>

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Cleaning contract £	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Fundraising	0	0	658	658	3,650
Publicity	0	0	5,410	5,410	254
Support Costs	2,448	15,724	31,326	49,499	54,387
	<u>2,448</u>	<u>15,724</u>	<u>37,394</u>	<u>55,567</u>	<u>58,292</u>

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the financial year amounted to:

	2021	2020
Number of support staff	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Office Equipment £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
COST				
At 31st March 2020	165,000	19,342	126,779	311,121
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	6,469	17,462	23,931
At 31st March 2021	<u>165,000</u>	<u>25,811</u>	<u>144,241</u>	<u>335,052</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 31st March 2020	0	16,986	82,476	99,461
Assets disposed of	0	0	0	0
Charge for the year	0	2,627	13,098	15,724
At 31st March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>19,613</u>	<u>95,573</u>	<u>115,186</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2020	<u>165,000</u>	<u>2,356</u>	<u>44,304</u>	<u>211,659</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>165,000</u>	<u>6,198</u>	<u>48,668</u>	<u>219,866</u>

7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Creditors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

8 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Other net assets			Total £
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	
Total funds	219,866	134,356	0	0	354,222