



**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

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
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
--	-------------

## **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

**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

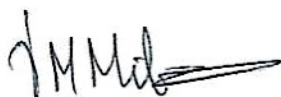
### BALANCE SHEET

	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 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>							
Donations	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Covid-19 Grants	2	43,332	43,332	-	54,368	54,368	-
HMPPS prison team grant	2	-	-	-	17,135	17,135	-
Gift Aid Tax Relief	2	4,331	2,919	1,412	2,568	1,027	1,540
Interest receivable	3	3,105	3,105	-	4,407	4,407	-
		113	113	-	419	419	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>50,882</b>	<b>49,469</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>78,897</b>	<b>77,356</b>	<b>1,540</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>							
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
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>50,262</b>	<b>48,849</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>55,567</b>	<b>54,026</b>	<b>1,540</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES</b>							
		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 £
<b>COST</b>				
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	165,000	26,534	144,241	335,775
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
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	-	22,311	108,658	130,970
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31st March 2021	165,000	6,198	48,668	219,866
At 31st March 2022	165,000	4,222	35,583	204,805

## 7 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Creditors	-	-
	-	-

## 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