

Charity Registration Number 1170928

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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Reference and Administrative Details

Legal Status

Samaritans Southampton and District is a registered charity with charity registration 1170928. It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by constitution adopted at incorporation on 30th December 2016.

Trustees are responsible for all the affairs of the Charity and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the Charity.

Associated names to Samaritans Southampton and District are:

The Samaritans of Southampton

The Samaritans Southampton and District Branch

Officers and professional advisers

The Trustees

Christine Robinson (resigned 26/11/23)

Ann Bradshaw (appointed 26/11/23)

Karen Oborn (appointed 26/11/23)

Nichola Kirby (appointed 19/09/22)

Peter Bunting (appointed 26/11/23)

John McNeil (appointed 26/11/23)

Alistair Stokes (appointed 26/11/23)

Registered Office

11 College Place

London Road

Southampton

SO15 2FE

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Independent Examiner

Langdowns DFK
Fleming Court
Leigh Road
Eastleigh
SO50 9PD

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
54 Lombard Street
London
EC3P 3AH

TSB
PO Box 373
Leeds
LS14 9GQ

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

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Structure, Governance and Management

The Trustees

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out within the notes to the accounts.

The Trustees continue to be satisfied that the Charity is delivering an effective and efficient service. It also considers that despite challenges, it is effectively managing its finances to enable the branch to continue its activities during the coming year and that the Charity's assets are adequate to fulfil these obligations.

Nature of the governing document and constitution of the Charity

Subject to the provisions of its constitution, the affairs of the Charity are managed by a Board of Trustees, who meet four times every year as a minimum.

The methods adopted for recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are elected at an Annual General Meeting. The Board of Trustees consists of the following members, in total not numbering more than thirteen:

- a) A maximum of nine elected members, who must be Samaritans, but excluding the ex-officio members.
- b) A maximum of five ex-officio members comprising at least the Director, Secretary, and the Treasurer of the Charity. At the time of writing, we have a vacancy for a Secretary.
- c) Co-opted members up to a maximum of one third of the Board of Trustees (excluding co-opted members).

Branch Volunteers are invited by the Trustees to nominate individuals to join the board each year prior to the Annual General Meeting.

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Selection is on the basis of what the volunteer can contribute based on their own experience both life and professional. All trustees are subject to enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks and cannot be confirmed in office until this check is complete.

Training

All Trustees are trained in-house and are required to complete online Management Training available on Samaritans intranet. Each Trustee receives a copy of the Charity Commission booklet on trusteeship and its responsibilities, thus ensuring that they are aware of the commitment and duties they are undertaking. Further training of Trustees is on an informal basis and is on-going throughout the term of their office. No trustee is paid.

The organisation structure of the Charity and how decisions are made

The Charity falls under the umbrella organisation of the Samaritans nationally. The national organisation provides a model constitution, advice and support, which are adapted to meet the needs of the Charity.

Relationships between the Charity and related parties, including its subsidiaries

Other than the national Samaritans organisation, there are no transactions with any other related parties.

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed and reviews and systems to mitigate risks

The Trustees identify the major risks to which the Charity is exposed each financial year in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Charity. The Trustees then review any major risks which have been identified and establish systems to mitigate their exposure. A risk register is produced and updated whenever necessary.

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Objectives, Public Benefit and Activities

The objectives of the Charity are set out in its governing document. In summary, the Charity's objectives are:

- a) To enable persons in Southampton and surrounding area who are experiencing feelings of distress and 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.
- b) 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.
- c) To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objectives.

The Charity's aims, including the changes or differences it seeks to make through its activities, are to:

- a) Support the Samaritans Central Charity mission that fewer people die by suicide.
- b) Contribute to the national effort by making sure there is someone there for anyone that needs someone.
- c) Give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others.
- d) Campaign to make suicide prevention a local priority.
- e) Work as part of a regional team to contribute to confidential emotional support 24 hours each and every day by telephone, face-to-face and email contact, both from our centre in Southampton, and outside our centre as part of our Outreach programme in schools and workplaces within the Southampton area.

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The Charity's main objectives for the period were:

To provide emotional support to all who contacted us, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and to ensure that sufficient trained volunteers are available to be part of a regional rota achieving these objectives. Achieved predominately via telephone, this objective is also through email and face-to face contact nationally. However, face-to-face contact and email support is no longer provided in Southampton.

The Charity's strategies for achieving its stated objectives are to:

- a) Generate enough funds for the day-to-day operation of the Charity and to maintain its property in the centre of Southampton, providing the base for our administration and fundraising, and generating income from a part of the building that is not used directly for charitable work.
- b) Recruit and train sufficient volunteers to provide the constant support required by the Charity's main objective.
- c) Publicise the Charity to raise awareness of the work it does.

Details of significant activities (including its main programmes, projects or services provided) that contribute to the achievement of the stated objectives:

Samaritans. Southampton and District's most significant activity was responding to telephone contacts. The email service was withdrawn in December 2022 and centralised into a quality hub under Samaritans central charity (219432) but work is now underway to modify the service so that those branches who wish to respond to emails can again do so. The Trustees are considering this option and a decision will be made by 30 September 2024.

In addition, the Charity has been involved in various events to promote the work of the Samaritans and provide emotional resilience workshops. In the coming year we will resume our Outreach work with schools in the area following the dedicated training some of our Listeners have undertaken this year.

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The contribution of volunteers

The Charity relies wholly on the services of volunteers in fundraising, administration of the Charity, and providing caller support which is the main objective of the Samaritans. There is one paid member of staff: a cleaner who is employed for six hours a week.

Achievements and Performance

A review of charitable activities undertaken by the Charity

The period under review was another busy one for the Southampton and District branch of Samaritans.

April 2023 - March 2024

No. of active listening volunteers	75 (as at 31 March 2024)
No. of inbound calls	15,418 (4,376 hours on the phone)
No. of outbound calls	165 (27 hours on phone)

During the past period we have continued to communicate the work of Samaritans to our community by distributing information and being involved with other relevant organisations in person and via online platforms.

Fundraising activities

We continued to ensure that funds were sufficient to provide for our needs by aiming to always have at least six months funding available to pay for our day-to-day expenditure. We receive no allotted funding directly; therefore, we raise all our funds through a number of fundraising activities, in addition to renting out the front of our building to a marketing company. We are always heartened by our contacts with the public and appreciate the comments received, especially the many words of encouragement and thanks for the support offered by Samaritans.

We wish to record our sincere thanks to the individuals and organisations who have given donations both during the period under review and in the past.

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Recruitment needs update with latest data

We continued to recruit new volunteers during the year and returned to in-person training for our new recruits with online modules being completed between classroom sessions. We currently have a number of potential volunteers from the Southampton area who would like to become involved in the Charity. The number of recruiters, trainers and mentors available from our internal listening volunteers determines our capacity, and whilst we aim to onboard approximately thirty-six new volunteers per year, we were only able to run two sessions during the year rather than our usual three.

Training including mandatory

It's vital for all volunteers to continue to develop their skills and keep up to date with any changes to Samaritans policies. This continuous development is achieved via online self-learning together with remote and in branch training sessions.

Promoting our work within the local community

We continue to influence local policy concerning suicide prevention, via the Southampton Suicide Prevention forum, which meets six times per year. We have worked during the year to re-establish and strengthen our Schools and Outreach team.

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Factors relevant to the achievement of the Charity's objectives

The Charity is totally dependent on the services of volunteers. The core aim of all listening volunteers is to support our callers but many other tasks including, but not limited to, recruitment, training, volunteer support, administration, outreach, building management, IT support, health and safety need to be undertaken and this is completed in house by our volunteers. The Director records her sincere appreciation for the extraordinary service and work provided by the volunteers.

Financial Review

Policy on reserves

The Trustees aim to maintain at least six months of cash funds available at any one time to provide funding for the maintenance of the property. At the balance sheet date, free reserves were £67,376 (2023 £85,990)

Principal funding sources and how expenditure in the period under review has supported the key objectives of the Charity

The principal funding sources are donated income and rental income. This funding is applied to support all objects of the Charity.

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund but are now actively looking at opportunities to strengthen the position going forward.

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SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Transactions and financial position

The financial statements are set out on the following pages. As stated in the introduction to this report, the Trustees consider the financial position by the Charity during the period to have been satisfactory.

The receipts and payments analysis shows a deficit for the period of £19,574 (2023 surplus £21,318) with the total bank balances at the period end of £68,456 (2023: £88,030).

During the year significant funds were required to replace the boiler and update the security on the fire doors. Insurance costs also appear higher than expected as the premium for the subsequent year of £1,971 was paid before the end of this year. We have also seen the impact of the high cost of utilities.

Donations and income from fundraising were lower than in 2022 where we benefitted from a significant legacy. The trustees are actively exploring potential sources of grants and initial results are encouraging. Thanks are given to SWT for a grant of £2,450 which was designated for recruitment and outreach activity.

A full breakdown of income and expenditure is reflected within the financial statements which are included separately within this annual report.

Plans for future periods

The aim of the charity is to ensure that the Southampton and District branch of Samaritans is able to continue to provide the service to callers in future periods. We are working to be more available at times of greatest need and to be visible and active within the local community, supporting Samaritans strategy. Additionally, we aim to continue to offer all volunteers a supportive and positive experience, to involve as many volunteers as possible in roles throughout the branch and to ensure and embed good governance.

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Responsibilities of Trustees


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

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 along with the applicable regulations and the provisions of the Charity Commission Scheme. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Nichola Kirby
Chair of Trustees and Branch Director

Date: 1 August 2024

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Samaritans Southampton and District CIO (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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 Trust'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 in respect of the Trust 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.

Signed:



Name: Mrs Lucy A Parry ACA

Address: Langdowns DFK, Fleming Court, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Southampton SO50 9PD

Date: 09/09/2024.

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

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Receipts and Payments Account Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2024	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2023
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations	2	5,594	-	5,594	37,962
Grants received	3	-	2,450	2,450	-
Investment income	4	15,689	-	15,689	14,431
Other trading activities	5	249	-	249	3,355
Total		21,532	2,450	23,982	55,748
Payments					
Premises expenditure	6	22,224	1,680	23,904	12,580
Operational expenses	7,8,9	13,470	600	14,070	12,690
Staff Costs	10	3,900	-	3,900	7,799
Sundry expenses	11	1,512	170	1,682	1,361
Total		41,106	2,450	43,556	34,430
Net (deficit)/surplus		(19,574)	-	(19,574)	21,318
Cash funds last year		88,030	-	88,030	66,712
Cash funds this year		68,456	-	68,456	88,030

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Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 MARCH 2024

	Note		Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2024 £	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2023 £
Cash funds and in hand		Unrestricted funds	68,456	87,010
Prepaid insurance			1,971	-
Asset retained for Charity Use	12	Designated funds	410,000	475,000
Liabilities	13	Unrestricted funds	1,080	1,020

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Karen Oborn
Treasurer and Trustee

Date: 26th July 2024

The notes on pages 17 to 22 form part of these financial statements

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis for accounts preparation

The financial statements have been prepared using the receipts and payments basis in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102 2015) based thereon.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The charity is a Public Benefit entity.

b) Income from donations

Income from donations is included in income when it is receivable except as follows:

- (i) When donors specify that donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods:
- (ii) When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the preconditions have been met.

Legacies

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the legacy and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Entitlement is regarded as the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Intangible Income

There was no intangible income during the year other than the goodwill and services of volunteers.

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 Continued

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on a cost basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Charitable Activities

Expenditure consists of those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and service for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Publicity

Publicity costs itemised within the accounts are not for raising funds, but to raise awareness of our availability to those in distress and for recruiting potential volunteers.

Governance Costs

Expenditure includes those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

d) Assets

Tangible Fixed Assets

Expenditure on tangible assets will be capitalised should the cost of any item exceed £2,500.

Depreciation Policy

Fixed assets held for use by the charity will be depreciated at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less anticipated residual value) over their expected life.

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 Continued

e) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted Funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds

Designated Funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds

Restricted Funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

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NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 Continued

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2024	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
2 Donations - General				
Bequests & Legacies	-	-	-	30,883
Donations from individuals	3,240	-	3,240	3,529
Donations from business	2,354	-	2,354	3,550
	5,594		5,594	37,962
3 Grants				
Grants received	-	2,450	2,450	-
4 Income from investments				
Rent received	15,625	-	15,625	14,400
Bank interest received	64	-	64	31
	15,689	-	15,689	14,431
5 Income from other trading activities				
Miscellaneous fundraising activities	428	-	428	3,800
Less fundraising expenses	(179)	-	(179)	(445)
	249	-	249	3,355
TOTAL RECEIPTS	21,532	2,450	23,982	55,748

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NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 Continued

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2024	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
6 Premises expenditure				
Rates & water	2,392	270	2,662	2,956
Heating & lighting	7,896	890	8,786	3,985
Insurances	3,413	380	3,793	1,756
Caretaking and cleaning	822	90	912	1,561
Repairs & maintenance - equipment	225	-	225	104
Repairs & maintenance – property	7,220	-	7,220	1,733
Equipment purchases	256	50	306	485
	22,224	1,680	23,904	12,580
7 Operational expenses				
Volunteers' expenses	108	-	108	194
Travel expenses	1,388	300	1,688	1,110
Stationery & postages	297	-	297	166
Printing & photocopying	245	-	245	87
Computer & technology expenses	997	-	997	1,115
Telephone & communications	2,606	300	2,906	3,575
NBC – central Samaritans	5,127	-	5,127	3,573
Branch Meetings	1,371	-	1,371	1,750
Accountancy	1,258	-	1,258	1,708
Consultancy & Professional Fees	-	-	-	345
	13,397	600	13,997	12,623
8 Publicity expenses				
Publicity and outreach	2	-	2	-
9 Governance costs				
Trustees meeting expenses	36	-	36	35
Fees paid	35	-	35	32
	71	-	71	67
10 Staff Costs				
Salaries	3,900	-	3,900	7,799
11 Sundry expenses				
Staff training	33	-	33	272
Subsistence	648	80	728	688
Health & Safety	831	90	921	402
	1,512	170	1,682	1,361
TOTAL PAYMENTS	41,106	2,450	43,556	34,430

SAMARITANS SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CIO

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 Continued

12. Assets retained for Charity use

The fixed asset retained for Charity use is the freehold house at 11 College Place, purchased on 16th May 2003. The premises are held primarily for charitable purposes, although these premises are part let to raise additional funds.

The property was valued on 18 July 2024 with a Market Value as it currently stands with the current tenant in situ at £410,000. The valuation was prepared by Savills (UK) Limited of Mountbatten House, 1 Grosvenor Square Southampton, SO15 2BZ as an "external valuer" in accordance with the RICS Valuation – Global Standards (incorporating the IVSC International Valuation Standards) effective from 31 January 2022 together, where applicable, with the UK National Supplement effective 14 January 2019, together the "Red Book". As per UK VPGA 8, the Valuation is also pursuant to Sections 117 - 121 of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Qualified Surveyors Report) Regulations (S1 1992/2980).

At the date of revaluation, the freehold property investment carried a historical cost of £539,373. The Trustees are currently looking at available options to ensure the property is used in the most effective way to achieve our charitable objectives.

13. Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2024 £	Total Funds Year Ending 31 March 2023 £
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Accountancy fees	1,080	-	1,080	1,020