



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES & STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS YE: 31 MARCH 2025



**STAMP Revisited, Roseberry Park Hospital, Marton Road, Middlesbrough, TS4 3AF
Registered Charity Number: 1171432**

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) “Accounting and Reporting by Charities” (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity’s governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) effective 1st January 2019.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

Charity Name: STAMP Revisited (Mental Health Advocacy Service)

Operating Name: STAMP Revisited

Charity Registration Number: 1171432

Registered Office and Operational Address:
Roseberry Park Hospital, Cleveland Way, Marton Road, Middlesbrough, TS4 3AF

Trustees:

Mary Booth	Chairperson	
David Hicks	Treasurer	(Appointed 24 September 2024)
Joanne Falloon-Shakespeare	Trustee	
Thomas Dunn	Trustee	(Resigned 29 May 2024)
Noelle Darwent	Trustee	(Appointed 30 May 2024)
Barbara Adu-Darko	Trustee	(Appointed 24 September 2024)
Lucia Hiden	Trustee	(Appointed 26 November 2024)
Alistair Kellet Smith	Trustee	(Appointed 26 November 2024)
Lisa Campbell	Trustee	(Appointed 26 November 2024)
Katherine Brioude	Trustee	(Appointed 26 November 2024)

Project Manager: Andrea Gent

Independent Examiner: Graham Fitzgerald BA FCA DChA
Azets Audit Services, Wynyard House, Wynyard, TS22 6DB

Bankers: Virgin Money UK
7 Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 1RF





CHAIR'S STATEMENT:

It has been another challenging year for charities, their beneficiaries and the wider population as the cost-of-living crisis continues to bite. This crisis has only exacerbated the issues faced by the community we serve, with many already living in areas of high deprivation and extreme poverty.

Our staff have been key to our success, they have continued to rise to these challenges and meet the needs of their clients, despite difficult circumstances. They continue to work tirelessly, adapting our service delivery to meet the needs of our community and provide a lifeline of support to those experiencing the symptoms of poor mental health, who may need support to understand their rights, ensure that their voices are heard, and they are central to any decisions which are made about them.

I would like to take this opportunity to applaud all our staff for the work that they have done in the rapidly changing and uncertain environment that we face and the passion and empathy they have shown throughout. Without their hard work and dedication, we would be unable to continue to provide an efficient, high-quality service to those in the local community who need our support.

I would also like to thank, not just on behalf of everyone at STAMP Revisited, but also the people we serve, the members of the public who have raised funds for us, organisations that have contributed or made donations in kind and the many grant making trusts and foundations who have funded and continue to fund our work. We are extremely grateful for your support and the trust you place in us.

Finally, I would like to welcome the 6 new Trustees who have recently joined the Board, and give my thanks to them, and my fellow trustees, who generously donate their time, skills and wisdom to support the organisation. We are also extremely fortunate to have partner organisations who support us in many ways, and we look forward to continuing those relationships over the coming year.

Over the last 12 months, we've worked hard to continually improve the quality of our services and to increase our positive impact on people's lives. We know so much more is needed before everyone has a voice when it matters most. That's why we're determined not only to enable more people to benefit directly from our work, but also to work with others to address the barriers which block so many of us from the life we want, and from the rights which we are entitled to enjoy.



Mary Booth, Chairperson



PUBLIC BENEFIT:

STAMP Revisited is a user-led organisation, which seek to empower those experiencing poor mental well-being through advocacy, information, advice, and guidance to give people the tools, help, and support they need to allow them to be involved and make their own choices and decisions about their lives.

We provide advocacy services to people in a range of settings, from hospitals, including secure mental health units, residential homes, and in the community. For us advocacy is as simple as helping people have their voice heard, understand their rights, and speak up about what they need and what is important to them.

Our Aims:

- To **support** and empower those experiencing poor mental health to express their views, be heard and have a direct say on issues critical to their wellbeing and recovery.
- To **enable** individuals to explore their options and agree a course of action to actively take part in resolving their issues and develop the skills to overcome the barriers to good mental health.
- To **empower** individuals to make informed choices and support them to identify their personal strengths to gain and remain in control of their lives.
- To **defend** and promote the rights of those experiencing mental health issues and safeguard them by promoting good practice, and preventing discrimination, neglect, and abuse.
- To **promote** social inclusion and raise awareness of the obstacles faced by individuals experiencing poor mental health to prevent exclusion and isolation.
- To **encourage** individuals to broaden their horizons and become active and inclusive members of society.





Our Vision:

Our vision is for an inclusive and safe society where the voices of vulnerable people, particularly those with mental health issues, are listened to, their views are valued, and they are able to live fulfilling lives according to their own choices.

Our Values:

- **Passionate:** We are passionate about leading the way to a better quality of life for everyone affected by mental illness. We are committed to delivering high quality support and strive for excellence in everything we do, however small.
- **Person Led:** We put those we support first, ensuring that we are directed by their wishes and interests. We are non-judgmental and respectful of people's needs, views, culture, and experiences.
- **Independent:** We are independent from statutory organisations and all other service providers so we remain free from influence and conflict of interest so we can fully represent those we support.
- **Empowering:** We treat people as individuals with their own unique strengths. We support people to speak up for themselves and create opportunities for self-advocacy, empowerment, and enablement. We equip people to understand their rights and support people to access information to exercise choice and control in their lives.
- **Understanding:** People who are affected by mental illness are at the heart of everything we do. We involve them in shaping our organisation, when developing and delivering services that meet their needs and make a positive difference to people's lives.
- **Equality:** We are pro-active in tackling all forms of inequality, discrimination, and social exclusion so that everyone is treated fairly. We make reasonable adjustments to ensure people have appropriate opportunities to engage, direct and benefit from our services.
- **Accessible:** Our services are provided free of charge to those who are eligible. We do our best to be accommodating in the way we provide our services and use language that is easy to understand and accessible for all.



Our Services:

Many of us find it difficult, to get our voice heard about decisions or actions that affect our lives. For some people, experiencing poor mental health can affect their ability to understand their situation, access or understand information about their rights or the benefits they are entitled to. Sometimes, everyday tasks can become overwhelming, frightening, and confusing.

Our Advocates adopt the principles of empowerment, positive choices, and user involvement to work alongside our beneficiaries to tackle the issues that matters to them most, including:



Health & Social Care: Where individuals are supported when discussions or decisions are being made in relation to their treatment or care and support planning or to challenge decisions which they do not agree with.



Living Skills: Where Individuals who are struggling to care for themselves, complete everyday tasks or access the community are supported to attend assessments to determine their needs to maintain their independence.



Welfare Reform: Where individuals are assisted to understand, prepare, attend, and take part in meetings, assessments or appeals when making a claim, renewing, or appealing a decision for welfare benefits such as PIP, ESA or UC.



Family: Where individuals are assisted with all family matters, including those whose children are subject to care proceedings and they require support to engage and participate in local authority planning processes.



Debt Management & Financial Hardship: Where those who are struggling with debt are supported to prevent their financial problems from escalating and those in financial crisis are assisted to access local welfare assistance schemes.



Social Networks & Relationships: Where individuals are supported to identify their hobbies and interests to find suitable community groups, leisure and social activities, develop new interests, or rediscover skills, e.g. through volunteering.



Managing Housing & Accommodation: Where individuals are assisted to resolve issues around their current housing, seeking alternative housing and understanding their rights when faced with homelessness.



Workplace Disputes: Where those who are involved in workplace disputes or conflict are supported to understand their rights, speak with their employer, or take part in meetings to try and resolve it.





Addictive Behaviours: Where individuals who are concerned about their drug or alcohol intake, or behavioural addictions, such as gambling, are assisted to access the necessary treatment and support needed to overcome them.



Offending & Victims of Crime: Where individuals have been accused of a crime, or those who are a victim of crime are supported to engage within the Court process, seek legal advice or access additional services to prevent re-offending.

Our Impact:



**174
PEOPLE**

**were supported through our
advocacy services.**



**234
CASES**

**were dealt with by our
Advocates.**



**87%
OF THOSE
SUPPORTED**

**reported improvements in
their mental health.**



**86%
FELT THEIR
RIGHTS**

**were respected as a result of
our advocacy support.**

NIALL'S STORY:

When Niall was told he would need to migrate from legacy benefits to Universal Credit (UC), he felt completely overwhelmed. Struggling with the complexity of the benefits system and unable to process information over the phone, Niall faced a process that felt both unmanageable and impersonal. Without the right support, he was at serious risk of losing essential income and financial stability. He was unsure how much he would receive, how the payments would be structured, or what would be expected of him under UC. An initial call to Help to Claim yielded no clear guidance, as there was not enough information for advisors to assess his situation. After chasing paperwork from the DWP, a second attempt still left Niall without clarity and raised further concerns about the accuracy of his existing ESA payments.

Niall was referred to two local welfare advice agencies for specialist guidance. Both recommended moving forward with the UC claim to avoid gaps in income, with the understanding that any discrepancies in his legacy benefits could be addressed later.

With support, Niall contacted the ESA helpline to clarify his payment history. Armed with accurate information, Help to Claim were finally able to confirm his UC entitlement and explain the steps for completing the online application. For the first time, Niall felt confident enough to manage the process himself.

He was supported to attend his UC commitment appointment, where he managed the interview independently. Niall raised important concerns about rent payments and his preference for fortnightly UC payments. Guided to use his online journal, he was supported in drafting a clear request, which was subsequently approved.

With consistent, tailored advocacy, Niall not only secured his income but also gained the confidence and skills to manage his own claim and advocate for his needs.



100%
**FELT MORE
LISTENED TO,**

**and that their voices were
heard.**



73%
**OF THOSE
SUPPORTED**

**noted an increase in their
confidence.**



75%
**FELT LESS
ISOLATED**

**or they had improved their
social networks.**



80%
**OF THOSE
SUPPORTED**

**felt more in control of their
lives.**



75%
**FELT MORE
ABLE TO**

**do things on their own
(self-advocate).**



93%
**LEFT THE
SERVICE**

**feeling more hopeful about
their future.**

SUZIE'S STORY:

Suzie was referred for support during the most traumatic period of her life: the sudden and tragic death of her son, by suicide, while he was under the care of mental health services.

She was thrown into a complex world of lengthy investigations, legal proceedings, and formal processes, all while experiencing overwhelming grief. Adding to this were distressing issues at the cemetery, including anti-social behaviour, and complicated family dynamics that left her feeling isolated.

Suzie needed someone who could listen, guide, and stand beside her over the long term - someone she could trust to help her navigate this incredibly difficult journey.

Over the past three years, her Advocate has worked consistently alongside her, providing not only practical help but also unwavering emotional support.

Time was taken to listen, understand and respond to Suzie's concerns, helping her move things forward at a pace that felt manageable.

The Advocate supported Suzie through formal meetings with mental health services and legal representatives and liaised with the cemetery manager to address ongoing issues.

Together, they reviewed hundreds of pages of documents and reports relating to her son's death, carefully preparing responses and questions to ensure Suzie's voice was heard during the coroner's inquest and beyond.

The Advocate was by Suzie's side throughout each stage, taking notes, clarifying outcomes, and reminding her of what she had achieved, even when the emotional toll felt overwhelming.

She was supported to engage with her MP, share her story with the press, and prepare powerful personal statements that reflected her experiences and concerns with honesty and strength.

In addition to this, the Advocate helped Suzie undergo a review of her welfare entitlement, to ensure she remained financially stable.

The Advocate supported her to claim Employment & Support Allowance (ESA), which helped protect her financial independence and ensured she maintained her National Insurance contributions. This support was vital not only for her immediate wellbeing but also to safeguard her future entitlement.

Thanks to consistent support, Suzie has felt heard, empowered, and less alone.

In Suzie's words:

"The support I have received has been one in a million. On my darkest days you have supported me through giving unconditional support. We would not have been able to do this without your help and we so appreciate everything you have done and continue to do".



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS:

Over the past 12 months, we have made significant progress in assessing and improving the way we deliver our services. By actively engaging with clients and stakeholders, we've been able to review our current provision, identify areas for development, and introduce more flexible, creative approaches to advocacy that are better aligned with the needs of our communities.

A key part of this progress has been developing stronger ways to measure the effectiveness of our work. We've begun improving how we collect and use data so we can better demonstrate our impact and ensure that the services we provide are shaped by the people who use them.

Supporting and developing our workforce has remained a central priority. Following meaningful staff consultation, we've tailored our health and wellbeing offer to better meet the needs of our team. This includes introducing a new Wellbeing Assistance Programme and becoming an accredited Living Wage Employer through the Living Wage Foundation. This decision reflects our values, ensuring that every team member earns a real Living Wage based on the actual cost of living. It's a practical and symbolic step that shows we're not just advocating for change, we're modelling it ourselves.

We've also taken important steps to strengthen our governance. A successful recruitment campaign brought six new members onto our Board of Trustees, increasing the diversity, skills, and lived experience represented at leadership level. This stronger, more inclusive Board has boosted our ability to navigate change, make informed decisions, and provide the oversight we need to grow with confidence.

Collaboration remains central to our approach. Over the past year, we've continued to build strong partnerships with like-minded organisations to co-design and deliver services in more flexible and effective ways. These partnerships help us reach more people and respond more effectively to a broader range of needs across our community.



Empowering individuals to speak up for themselves is a core value we continue to champion. This year, we began developing a suite of self-advocacy resources designed to equip people with the knowledge and skills they need to advocate for themselves with confidence.

Internally, we've prioritised maintaining a healthy, positive organisational culture. By listening closely to staff, encouraging open communication, and promoting wellbeing at every level, we've taken meaningful steps to ensure people feel supported and valued in their roles. Regular check-ins, flexible working arrangements, and a responsive approach to individual needs have helped us reduce workplace stress and strengthen team morale.

Our investment in training and development continues to show our commitment to professional growth. This includes support for staff completing the Level 4 National Advocacy Qualification and our broader efforts to foster a culture of mutual respect, shared learning, and pride in the work we do and the difference we make.

OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE:

Looking ahead, we will be bringing together everyone involved in the organisation to develop a comprehensive five-year strategic plan focused on growth, sustainability, and long-term impact. Our future work will be guided by a number of headline objectives that build on our strengths and respond to the evolving needs of our community.

A key priority will be to strengthen our communications and networks. We want to raise our profile across Teesside and connect more effectively with the people and communities who need our support. By improving our use of social media and other communication tools, we can tailor our messages for different audiences, create accessible and engaging content, and maintain a strong, consistent voice across all platforms. This will help us share important updates, build trust, and foster new relationships with community leaders, grassroots organisations, and partners who share our vision.

Improving the client experience remains at the heart of our work. We're committed to reducing waiting times, streamlining referral processes, and ensuring consistent, person-centred support. Alongside this, we will continue developing accessible self-help and self-advocacy resources that empower people to take control of their own journeys. We also plan to improve our signposting and partnership working — helping people connect with the most appropriate services, especially those that support mental health and wellbeing. By better understanding each person's journey, we can tailor our support more meaningfully and ensure no one falls through the gaps.

To continue providing high-quality, person-centred advocacy, we need sustainable funding that truly reflects the value and impact of what we do. Building stronger relationships with funders goes beyond seeking support, it's about clearly demonstrating the real difference our work makes in people's lives. We are committed to capturing and sharing the voices, experiences, and outcomes of those we support in more meaningful and transparent ways.



Going forward, we will focus on creating a more resilient and diverse approach to income generation to ensure our work can thrive long into the future. This includes investing in smarter systems and technology to better record, track, and communicate the impact of our work. By strengthening how we gather feedback and follow the progress of the people we support, we can powerfully show not just what we do, but how it transforms lives. Through these efforts, we'll build stronger, more transparent partnerships with funders who share our commitment to lasting, person-centred change.

We also recognise that valuing our people is essential to the sustainability of our work. We're committed to creating a motivated, skilled, and supported team, including volunteers, who feel heard, equipped, and empowered. This includes offering ongoing training, developing clearer roles, and expanding volunteer involvement in meaningful ways that contribute to service delivery and personal growth.

Finally, we will take bold steps to ensure our governance remains strong and skilful. With a refreshed Board in place, our focus will be on clarifying roles and responsibilities, making the most of trustee expertise, and embedding a culture of supportive challenge. This will help us stay accountable, forward-looking, and ready to seize new opportunities as they arise. Together, these plans set a clear and ambitious path for the future. They reflect our values, build on what we've achieved, and reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that the voices of those we support continue to shape everything we do.

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The Board of Trustees review the finances at each of their board meetings. There was regular scrutiny of management accounts and financial information to inform the Board, which allowed good decision making to ensure financial stability. The Treasurer and Project Support Coordinator oversee the book-keeping procedures and financial systems whilst the Chair, Treasurer and Trustees maintain a watching brief on day-to-day costs.

The Charity is primarily funded by grant-making trusts and foundations, including the National Lottery Community Fund, the Lloyds Bank Foundation and the Ballinger Charitable Trust (which represents approximately 91% of our overall income). We also receive support, via statutory funding (as a donation in kind), from Tees, Esk, & Wear Valleys NHS Trust, who kindly provide our office accommodation, utilities, and use of the facilities within Roseberry Park Hospital, free of charge.

During the year, we maintained our fundraising income despite the challenges of a rapidly changing environment. The total income generated this financial year, up to and including 31 March 2025, amounted to £151,149. This along with the £94,312 carried forward from the previous year gave available funds of £245,461.

We spent £133,933 on the delivery of our charitable activities, leaving surplus funds of £111,528, including £67,262 held in restricted funds.



Fundraising: STAMP Revisited, at present, only undertakes some small scale informal fundraising activities. All amounts raised, by fund raising activities, are included in donations. STAMP Revisited does not use professional fundraisers or third parties to fundraise on our behalf.

Reserves Policy: The calculation of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the annual planning, budget and forecast cycle. In line with Charity Commission requirements, the Charity has a Reserves Policy based on a realistic assessment of its needs. It is the policy of the organisation to use reserves to further its charitable aims and objectives and to provide for any contingencies which may arise.

The Board of Trustees has explored the charity's requirements for reserves considering the main risks to the organisation. The aim is to build up unrestricted funds representing at least three months of the charity's normal expenditure, to ensure that the organisation's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. At the end of the year unrestricted general funds available for future periods stood at £44,266, whilst restricted reserves were £27,107.

Investment Policy: The Board of STAMP Revisited recognises that there may be occasions where the Charity has surplus funds not needed for immediate charitable activities. When investing charitable funds, the Board of Trustees will ensure a balance between the two objectives of:

- providing an income for the Charity to carry out its activities and purpose effectively in the short term, and
- maintaining and if possible, enhancing the value of the invested funds, to enable the Charity to carry out its purpose in the longer term.

All investments will be consistent with the aims of STAMP Revisited and within the guidelines provided by the Charity Commission.

In agreeing where any funds are invested, the Board will take account of:

- the suitability of the investment in relation to the Charity's needs,
- the levels of risk and security related to the investment,
- access to the invested funds,
- return on the investment.

The investment of any funds will be considered in the first instance by the Finance & Funding Task & Finish Group and any recommendations will be made for full Board consideration and approval.





STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Governing Document: STAMP Revisited (Mental Health Advocacy Service) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which is registered with the Charity Commission (Registered Charity Number: 1171432). The charity was formed and started trading on 2nd February 2017, by inheriting the assets of the previous charity (South Tees Advocacy in Mental Health Project – Registered Charity Number: 1048991). The charities working name is STAMP Revisited and it is governed by a constitution adopted on 2nd February 2017.

Organisational Structure: STAMP Revisited is governed by an effective Board of Trustees, which is collectively responsible for the success of the Charity.

The Trustees have overall responsibility for the organisation's governance and strategy, and for making sure that it is accountable and administered effectively. It is their responsibility to safeguard the assets of the Charity and ensure the financial statements comply with the relevant acts and legislation. Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a 'true and fair' view of the state of affairs of the Charity.

The powers of the Board are outlined in STAMP Revisited's Governing Document, with all major decisions made by the Trustees (by majority vote). The Board meet regularly (a minimum of six ordinary meetings per year) to consider organisational policies and risk and monitor any significant issues concerning the work of the Charity.

The trustees have delegated the day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services to the Project Manager. The Project Manager is responsible for recommending strategy to the Board, for the management of its external profile, ensuring that the charity delivers the services in line with its mission and requirements and ensuring that key performance indicators are met across the range of social and business objectives.



Recruitment & Appointment of Trustees: The organisation recognises the importance of having a diverse committee which represents the community it serves.

The trustees are the members of the Charity and as such recruit and appoint additional trustees who are considered able to contribute to the proper management and conduct of the business. When considering recruiting trustees, the Board looks at any specialist skills needed and the current make-up of the Board. Trustee opportunities are advertised on the Charity's website and via local networks and applications are submitted to the Board, and, if suitable, applicants are invited to attend in person to expand on their application.

As set out in the governing document, members of the Board of Trustees must be appointed by an ordinary resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the trustees and must be appointed for a term of three years. On ceasing to be a trustee a person may be reappointed provided that no one may serve as a trustee for more than a maximum of three consecutive terms, after which they must cease to be a trustee (in certain circumstances, and where appropriate, the requirement to stand down may be put aside).

Trustee Induction & Training: The current Board are familiar with the ethos and workings of STAMP Revisited. New trustees undergo an induction process that gives them an insight into the roles and responsibilities of trustees and the aims and objectives of the charity. They are briefed on their legal obligations under charity law, the contents of the governing document, decision-making processes, the business plan, and the recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are also offered the opportunity to meet with key personnel in order to develop an understanding of the range of activities undertaken by the organisation.

Following their induction, Trustees are encouraged to participate in internal and external training and development where this will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Risk Management: The trustees are responsible for setting the tone and influencing the culture of risk management within STAMP Revisited. The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises of a full annual review, alongside regular updates of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces.

The charity incorporates risk management into its strategic planning and decision-making processes. A comprehensive risk register is maintained, along with the establishment and implementation of policies, procedures, and systems to mitigate those risks or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The Board of Trustees periodically review the risks and the risk management strategies to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the organisation.

Related Parties: STAMP Revisited is a small, independent charity and not affiliated to a national body or other organisations. It does network with other statutory and voluntary organisations to establish good community links for its service users but as an advocacy provider we must remain independent from other service providers.



STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES:

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

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP,
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements,
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.



Joanne Falloon-Shakespeare
Vice Chair



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SOUTH TEES ADVOCACY IN MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT:

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 16 to 27.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report: As the charity's trustees 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 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 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 company as required by section 130 of the Act ; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts "give a true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



G Fitzgerald BA FCA DChA

Azets Audit Services, Wynyard Park House, Wynyard Avenue, Wynyard, TS22 5TB



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	<i>Note</i>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOME:					
Donations & Grants	2	12882	-	12882	12600
Income from Charitable Activities	3	20000	118267	138267	116178
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES:		32882	118267	151149	128778
EXPENDITURE:					
<i>Expenditure on Charitable Activities</i>					
On Main Activity		28904	99428	128332	122044
Other Costs		1330	4271	5601	5130
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	4	30234	103699	133933	127174
Net Expenditure/Income	6	2648	14568	17216	1604
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		2648	14568	17216	1604
Fund Balances Brought Forward		41618	52694	94312	92708
Fund Balances Carried Forward		44266	67262	111528	94312

The notes on pages 19 to 27 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

		2025		2024	
	Note	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS:					
Tangible Assets	7		-		-
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Cash at Bank		89668		72788	
Cash at Hand		170		170	
Debtors	8	24381		23597	
		114219		96555	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:					
Creditors; amounts falling due within one year	9	(2691)		(2243)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS:			111528		94312
NET ASSETS:			111528		94312
FUNDS:					
Unrestricted	10		44266		41618
Restricted	10		67262		52694
			111528		94312

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Joanne Falloon-Shakespeare, Vice Chair

The notes on pages 19 to 27 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

- a. Basis of Preparation: The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 2 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are providing a high quality advocacy service to those living within Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland, and Stockton-On-Tees.

The Charitable Organisation (CIO) 1171432 was registered on 2 February 2017 to take forward the work of the Unincorporated Charity 1048991 South Tees Advocacy in Mental Health Project. Assets, Liabilities and Funds were transferred on 28 April 2017. The financial statements for the CIO represent the combined assets, liabilities, and funds of the two legal entities as though they have always been part of the same organisation.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic and Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic and Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

- b. All grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, and other income are accounted for gross in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable, as long as they are capable of financial measurement. Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.
- c. All resources expended are accounted for gross when incurred and include attributable VAT, which cannot be recovered.
- d. Direct charitable expenditure includes the direct costs of the activities and depreciation on related assets. Where costs relate to more than one functional cost category, they have been split on an appropriate basis as follows:
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Charitable Expenditure: | 90% |
| Other Costs: | 10% |
- e. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost, less estimated residual values, of all fixed assets, over their expected useful lives. It is calculated at the following rates:
- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| Equipment: | 25% per annum |
| Computers: | 100% per annum |

- f. Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.
- g. Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

2. DONATIONS & GRANTS:

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Trust (Donated Premises & Utilities)	12500	-	12500	12500
Job Retention Scheme Grants	-	-	-	-
Donations	382	-	382	100
	12882	-	12882	12600

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES:

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	25000	25000	25000
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20000	-	20000	-
National Lottery Community Fund RC North East and Cumbria Region	-	93267	93267	91178
	20000	118267	138267	116178

Of total income of £151,149 in 2025 (2024: £128,778), £118,267 (2024: £116,178) was charged to restricted funds and £32,882 (2024: £12,600) was charged to unrestricted funds.

4. EXPENDITURE:

	Charitable Activities £	Other Costs £	2025 £	2024 £
Staff Costs	77888	-	77888	79000
Accountancy	2166	-	2166	1260
Independent Examiner's Fee	-	1230	1230	1260
Training & Travel	5695	-	5695	1232
Consultancy	1550	-	1550	4899
Sundry	1707	-	1707	816
Support Costs (Allocated to Activities on the Basis of Usage)				
Staff Costs	21091	2344	23435	22432
Premises Costs	11250	1250	12500	12500
Stationery, Telephones & Computers	2103	234	2337	2542
Insurance	1210	135	1345	1233
Depreciation	3672	408	4080	-
	128332	5601	133933	127174

Of expenditure of £133,933 in 2025 (2024: £127,174), £103,699 was charged to restricted funds (2024: £88,087) and £30,234 was charged to unrestricted funds (2024: £39,087).

5. STAFF COSTS:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross Salaries	96232	96787
Employer's National Insurance	3006	2630
Employer's Pension Contributions	2085	2015
	<u>101323</u>	<u>101432</u>

There were no employees who earned more than £60,000 per year (2024: NIL). The average number of employees was 5, split 4 advocacy and 1 admin. (2024: 5, split 4 advocacy, 1 admin).

6. NET INCOMING RESOURCES

(Net Incoming Resources is Stated After Charging):	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of Owned Assets	4080	-
Independent Examiner's Fee	1230	1260
Accountancy & Payroll Services	2166	1260
	<u>7476</u>	<u>2520</u>

7. FIXED ASSETS:

	Furniture & Equipment £	Computer £	Total £
COST:			
At 1 April 2024	5006	21457	26463
Additions	-	4080	4080
At 31 March 2025	<u>5006</u>	<u>25537</u>	<u>30543</u>
DEPRECIATION:			
At 1 May 2024	5006	21457	26463
Charge for the Year	-	4080	4080
At 31 March 2025	<u>5006</u>	<u>25537</u>	<u>30543</u>
NET BOOK VALUE:			
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 30 April 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

8. DEBTORS

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued Grants	24381	22253
Prepayments	-	1344
	<u>24381</u>	<u>23597</u>

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Creditors	327	-
Social Security & Other Taxes	2364	2460
	<u>2691</u>	<u>2460</u>

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS:

	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£
2025:			
Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Net Current Assets	67262	44266	111528
Balance at 31 March 2025	<u>67262</u>	<u>44266</u>	<u>111528</u>
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£
2024:			
Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Net Current Assets	52694	41618	94312
Balance at 31 March 2024	<u>52694</u>	<u>41618</u>	<u>94312</u>

11. MOVEMENT ON FUNDS:

2025:	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transf. £	At 31 March '25 £
Restricted Funds:					
Lloyds Bank Foundation	24729	25000	(24214)	-	25515
National Lottery Community Fund RC North East and Cumbria Region	27965	93267	(79485)	-	41747
Allen Lane Foundation	-	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted:	52694	118267	(103699)	-	67262
Unrestricted Funds:					
Ballinger Charitable Trust	24841	20000	(17734)	-	27107
General Fund	16777	12882	(12500)	-	17159
Total Unrestricted:	41618	32882	(30234)	-	44266
Total Funds:	94312	151149	(133933)	-	111528

12. MOVEMENT ON FUNDS (CONTINUED):

2024:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transf. £	At 31 March '24 £
Restricted Funds:					
Lloyds Bank Foundation	13208	25000	(13479)	-	24729
National Lottery Community Fund RC North East and Cumbria Region	11395	91178	(74608)	-	27965
Allen Lane Foundation	408	-	-	(408)	-
Total Restricted:	25011	116178	(88087)	(408)	52694
Unrestricted Funds:					
Ballinger Charitable Trust	48970	-	(24129)	-	24841
General Fund	18727	12600	(14958)	408	16777
Total Unrestricted:	67697	12600	(39087)	408	41618
Total Funds:	92708	128778	(127174)	-	94312

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

The **Lloyds Bank Foundation** have provided a three-year grant, of £75,000, which currently funds the partial salary of our Project Manager and a contribution towards our running costs (approximately 25%). A payment of £25,000 was received during this financial year. This grant is due to end on 28 February 2027.

The **National Lottery Community Fund** have provided a three-year grant, of £279,879, which funds the salaries and associated costs of our Advocates and Project Support Coordinator, with a contribution towards running costs (approximately 75%). Payments of £93,267 were received during this financial year. This grant is due to end on 31 March 2026.

The **Ballinger Charitable Trust** have provided a three-year unrestricted grant, of £60,000, towards the organisation's core costs. No payments were received during this financial year. The grant is to be used as and when required, so has no firm end date.

12. TRUSTEES & RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

None of the Trustees received any remuneration relating to their role as trustees from the charity during the year (2024: NIL).

None of the trustees were reimbursed expenses in relation to their role as a trustee (2024: NIL).

Trustees Indemnity Insurance cover is included in the cost of Combined Insurance. It is not possible to quantify the amount involved.