

TAUNTON WOMEN'S AID
ANNUAL REPORT & UNAUDITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

REGISTERED CHARITY 1172323
P O Box 286, Taunton, Somerset

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Taunton Women's Aid
Charity Information

Trustees:

Judith Jackson	Chair
Judith Smith	Secretary
Hilary Corcoran	
Anne Kearle	
Lucy Nicholls-Brice	
Victoria Hanna	
Geraldine Wadham	

Principal Address:

P O Box 286
Taunton
Somerset
TA2 6YD

Independent Examiner:

Sarah Twist FCA DChA
A C Mole LLP
Stafford House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank plc
26-27 Fore Street
Taunton
TA1 1JQ

Taunton Women's Aid
Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Structure and Governance

The Charity is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) and was registered on 29 March 2017. The Charity's registered number is 1172323. The initial funds of the CIO were received as a transfer of assets and liabilities transferred from the former unincorporated charity Taunton Women's Aid (registered number 273441).

A list of Trustees, who served during the period, is given on page 1. The Trustees oversee the management of the Charity and decide its strategic direction with regard to its charitable objectives.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the CIO are:

To promote the protection of adults and children who have suffered or are suffering from or have been exposed to domestic abuse by such means as are charitable including the preservation of their mental and physical health, the relief of need and the promotion of education concerning domestic abuse.

These objectives will be mainly achieved through the awarding of grants.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Chair's report

The financial year 2024/2025 has seen TWA continue to grant-aid local organisations offering services and support to people who have suffered from, or are affected by, domestic abuse. We have given grants to two organisations in the current year, neither of which we had previously funded. The emphasis was once again on the provision of services rather than education, but this reflected the nature of the applications received, and TWA will consider any application which falls within the charity's criteria and provides value for money. Although the level of applications for the financial year was lower than might have been hoped for, steps have been taken to encourage more applications which we hope will be forthcoming for 2025/2026.

The Charity owns a purpose-built refuge building which is currently leased to Julian House and the rental income from this provides the bulk of the Charity's income. In August 2024 the Trustees were very pleased to be invited to visit the Refuge building and to view the newly refurbished outdoor area which had been funded by a donation from a local building firm, facilitated by TWA, and with volunteer help from a local company. The Trustees were very impressed by the new area and indeed by the bright and welcoming atmosphere throughout the whole building. As a result of the visit the Trustees offered to finance some works to complete the patio in the refurbished area and to provide a modest but much needed improvement to the laundry. The Trustees also identified that they would like to form stronger links with the residents and provide some more direct help

The Trustees continue to meet in person or by Zoom as and when required with other business being conducted by email.

Against this background only three grants were made during the year. The first was a grant of £3,800 to ARK (Acts of Random Kindness), a community hub which offers therapeutic day services through land-based activities at Merriott in Somerset. The grant was used to provide activities for residents from the refuge who spent several days at ARK enjoying various craft and other activities, together with the associated transport costs. During our visit to the Refuge we spoke to some of the residents who had attended these sessions and had clearly greatly enjoyed the outdoor and craft activities, and working with the animals.

The second grant arose from the visit to the refuge building in August 2024. During the visit the Trustees spoke to residents and staff and it became clear how much the residents enjoyed activities away from the Refuge such as going swimming or going out for coffee, but there were frequently no funds available for this. After some discussion it was suggested that Julian House, who provide other domestic abuse services in the area as well as the Refuge, should put in an application for a grant which could be used at the Manager's discretion to fund various outings for the residents and others it assists. An application was subsequently made and a grant of £5,000 agreed, to be used for a wide range of outings on a flexible basis. A further grant of £10,000 was awarded to Julian House at the end of the financial year. This grant is to support residents on the refuge building with move on costs, and will be paid in tranches during 2025/26.

Taunton Women's Aid
Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

In addition, a donation of £250 was made to SARSAS in response to its Christmas appeal.

Each recipient of a grant is required to provide a report as to how the grant monies are spent. Throughout the year the Trustees continued to monitor the reports for grants awarded in earlier years and were generally pleased with the standard of such reports. Conditions imposed on earlier grants were also monitored to ensure compliance. The two grants awarded in the current financial year likewise have requirements for reporting and compliance with conditions. Through these mechanisms the Charity seeks to ensure that monies are spent in accordance with the Charity's objectives and that value for money is achieved.

We hope to continue to support existing and new applicants in the coming year and hope that through raising awareness we will be able to attract a higher number of applicants.

Finally, I would like to put on record my thanks to my fellow Trustees for generously giving of their time and expertise the Charity. There is a wide range of skills amongst the Trustees and I am always grateful for their commitment, support and expertise in our work and decision making and the support given to me as Chair.

Financial Review

Income for the year amounted to £35,511 (2024: £35,428) Grant funding of £19,050 (2024: £19,250) was agreed within the year. The administration costs of the charity were £7,621 (2024: £7,906).

A higher level of grant funding is planned for 2025/26 if appropriate applications are received.

A revaluation of the investment property was incorporated into the accounts in 2023/24. The trustees consider this valuation remains appropriate.

Reserves Policy

Need for Reserves

The factors that impact on the need for reserves have been assessed to include:

- unexpected costs on the refuge building
- other committed or unplanned expenditure
- uncertainty around income from donations and legacies
- future needs, opportunities, contingencies or risks the effects of which are unlikely to be met out of future income

Level of Reserves

The trustees acknowledge that they have a general legal duty to apply charity funds within a reasonable time of receiving them, whilst ensuring the charity is not exposed to financial/liquidity risk. The minimum level of reserves will be equal to the costs of running the charity for three months. The free reserves as at 31 March 2025 total £225,165, this is in excess of the policy requirements. These funds will be used for grant funding as appropriate applications are received.

Investment of Funds

Under the Trustee Act 2000, trustees are required to have a written investment policy. They are also required to demonstrate that they review this policy, and the performance of any investment advisers if appointed, to ensure that funds are being managed in the best interest of all connected parties. This Act imposes a duty on those acting as charity trustees when exercising their powers of investment, to consider the need for diversification, in order to reduce the risk of loss should an investment fall.

The charity has the power to invest in land and buildings and investment assets. Land and buildings are to be held by the Official Custodian rather than in the names of individual trustees.

The level of reserves is to be reviewed annually, as part of the budget setting process, and with reference to the business plan. The policy is to be reviewed by the trustees should there be a material change in circumstances or at least every three years.

Risk Policy

The major risks to which the charity is exposed have been reviewed and systems have been put in place or are being put in place to mitigate these risks.

Taunton Women's Aid
Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

Going Concern

The trustees have considered their risk assessment over the viability of the charity for the following 12 months. They do not consider that there will be any reduction in income or on activities as the charity does not deliver services, employ staff or occupy any premises. There are sufficient cash reserves to meet the ongoing administration costs of the charity and any unforeseen costs to the fabric of the refuge building not covered by the terms of the lease. Grant funding is expected to continue over the next 12 months, predominantly covered by revenue.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure 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 judgments and accounting 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, 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 maintaining proper accounting records which 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 constitution. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Judith Jackson - Chair

Date 8 Jan 2026

Taunton Women's Aid

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Taunton Women's Aid

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Taunton Women's Aid (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

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 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 2011 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; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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.

Sarah Twist.

Sarah Twist FCA DChA
A C Mole LLP
Chartered Accountants
Stafford House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

8th January, 2026

Taunton Women's Aid
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

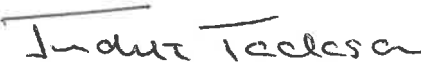
	<u>Note</u>	Unrestricted Funds <u>General</u>	Unrestricted Funds <u>Designated</u>	Total Funds Year Ended <u>31.03.25</u>	Total Funds Year Ended <u>31.03.24</u>
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Donations		300	-	300	484
Investment income	2	35,211	-	35,211	34,944
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>		35,511	-	35,511	35,428
EXPENDITURE ON:-					
Charitable activities	3	26,671	-	26,671	27,156
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u>		26,671	-	26,671	27,156
<u>NET INCOME</u>					
<u>FOR THE YEAR</u>		8,840	-	8,840	8,272
<u>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</u>					
Total funds brought forward		216,325	600,000	816,325	808,053
Total funds carried forward	13	225,165	600,000	825,165	816,325

The notes on pages 8 – 12 form part of these financial statements

Taunton Women's Aid
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

		<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>	
	<u>Notes</u>	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Investment property	8		600,000		600,000
			600,000		600,000
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and prepayments	9	1,223		1,233	
Cash in hand and at bank	10	244,327		232,582	
		245,550		233,815	
CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	11	20,385		17,490	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			225,165		216,325
NET ASSETS			825,165		816,325
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
General			225,165		216,325
Designated			600,000		600,000
			825,165		816,325

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 11th Dec 2025 and signed on their behalf by:


Judith Jackson - Chair

The notes on pages 8 – 12 form part of these financial statements

Taunton Women's Aid
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

Charity status

Taunton Women's Aid is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commissioners No. 1172323 and is constituted by its governing document dated 29 March 2017.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investment property measured at fair value through the statement of financial activities. The financial statements have also 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 of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Taunton Women's Aid meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

Income recognition

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is only deferred when the donor has specified restrictions in the expenditure of the resources.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services 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 including governance costs.

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the Charity. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. Grant awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled conditions attaching to that grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Funds structure

Unrestricted general funds: These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charity's objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Unrestricted designated funds: These are funds which have been set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes.

Investment property

Investment property is stated at the trustees' estimate of market value as set on in note 8.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents represents cash in hand and in instant access bank accounts.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Taunton Women's Aid
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies described above, trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods.

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described below:-

Estimation of fair value of investment properties

As described in note 8, the fair value of investment properties is based on the Trustees valuation on an open market basis.

2 Investment income - unrestricted

	Year Ended 31.03.25 £	Year Ended 31.03.24 £
Rent received	32,000	32,000
Bank interest	3,211	2,944
	35,211	34,944

3 Expenditure on charitable activities - unrestricted

	Year Ended 31.03.25 £	Year Ended 31.03.24 £
Grants awarded to institutions	19,050	19,250
Support costs (see note 4)	7,621	7,906
	26,671	27,156

This comprises grants made to institutions as follows:

Category	2025		2024	
	No. of Grants	Total Value £	No. of Grants	Total Value £
Social welfare	3	19,050	3	19,250

Taunton Women's Aid**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025****4 Analysis of governance and support costs – unrestricted**

	Year Ended <u>31.03.25</u>	Year Ended <u>31.03.24</u>
	£	£
Rent and rates	822	792
Insurance	4,402	4,310
Professional fees	-	630
Stationery, postage and advertising	462	554
Course fees and subscriptions	140	60
Bank charges and loan interest	360	360
Independent Examiner's fee	1,435	1,200
	7,621	7,906

5 Net income for the period

	Year Ended <u>31.03.25</u>	Year Ended <u>31.03.24</u>
	£	£
Net income for the period is stated after charging:		
Independent Examiner's fee	1,435	1,200
	1,435	1,200

6 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Trustees.

No remuneration, either directly or indirectly, was paid or is payable from the charity's funds to any of the Trustees or persons known to be connected to them (2024: None).

No reimbursement of expenses has been made or is due to be made to any of the Trustees in respect of the year (2024: None).

7 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year (2024: None).

Taunton Women's Aid
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

8 Investment property

	<u>Total</u> £
Fair value at 1 April 2024	600,000
At 31 March 2025	600,000

The trustees have reviewed the investment property valuation at 31st March 2025 and consider that a valuation at fair value of £600,000 remains appropriate.

9 Debtors

	<u>2025</u> £	<u>2024</u> £
Prepayments and accrued income	1,223	1,233
	1,223	1,233

10 Cash and Bank

	<u>2025</u> £	<u>2024</u> £
Cash in hand	8	9
Nat West Taunton, Current Account	10,000	10,000
Nat West Taunton, Reserve Account	234,319	222,573
	244,327	232,582

11 Creditors

	<u>2025</u> £	<u>2024</u> £
Accrual for grants payable	19,000	16,250
Other accruals	1,385	1,240
	20,385	17,490

Taunton Women's Aid
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025
12 Summary of Net Assets by Fund

	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	2025 Total	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	600,000	600,000	-	600,000	600,000
Current assets	245,550	-	245,550	233,815	-	233,815
Current liabilities	(20,385)	-	(20,385)	(17,490)	-	(17,490)
	<u>225,165</u>	<u>600,000</u>	<u>825,165</u>	<u>216,325</u>	<u>600,000</u>	<u>816,325</u>

13 Movement in funds

	<u>01.04.24</u> £	<u>Income</u> £	<u>Expenditure</u> £	<u>31.03.25</u> £
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>				
General	216,325	35,511	(26,671)	225,165
Designated	600,000	-	-	600,000
	<u>816,235</u>	<u>35,511</u>	<u>(26,671)</u>	<u>825,165</u>
<u>Designated Funds</u>				

The designated fund represents the fair value of the investment property. As these funds are invested in a long-term asset, they are not available to meet the ongoing expenses of the charity.

14 Movement in funds (2024 comparative)

	<u>1.04.23</u> £	<u>Income</u> £	<u>Expenditure</u> £	<u>31.03.24</u> £
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>				
General	208,053	35,428	(27,156)	216,325
Designated	600,000	-	-	600,000
	<u>808,053</u>	<u>35,428</u>	<u>(27,156)</u>	<u>816,325</u>

15 Operating Lease

The charity is due the following future minimum lease receipts under non-cancellable operating leases for which it is a lessor, for each of the following period:

	<u>2025</u> £	<u>2024</u> £
Payments receivable:		
Within one year	16,000	32,000
	<u>16,000</u>	<u>32,000</u>

As a lessor the Charity has an operating lease on their investment property. This is a five-year lease due to expire in April 2028 with a break clause in April 2025. The break clause was not exercised in April 2025. The Charity may terminate the lease at any time giving not less than 6 months written notice.