

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Charity number 1172753

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024



Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 23
Examiner's report	24
Receipts and payments account	25
Statement of assets and liabilities	26
Notes to the accounts	27 to 29

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Geoff Winnard	Chair	
Catharine Worsley Tomlinson	Treasurer	
Lorna Gray		
Nathan Randell		
Lynne Fryer		Resigned 11 July 2023
Laura Bolton		
Ann McKercher		
Jas Baxter		
Jill Cook		

Charity number 1172753 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

2 Royd House Way
Keighley
BD21 4TY
Line 4

Bankers

CAF Bank	Virgin Money plc	Shawbrook Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue	Jubilee House	Warley Hill Business Park
Kings Hill	Gosforth	Great Warley
West Malling	Newcastle upon Tyne	Brentwood
ME19 4JQ	NE3 4PL	Essex CM13 3BE

Independent examiner

E J Beverley FCCA

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) association formed on 25 April 2017 and is governed by a constitution.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

The objects of the CIO are:

The relief of need and the advancement of the health and wellbeing of people of all ages who have an autistic spectrum condition (and who may suffer from related conditions), whether or not formally diagnosed, and their families and carers; in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of support and social opportunities.

The advancement of education, in particular, but not exclusively by:

(a) Increasing public awareness of the needs and challenges of people with an autistic spectrum condition (and who may suffer from related conditions) and their families and carers.

(b) By providing information and training opportunities to individuals with an autistic spectrum condition, and to people working with or supporting individuals with an autistic spectrum condition.

The charity's main activities

To relieve people of all ages who are diagnosed with an autistic spectrum disorder and in particular by the provision of support and assistance to such persons and their families and their carers.

To increase public awareness regarding the problems and circumstances of people with autistic spectrum disorders and their families and carers and to encourage acceptance in the community.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the support of families and children living with autism in the Airedale and Wharfedale areas.

Achievements and performance

See the following annual report



AWARE Annual Report 2023-24



"The WAAD event was so good
I would pay to attend!"

1

"I can be myself at AWARE activities with no worries"



"Community, friendship, tolerance
is what AWARE means to me"

What has AWARE achieved this year?



Thanks to a grant from Co-op Local Community Fund, we held several parent carer craft sessions with lunch in Bingley and Girlington

We were chosen as the main beneficiary of the Ilkley Carnival 2024 – a major boost for us!!

National Lottery Awards for All agreed to fund two of our residencies, allowing us to give our young people more opportunities to have new adventures!

We launched our first virtual Urdu Introduction to Neurodiversity course (possibly a worldwide first?!)



**“ I only joined a few months ago but it's
amazing –
so useful and not judgemental”**



IMPACT & MEMBER SNAPSHOT



500

Families given one-to-one advice on education-related issues by our Family Support Coordinator, Nikki



100%

Of parent carers said they found our Girlington group a positive experience

93%

Of young people we spoke to feel more independent as a result of coming to AWARE activities



93%

Of families feel less isolated since joining AWARE

95%

Feel more supported

100%

Of young people we spoke to said they feel happy at AWARE events

571

Attendances recorded at Youth Club for 2023/24



1382

Members including families, professionals and support groups

1399 male children

666 female

26 non-binary



**ALL the parents
we asked said
they found
parent training
helpful!**

100%

**Of our children and
young people enjoy
spending time with
AWARE staff!**

100%

**Of professionals think
we value equality and
respect all
children/young people
regardless of ability**



97%

**Of WAAD attendees
said they found the
event a positive
experience**

97%

**Of parents and carers
find our newsletter
useful**

THE ACTIVITIES YOU HAVE ORGANISED HAVE HAD A POSITIVE AFFECT ON MY DAUGHTER'S CONFIDENCE AND SOCIAL SKILLS

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN SO MUCH FOR LENDING AN EAR; I FEEL PART OF A COMMUNITY

THE RESIDENTIALS ARE SO GOOD FOR MY SON'S MENTAL HEALTH

THE NEWSLETTER IS VERY USEFUL: ALL THE INFO IS IN ONE PLACE AND IS UP TO DATE

NIKKI IS A SUPERSTAR!

I HAD AN AMAZING TIME AT FUNZY. I MADE SOME NEW FRIENDS AND PLAYED TIG!

IT IS SOMEWHERE WE CAN JUST BE OURSELVES

EARLYBIRD PLUS COURSE WAS FANTASTIC

AWARE, YOU HAVE BEEN AN AMAZING SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS!

WE ARE ALL TRULY BLESSED TO HAVE THIS WONDERFUL SUPPORT GROUP

MY DAUGHTER HAS HAD A LOVELY TIME AT COOK CLUB AND CAME OUT BUBBLING WITH PRIDE AT HER CREATIONS

NOTHING LIKE A NICE MEAL OUT WITH FRIENDS WHILST PLAYING A NICE GAME OF BOWLING

ZOOM MEETINGS ARE
FANTASTIC ESPECIALLY WHEN
JOINING UP WITH THE SEN
TEAM AT BRADFORD

THE PARENT TRAINING HAS BEEN
VERY HELPFUL AND THE TOOLKIT
I HAVE LEARNT HAS HELPED
WITH SUPPORTING AND
UNDERSTANDING MY CHILD

THE STAFF HAVE BEEN THROUGH IT ALL WITH
THEIR OWN CHILDREN

THE PARENT GROUPS ARE SO HELPFUL; I ALWAYS
FIND OUT SOMETHING NEW AND USEFUL

I LIKE GOING AWAY WITH AWARE TO DO NEW
CHALLENGES AND BE WITH MY FRIENDS

MY CHILD LOVES STAY & PLAY SESSIONS, HE INTERACTS WITH
OTHER CHILDREN THERE MORE THAN HE HAS WITH CHILDREN IN
HIS CLASS OVER THE LAST, ALMOST, THREE YEARS

I LIKE GOING TO MOVING ON CLUB. IT'S GOOD TO
GO OUT WITH A GROUP. WE ALWAYS HAVE A
GOOD CHAT

MY CHILD LEARNT TO RIDE
A BIKE, SOMETHING THEY
WERE DESPERATE TO DO

BEING ABLE TO SPEAK TO
OTHERS GOING THROUGH
THE SAME THINGS IS THE
BEST THING ABOUT AWARE

WE LOVE YOUTH CLUB - IT'S A
CHANCE FOR CHILDREN TO
SOCIALISE WITHOUT HAVING TO
MASK OR ACT A CERTAIN WAY. IT
GIVES PARENTS THE CHANCE TO
BE SUPPORTED AND TO SUPPORT
OTHERS

ALL OF THE PARENTS WHO ATTENDED THE TALK AT
OUR SCHOOL ABOUT AUTISM AND AWARE SAID THEY
FOUND THE SESSION USEFUL AND THAT THEY HAVE
LEARNT SOMETHING NEW TODAY

Core values One: 'Being in the Community'

- *Philippa, one of our BEAT Support workers, has been helping shape the future of sleep support across Bradford and Craven, working with the Better Sleep Bradford group!*
- *We were thrilled to be chosen to be part of the Co-Op Local Community Fund for a year!*

We held a bigger WAAD than ever before, allowing us to provide even more information and help to parents AND allow more organisations such as West Yorkshire Police to attend and help inform their autism knowledge!



We are always proud - with the help of members - to spread the word on what we do and chat to people about autism while raising funds, too!



Core Values Two: 'Valuing the individual'



We widened the variety of stalls at our WAAD event to try to reflect the differing needs of our members

“
I can just
be me at
AWARE
activities!
”



10

Core Values Three: 'A place to belong and be understood'

- *This year, to reflect that some members prefer it to Facebook, we embraced WhatsApp and now have a BEAT parents' support group where members can chat and support each other*
- *We have had an unprecedented number of positive comments from our surveys about how our members – both children and adults – value AWARE so much because they have a place they feel they belong!*
- *AWARE's sessional employees and volunteers are patient, empathetic and have a non-judgemental approach to working with and supporting all of our young people and their parents*



Core Values Four: 'Learning from each other'

**It has been lovely to see previous
BEAT members now helping
support and encourage other
parents who may be new to autism**



**Our residentials are the
perfect chance for our young
people to come together,
help and encourage each
other, learn to spend time
with people with differing
needs and practise their
team work!**

“

**I have learnt so much from
other parents and AWARE staff**

”

12

Other 2024 Highlights



Our brilliant BEAT workers Javaria and Rakshandah completed a Parent Carer Peer Support course with The Charlie Waller Trust and Javaria was asked to review the course for next year



We have seen our youngest members learn new skills and grow in confidence before our very eyes. We also love watching our young people progress through our clubs to going on outings with their friends, with support from AWARE staff and volunteers.



We have even seen some of our young people decide they would like to help support younger autistic children at our sessions - absolutely amazing!



We welcomed Emma, Philippa and Leanne to the BEAT team and also recruited new administrative staff member Karen!



We very sadly said goodbye to Rakshandah in her role as BEAT Support Worker but are so pleased she continues to co-run our Urdu BEAT parent training courses.









THANK YOU
VERY MUCH!

Airedale Shopping Centre, Keighley
Ilkley Round Table

One Lottery players

Bradford City events staff

The Hive

Keighley College

All who have donated via our online platforms

Our amazing members who have volunteered at events

Members who donated Christmas card money to AWARE

Easyfundraising and Give as you Live users

Green Lane Primary School

Keighley Big Local

East Morton Gala

NHS

Karen Mitchell & her family

Andrew McKenzie, who ran the Ilkley Half Marathon for us

Clare Porter and her family, who did a sponsored walk

Laura Talbot, who ran the London Marathon for us!

Lauren at Spectrum Photography, our WAAD event photographer

Members who have kindly donated items for our tombolas

Sarah & Simon Pullen and the Caravan Club

AWARE staff who have volunteered at events in their own time

The Co-op Community Fund and members

Ben Phillips & his colleagues at Universal Live

Sovereign Healthcare

The National Lottery Community Fund & Awards for All

Bradford Council

The Dickie Bird, Long Lee

The Ilkley Carnival Committee



THANK YOU
SO MUCH

“

*I have felt less alone and My confidence
has grown since joining aware*

*I'm not quite sure I know how I
would have got through it without the
support from AWARE*

”







ROUNDTABLE

Keighley



Sovereign
Health
Care

airedale
shopping centre

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £9,341, including net receipts of £40,232 on unrestricted funds and net payments of £30,891 on restricted funds after transfers.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £69,866.

The trustees of the charity consider it prudent to keep a certain level of financial reserves to ensure that main operations can continue and to avoid closure if funding difficulties were to occur. They have set the level of reserves at running costs for a period of three months with an additional two months' salary costs, they estimate this figure to be approximately £64,800.

Approved by the board of trustees on 10/12/2024

Catherine Worsley-Tomlinson (Trustee)

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 25 to 29.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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 - matter of concern identified

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

During the year a number of issues were identified relating to record keeping in the previous 2 years. It was discovered that the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2022 did not agree with reports made to funders for that year in relation to the Reaching Communities grant. Spending of £31,889 from this grant in the first year of the funding (April 2021 to March 2022) had been recorded as unrestricted spending. This has now been corrected with a transfer from restricted funds to unrestricted. In the year to March 2023 there was unreported income and expenditure relating to petty cash. Income of approximately £3,684 and expenditure of approximately £4,577 resulting in net expenditure of £893 was unrecorded and has now been corrected in these accounts. The trustees and bookkeeping staff have worked to ensure previous errors are now corrected and checks put in place going forward.

I can confirm I 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.

E J Beverley FCCA

12/12/2024

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource
Receipts and payments account
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024	2024	2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Grants and donations	(2)	13,155	162,576	175,731	169,624
Fees and subscriptions		19,594	-	19,594	12,797
Fundraising		5,468	-	5,468	4,824
Bank interest		1,228	-	1,228	513
Total receipts		39,445	162,576	202,021	187,758
Payments					
Staff costs		9,134	124,142	133,276	122,517
Travel and other staff costs		192	1,316	1,508	1,259
Volunteer and committee expenses		441	22	463	247
Rent and office space		-	1,638	1,638	1,476
Administration, postage and stationery		820	363	1,183	1,010
Telephone and broadband		511	1,266	1,777	1,475
Insurance		-	1,130	1,130	1,130
Books, publications and subscriptions		2,114	1,260	3,374	1,655
Independent examination		1,200	-	1,200	744
Equipment and materials		148	114	262	1,548
Activities and events		16,129	7,239	23,368	21,829
Health and safety		6	26	32	-
IT costs		837	1,282	2,119	934
Business development		172	159	331	568
Training		1,051	19,449	20,500	22,626
DBS checks		253	178	431	51
Bank charges		73	-	73	116
Uniforms		-	-	-	1,556
Recruitment costs		15	-	15	15
Total payments		33,096	159,584	192,680	180,756
Net receipts / (payments)		6,349	2,992	9,341	7,002
Transfers between funds		33,883	(33,883)	-	-
Net movement in funds		40,232	(30,891)	9,341	7,002
Fund balances brought forward		29,634	101,273	130,907	123,905
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	69,866	70,382	140,248	130,907

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource
Statement of assets and liabilities
as at 31 March 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	69,583	70,382	139,965	129,251
Cash in hand	283	-	283	1,656
Total cash funds	<u>69,866</u>	<u>70,382</u>	<u>140,248</u>	<u>130,907</u>

Debtors and prepayments

	2024
	£
Prepayments	1,394
	<u>1,394</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

The charity retains a full list of all equipment and resources

Liabilities

	2024
	£
Accruals	1,584
Taxation and social security	3,471
Other creditors	509
	<u>5,564</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 10/12/2024

Catherine Worsley-Tomlinson (Trustee)

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Grants and donations	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Bradford MDC Early Years Grant	-	9,645	9,645	13,125
Ilkley Round Table	-	8,000	8,000	7,474
Lottery Community Fund	-	80,000	80,000	90,000
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	-	41,818	41,818	43,290
Skipton Building Society	-	-	-	994
World Autism Acceptance Day	-	-	-	1,000
Awards for All	-	15,316	15,316	-
Sovereign Healthcare	-	4,980	4,980	-
Co-Op Silsden	-	2,817	2,817	-
Health Champions Network	400	-	400	-
Airedale Enterprises	444	-	444	-
Donations	12,311	-	12,311	13,741
	<u>13,155</u>	<u>162,576</u>	<u>175,731</u>	<u>169,624</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
BMDC - Early Years Grant	18,052	9,645	6,795	-	20,902
Ilkley Round Table	2,864	8,000	6,023	-	4,841
Jump	506	-	506	-	-
Lottery Community Fund	39,867	80,000	87,978	(31,889)	-
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	38,776	41,818	44,493	(1,000)	35,101
Sovereign Healthcare	214	4,980	3,847	-	1,347
Skipton Building Society	994	-	-	(994)	-
Co-Op Silsden	-	2,817	97	-	2,720
Awards for All	-	15,316	9,845	-	5,471
	<u>101,273</u>	<u>162,576</u>	<u>159,584</u>	<u>(33,883)</u>	<u>70,382</u>

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
BMDC - Early Years Grant	Towards the costs of parent training and running the Saturday Club.
Ilkley Round Table	Towards the costs of residentials.
Jump	To deliver sports themed activity days.
Lottery Community Fund	Towards salaries and all other general running costs. The transfer relates to expenses from year 1 of the funding (2022) that were not allocated to the fund.
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	To fund pre-diagnosis support for parents and carers. The transfer relates to the cost of free memberships provided from this funding.
Sovereign Healthcare	Towards the costs of residentials.
Skipton Building Society	Towards activity costs. The transfer relates to costs from previous years not put against this fund.
Co-Op Silsden	Towards the Cook Club
Awards for All	Towards the costs of residentials.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.