

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

England & Wales · Charity number 1173349

Details

Other names NWN

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-06-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE NHWN ARE TO : (A) PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, GOOD CITIZENSHIP, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND GREATER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, IN THE PREVENTION AND DETECTION OF CRIME AND (B) PROMOTE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE POLICE SERVICE AND OTHER PARTNERS, IN THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE AND PROPERTY FROM, AND PREVENTION OF CRIME.

Activities: Our aim is to bring neighbours together to create strong, friendly, active communities where crime and anti-social behaviour are less likely to happen throughout England and Wales.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------|
| 2025-03-31 | £960,446 | £864,410 | £243,624 | 17 |
| 2024-03-31 | £629,132 | £609,453 | £185,088 | 9 |
| 2023-03-31 | £551,192 | £569,145 | £165,409 | 9 |
| 2022-03-31 | £527,061 | £563,781 | £183,362 | 8 |
| 2021-03-31 | £470,304 | £541,888 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|------------------------------|-------|------------|
| Ian Morris Bretman | Chair | 2020-01-22 |
| Andrew Jones | | 2025-07-08 |
| Andrew Whyte | | 2022-08-17 |
| Hugh Ind | | 2022-08-17 |
| Kardaya Rooprai | | 2018-08-02 |
| Karin Phillips MBE | | 2025-07-17 |
| Rebecca Catherine Bryant OBE | | 2020-07-08 |
| Susan Pillar | | 2020-07-11 |

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1173349

Accounts



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

(Charity No. 1173349)

Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2025

As the national umbrella organisation of the largest voluntary movement for crime prevention in England and Wales, we support people to prevent and reduce crime by coming together with their neighbours to create safer, stronger and active communities.

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About Neighbourhood Watch Network

Neighbourhood Watch Network is the strategic voice and national umbrella organisation for England and Wales. We support the grassroots Neighbourhood Watch movement which involves over 2.3 million volunteers in preventing crime and strengthening communities. This work is delivered by our local Associations who are the members of Neighbourhood Watch Network.

Our vision

Our vision is a society where neighbours come together to create safer, stronger and active communities.

Our mission

Our mission is to support and enable individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe, which increases wellbeing and minimises crime.

Our values

Neighbourly, community-focused, inclusive, proactive, trusted, collaborative.

Introduction from the Chair and the CEO

In introducing this report on behalf of the trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ending 31 March 2025, it is important to also reflect on the events of the past year and their implications for communities across England and Wales.

The low level of trust in the police, politicians, government and other statutory services and the increasing polarisation of views, discussion and sometimes communities is making the role of Neighbourhood Watch within communities increasingly important. Neighbourhood Watch is regarded as a very trustworthy, honest and positive movement with our volunteers and coordinators an important and positive part of their communities. While individual Neighbourhood Watch groups and schemes are hyper-local in their reach, as a movement, their impact is significant and positive and can help to bring communities together in positive, shared action to improve communities and make them better places to live. With the UK Government's focus on neighbourhood policing and named local community officers our role to act a link between the police and communities has never been more important.

The UK Government's connected focus on street crime, ASB and theft also supports our increasing work with shops, businesses, and organisations through our Community Safety Charter and Bystander Training. The work with the non-residential parts of our communities is supporting our role in bringing 'whole' communities together to both tackle crime and fear of crime but to also improve communities.

We continue to be at the heart of communities across England and Wales with over 2.3 million member households, supported by over 60,000 active volunteers managing local schemes. The focus on preventing crime and reducing crime remains at our core but the other strand of work supporting vulnerable people, reducing loneliness and bringing communities together is becoming increasingly important due to the polarisation already mentioned and the lack of former community services provided by statutory services due to budget constraints.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers have undertaken over 200 face to face meetings with local residents as part of our work with BT to support accurate information being shared about the digital switchover of phone lines in addition to their usual community work. We have also run large scale crime prevention campaigns addressing ASB, domestic abuse, harassment, burglary, cybersecurity, car crime, hate crimes, and safety for young people. Our campaigns reach 1.4 million households directly, up 300,000 from last year, and between 200,000 and 1 million people via social media.

As we approach the end of our current 5-Year Strategy the need and importance of local people to be actively connected to, and involved in, their communities could not be more vital. As we develop our new strategy we will need to respond to this need and provide flexible and attractive ways for people to work together to make their communities safer and better places to live.

John Hayward-Cripps
CEO

Ian Bretman
Chair

Trustees report

The Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's trust deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Delivering Our Charitable Purpose

The Objects of NWN, as set out in the Constitution dated 10 April 2017 are to:

- Promote for the benefit of the public good citizenship, community safety and greater public participation in the prevention and detection of crime, and;
- Promote public support for the work of the police service and other partners in the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, crime.

To achieve these objects, we provide free online resources for everyone to help them reduce their chances of becoming a victim of crime. We also signpost them to local Neighbourhood Watch groups which aim to strengthen community cohesion and wellbeing and create better connected and more resilient communities.

At a national level, we work closely with UK Government departments, the National Police Chiefs Council Police and Crime Commissioners and voluntary sector partners to extend the reach of our work as far as possible and involve policy and research institutions in assessing our impact and help us plan for future improvements.

Local Neighbourhood Watch groups make a real, long-lasting difference to communities: as well as helping to reduce crime they increase neighbourliness and community wellbeing and strengthen the voice of the community with councils, the police and other public services. We support and enable local schemes to operate by providing resources, training and networking support to volunteers and members.

Public Benefit & Contribution Made by Volunteers

The public benefit from the activities carried out by the Charity by:

- Having access to information and advice on crime prevention and personal security;
- Being part of better connected and more resilient communities – the Charity facilitates the work of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers to maintain and develop community-based Neighbourhood Watch schemes which in turn contribute to better connected and more resilient communities, where crime and anti-social behaviour can be reduced and also the incidence and impact of loneliness and isolation.

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers (estimated to number at least 60,000 active individuals) work through their local schemes, many of which are charities in their own right. So, while this is not a direct contribution to NWN, it is important to recognise the significant social value created within communities by preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime, alleviating loneliness and isolation, and providing practical assistance between neighbours.

Main Activities

We review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure they remain focused on the charity's stated purposes. In this report, we describe what the charity has achieved and how it has performed in the reporting period and how each key activity has benefitted the people that the charity was set up to help.

Objectives set out in our 2020-2025 strategic plan are to be:

- *the authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention*, so that everyone will be able to access advice and support they need
- *a recognised contributor to community health and wellbeing*, so that community cohesion is increased, and loneliness and isolation are reduced
- *the most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality*, so that neighbours have a place to go to connect with each other and their communities.

Activities to achieve these objectives, that we carry out as the umbrella body and the national voice for the Neighbourhood Watch movement in England and Wales, include:

- **Providing advice and resources:** we host the Ourwatch website for everyone to access crime prevention and community wellbeing advice and resources.
- **Campaigning:** we raise awareness of crime prevention actions that everyone can use, by launching national crime prevention campaigns across social media channels.
- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement:** We work with other charities, government bodies, sponsors the press to show Neighbourhood Watch as a modern, relevant movement for safer, connected communities for all.
- **Facilitating work of local Neighbourhood Watch groups:** we provide training, resources and networking opportunities for local groups, schemes and association across England and Wales.
- **Protecting the intellectual property of the NW movement:** we hold trademarks of the Neighbourhood Watch logo and name, to protect the reputation of the Neighbourhood Watch movement and to maximise income opportunities.
- **Assessing and reflecting:** we regularly survey Neighbourhood Watch members and also members of the public and commission research, to evaluate the impact of our work and assess ways to improve.
- **Increasing our reach:** we constantly look for new avenues to reach younger and more diverse audiences.
- **Growing the resources of our charity:** we continuously look for new sources of income and actively manage our relationships with existing sponsors, grant-givers, and other funders to ensure our income is sufficient for us to achieve all the work we set out to do.

Achievement and Performance

Some of our achievements in furthering Neighbourhood Watch Network's charitable purposes during 2024-2025 are described below.

Providing advice and resources

Website: Over the past year we have continued to update our website relaunching the site during NW Week (June 2024). The changes made the site more public facing with clearer and easier access to crime prevention advice. Information for volunteers was moved to our Volunteer Learning Hub. The outcome has been an increase of over 100% in users of our website to well over 2 million visits.

Newsletter: We have again increased the circulation of our Newsletter which we now distribute centrally to 1.4M households (up 300,000 from last year) while others are distributed locally. The newsletter continues to enjoy an open rate of over 40%. In each edition we run targeted crime prevention campaigns on the UK Government's key priority areas including burglary x 3, internet of things, student safety, antisocial behaviour, harassment, scams x 2, cybercrime, fraud, loneliness & isolation, romance scams, loan sharking, and password security.

Media coverage: We have continued to gain good coverage both locally and across England and Wales on TV and radio shows on the work of Neighbourhood Watch and promoting crime prevention advice and information. These have included BBC, ITV, GB News, Radio 4, LBC Radio, Radio Islam and numerous local BBC and independent radio stations.

Neighbourhood Watch Shop: This year saw an increase in sales from the shop including 181,000 Neighbourhood Watch window stickers being distributed across England and Wales (an increase of nearly 40%) as well as numerous promotional products including street signs, wheelie bin stickers etc.

Campaigning

Crime prevention campaigns: We share all our crime prevention campaigns directly with 1.4 million supporters via the Alert system and also via organic or paid social media. As a result the reach is significant but varied depending on the amount of paid coverage. All the paid social media is directed to the public who are non-members or supporters with a reach ranging from 18,000 (hate crime), to 264,000 (burglary). The specific campaigns have focused on: Domestic Abuse, Street harassment (focus on 'Are you OK?'), Christmas Security, Burglary (focus on the WIDEN approach), Harassment, Young Peoples Safety, Homophobic Hate Crime, Cybersecurity (focus on password security), ASB and Fly-tipping, Race and Disability Hate Crime

As previously all our campaigns are focused on giving straightforward crime prevention advice and calls to action which have been reviewed by experts in the field. These include the National Cyber Security Centre, Suzy Lamplugh Trust, Refuge, Historic England, Resolve, British Transport Police, Metropolitan Police, Secure by Design, SimpliSafe and ERA Home Security.

Partners' campaigns: We have worked closely with the Home Office and the Royal College of Policing to help develop and support the roll out of 'Clear, Hold, Build'. By contributing to several national workshops and events and promoted the programme with local Neighbourhood Watch groups, we have highlighted the role Neighbourhood Watch can have, not only during the 'Build' phase but also in information gathering during and prior to the 'Clear' phase. We have continuously highlighted the importance of the 'Build' phase being initiated within communities in parallel with the 'Clear' phase. This is crucial as the 'Build' phase relies on trust, communication and relationships within the community which take time to develop. This has been widely supported by other community development organisations/charities which will help ensure the 'Build' phase does not have limited take up and sustainability.

Campaigning (continued)

We continue to be a contributing member of the Anti-Social Behaviour Taskforce; the HO/SFO Victims of Fraud Working Group and the National Residential Burglary Task Force. We have increased our comms work with the Home Office to support Home Office campaigns and announcements. This has included providing quotes for use in press releases and media interviews on policing and crime announcements supporting Home Office aims.

We again promoted and supported the 'Month of Community' initiative with other charities and the Home Office through sharing good practice and information which led to various local groups developing warm spaces, foodbanks, large community get togethers, big lunches, litter picking, park clearing and working with other community groups to fundraise and pool resources.

We expanded our liaison with other expert charities and organisations during the year to amplify their reach and to signpost to their resources rather than repeat or replicate advice and information. These include Resolve, Crimestoppers, Victim Support, Refuge, Ben Kinsella Trust, National Cyber Security Centre, Worshipful Company of IT Professionals, Master Locksmiths Association, National Rural Crime Network, Unseen, NSPCC, Avast, Action Fraud.

Neighbourhood Watch Week: This year's Neighbourhood Watch Week focused on taking community action with ideas, resources, and good practice being shared across the network. Research commissioned by the Big Lunch estimated indirect involvement across England and Wales of over 1.2 million people. We launched our annual volunteer awards as part of Neighbourhood Watch Week and received over 100 nominations across the 5 categories.

Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement

Neighbourhood Alert: This is a bespoke community messaging IT system provided by Visav Ltd. The majority of Police Forces in England and Wales use the system which enables them to relay information to residents who have signed up to receive messages. Residents can also sign-up to receive messages from Neighbourhood Watch and other organisations such as Action Fraud.

The Alert system also functions as our central membership database and by working closely with Visav we have increased the number of supporters we can directly message to 1.4 million. This is likely to increase further with the Metropolitan Police taking up the system in 2025. The Neighbourhood Watch Membership Support Administrators (MSA's) are a group of specially trained volunteers who maintain the database across England and Wales which is vital to Neighbourhood Watch and is also a significant benefit to the police forces who also use the database. The MSA's are supported through training webinars, regular meetings and 1-2-1 sessions to ensure their skills, practice and knowledge are up to date as the system develops and improves.

Crime and Community conference: We held our third Crime and Community Conference in Manchester at the Mercure Piccadilly Hotel. The event was a great success with over 100 attendees from all over England and Wales with a high number of volunteers from the North West who do not usually attend when the event is held in London. The key presentations were from Rebecca Bryant (CEO of Resolve and Neighbourhood Watch trustee) on ASB; Andy Farrell (National Police Lead) on Clear, Hold, Build; Greater Manchester Police on Fraud, Economic Fraud, and Cybersecurity; Dr Gillian Pepper on the 'Double Dividend' of feeling safe; and Dr. Ruwan Uduwera-Perera on Solution Focused Policing. Feedback on the presentations was very positive with a great deal of discussion on the issues raised. There were also workshops from our Youth Council and two local groups which were inspirational and very well received.

Impact Report: Our fifth Impact Report celebrated our achievements and impact focusing on Cyberhood Watch, Young People, Volunteers, Local Impact, and the Community Safety Charter.

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups

Volunteer training and Support: In 2024-2025 the Central Support team delivered 6,700 hours of training to volunteers on running crime prevention campaigns, community engagement, equality & diversity, developing an active scheme.

During the year we transferred all the volunteer support materials onto our training and support platform, the Knowledge Hub. There are now over 3750 volunteers (25% increase on last year) signed up to the Knowledge Hub. Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors have a specific area on the Knowledge Hub containing on-line fraud prevention campaign materials from different partners and the monthly Fraud Threat Update from the City of London Police. The Alert system volunteers (MSA's) also have a bespoke area on the Hub.

Supporting Association Leads: We introduced Regional Meetings for Association Leads this year in addition to our established whole group quarterly meetings. The chance to discuss local issues and share ideas and good practice has been well received by leads. In response to demand we also produced a Succession Planning Guide for Associations and a specific guide for coordinators which have also been very well received.

Our 2024/2025 AGM was attended by representatives from 46 Associations with presentations from Karen Ogborn – Chief of Staff, Crimestoppers and Andrew Farrell – National Police Lead for 'Clear, Hold, Build'. There was also a review of the year and an update on the strategy renewal process that will take place during 2025.

Working with local PCC's: In Devon and Cornwall, the West Midlands and Newham we have worked closely with the Violence Reduction Units (VRU's) and have been directly commissioned to support their work. In Devon and Cornwall we employed a member of staff who is focusing on re-invigorating Neighbourhood Watch in 3 'left behind towns'. The work uses the Community Safety Charter to engage with local businesses and residents to develop local Neighbourhood Watch groups in liaison with businesses; who can then work with the police to reduce the high level of local crime. The project has been very successful and is being expanded.

In the West Midlands we have been funded to employ an independent support worker who is developing the work of the regional Faith Alliance.

In Newham the VRU funded us to deliver: i) specific in person youth and community sessions supporting street safety for young people and bystander training, and ii) reinvigorate Neighbourhood Watch and develop a new Association.

The Leicestershire PCC commissioned us to employ a member of staff to re-invigorate Neighbourhood Watch locally and coordinate the work of the local groups.

Grant giving to local communities: Since the launch of our Community Grants Fund, we have granted over £25,000 to communities across the country, supporting community-based projects that have a positive impact for local residents across England and Wales. During this year's funding round, £3,000 of funds went towards activities that helped groups extend their reach and engage with vulnerable people in their communities.

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups (continued)

An example of this is the warm space events and food deliveries in **Lower Halstow** "Our mission was to provide a warm space and soup to anyone struggling with the cost of living crisis. This developed into a real social event that was all inclusive and attended by a spectrum of people. In engaging with the community, there were people struggling with the cost of living crisis, but also people feeling the loneliness of winter and seeking company and conversation. The Neighbourhood Watch volunteer team bonded and were praised by all for everything they did. We even had additional volunteers supporting the events and wanting to be involved in the team."

Work by local Neighbourhood Watch groups: Examples of work carried out at ground level are described below:

Neighbourhood Watch **Greenwich** delivered a range of community events and group sessions on crime prevention, violence reduction and community togetherness supported by the council and the Violence Reduction Unit.

In **Gwent** local volunteers worked with the local council, Neighbourhood Watch Network and their PCC to make the cost of SmartWater marking technology free for local residents. Over 100 households have been protected through the initiative and 45 new NW members recruited.

Merseyside Neighbourhood Watch developed a new team of volunteers working closely with the police to form Community Action Groups across Liverpool. The groups are focused on reducing Anti-Social Behaviour, burglary and car crime across the city and are showing real benefits in reduced crime and improved connection between the police and local communities.

Frimley Neighbourhood Watch in Surrey have collated numerous local residents CCTV footage (doorbell cams etc) and shared this with police resulting in the arrest of various suspects in car crime related incidents.

Ash Tree Road residents in **North West Leicestershire**, reported that many local residents did not have adequate locks on their front doors. By working with the local Community Safety Officer they gained a grant to enable residents to have new locks fitted at no or low cost which they would not have otherwise been able to do.

Headley Rise (**Luton**) Neighbourhood Watch continue to hold monthly engagement meetings with the community and police and have donated over 100 scream alarms to improve individuals' safety. The 'Eyes on Wigmore' program continues to be the 'go to' system for evidential gathering on criminality in the area with over 60 video doorbells involved. Evidence relating to inappropriate behaviour, criminal damage and car crime has been passed to the police. Members of the community feel safer and more connected.

Local volunteers have worked together to reinvigorate the Peace Garden in Rosegrove (**Burnley**), so that it is now a welcoming and positive space in the community. Young children have decorated plant pots and flower beds, while elderly residents enjoy spending sunny days on the benches provided in the Garden. Despite local vandals causing damage, volunteers have maintained the area, working with local police to install CCTV cameras in the space. This has since seen a reduction in vandalism and other acts of antisocial behaviour in the local area.

Assessing and reflecting

We run two surveys annually. The Crime and Community Survey is externally focused, looking at the fear and perception of crime and community cohesion, that our members, supporters and the general public have. The Insights Survey is more internally focused, looking at volunteer and supporter satisfaction and activities.

The results from the 2024 Insights Survey, which had over 24,000 responses from members and non-members, showed that we are clearly increasing our impact and improving the perception of Neighbourhood Watch. The success in improving on our three overarching strategic aims is shown by year on year increases:

1. The authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention - 65% agree that NW is effective at preventing crime (2023: 64%; 2022: 57%)
2. The most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality - 65% agree that that NW provides the first step for neighbours to connect with each other (2023: 57%; 2022: 50%)
3. A recognised contributor to community health & wellbeing - 71% agree that NW contributes to community health and wellbeing (2023: 66%; 2022: 62%)

The Crime and Community Survey had 28,000 responses. The findings steer our campaigns and the top 3 crimes people worry about are again antisocial behaviour (68%), having your home broken into (54%) and cybercrime (50%). Interestingly the results from the 2024 survey have also shown a general decline in both NW members and supporters and the public's confidence in the police in i) resolving crime generally, ii) working with the community to resolve crime (26% drop in both groups). This may well reflect on the widely reported low level of confidence in policing currently as mentioned.

Increasing our reach

Affiliate Scheme: Our affiliate group scheme continues to expand and now has over 850 groups. This enables all members of an established community or local group (such as a faith group, residents association etc) gain the benefits and information from Neighbourhood Watch by just one member of that group joining as a coordinator and using the groups own communication system to disseminate information to their members. It is hoped that these groups are increasing the diversity of people who are benefiting from Neighbourhood Watch but we are unable to gather data from these groups as they are affiliates and do not share data.

Webinars: During the year we ran two sets of crime prevention webinars delivered with 4,500 attendees (members and non-members). The first set of five focused on 'Hidden Crimes', including Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime, Coercive & Controlling Behaviour, Radicalisation and Harassment. The second set of four focused on community crimes including ASB, Bystander Intervention, Stalking and Heritage Crime. We also ran a webinar on reducing Loneliness and Isolation in our communities.

Youth Offer Development: The work of our two Youth Work Development Officers (one national role and one focused on three Boroughs in London) has seen mixed success. The national role including the development of a Youth Board has been very successful. After a year of in-person and on-line sessions we will be initiating a Youth Board in 2025-2026. The Youth Board will support all our comms and resources work as well as inputting into our strategic direction. Local focus groups with Young People in Reading and Bristol are taking place in liaison with local Universities and youth organisations. The aim is that with the support of local, specially trained volunteers we will be able to have a viable Neighbourhood Watch youth offer to roll out more widely. The London work has been altered with the agreement of the City Bridge Trust to delivering a range of in-person and on-line Bystander Training events. This will include working with older people as well as younger people in areas of high harassment and hate crime in London.

Increasing our reach (continued)

Social: Our reach on social media continued to grow slowly to over 44,000 followers. Our paid campaigns continue to reach over one million non-members/supporters through social media clips and advertising.

Supporting vulnerable people to manage transfer from an analogue to digital telephone network: Our partnership with British Telecom (BT) has been very successful with over 200 of the 250 sessions delivered in 2024/25 and the remainder in 2025/26. Commissioned for our unique local reach, we ran volunteer-led events across the South West, South East, East of England, Wales and the North West to offer in-person support and advice on the nationwide Digital Phone Transfer. While BT delivered events in major towns and cities, Neighbourhood Watch focused on smaller and rural communities. These events also promoted our wider work, leading to an increase in sign-ups after the local events.

E-on Energy: Following the success of the BT project, E-on Energy have recognised our ability to mobilise locally and be seen as a reliable voice. They commissioned us to deliver 25+ events across England and Wales to advise people of what they need to check and do before the analogue electricity signal (RTS) is turned off (now delayed from July 2025).

Community Safety Charter: The Neighbourhood Watch Community Safety Charter has continued to be a focus and there are now nearly 3,500 organisation, businesses and individuals signed up to the charter. During the year we have updated modules and developed a new module on Student Safety which was developed in partnership with the University of East Anglia. We ran three webinars on the Community Safety Charter during the year with 3,700 attendees (members and non-members). The aim in 2025 is to update all the modules and develop 2 more and relaunch the Charter during Neighbourhood Watch Week.

Cyberhood Watch: Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors presented over 450 local sessions on cybersecurity, cyber scams and staying safe online during the year. This is a 200% increase over last year. While the themes are similar to last year covering strong passwords, not sharing or repeating passwords, data backup, recognising scams and fraud via email, texts, facebook etc. the reach has been significantly larger. Feedback continues to be very positive increasing attendees confidence and skills in staying safe online.

London Policing Plan: We gave evidence in the London Mayors consultation on the London Policing Plan, highlighting the importance of Neighbourhood Policing and what is required to achieve this. The input was very positively received and we have been invited to review this aspect of the plan over the coming years.

Growing the resources of our charity

Corporate Sponsorship: By trialing an external automated prospecting company, Sopro, we have significantly increased the number of potential and actual corporate sponsors. While there was a significant IT set up time the automated emailing and contacting prospective sponsors via Linked-in has proved very successful with multiple leads then followed up directly by staff. The income from this new work is well over £60,000 and we will continue to work in this way in 2025-2026

Grants: We also commissioned a grant writing consultancy, Lime Green Consulting who prospected and completed over 30 grant applications on our behalf focusing in on core funding and the volunteer programme. The success rate was disappointing with only one grant being successful to date but this is possibly a reflection of the grant environment with many funders changing or freezing their funds during the year.

Future Plans

Our current 5-year strategy ends at the end of 2025. In 2025-2026 we will work with Associations, volunteers and the public to develop a new 5-year strategy.

In addition the 2025-2026 workstreams include:

- Update the Community Safety Charter to include online learning options for businesses and organisations with a significant relaunch focused on small and medium sized businesses
- Work more closely with the UK Government to support and gain funding for staff to deliver a volunteer programme supporting community connectedness and cohesion through Neighbourhood Watch.
- Complete the BT Project across 5 regions of the UK and complete the E-on Energy work
- Recruit and induct new trustees to support the work of the charity
- Trial new approaches to working with young people to increasing engagement in their communities and develop a Youth Board.
- Increase the reach and scope of the Cyberhood Watch Project including securing funding for a paid Co-ordinator for the project.

Financial review

Financial position

The detailed figures for the year ended 31 March 2025 are set out in the financial statements that follow the Trustees' Report.

There was a net surplus in the year of £96,036 (2023/24: deficit of £19,679). The surplus was planned to build up reserves, for the future growth of the charity. The deficit in the previous year was planned as additional income had been received in prior years that was set aside by the Trustees, as designated funds, for projects in future years. This left total funds of £243,624 (2023/24: £147,588) at the end of the year.

Reserves

Total funds may include those that are –

- Restricted by the donor or funder for specific activities or programmes and that cannot be used for the general purposes of the charity,
and/or those that are
- Received in one financial year as part of a grant for work to be carried out wholly or partly in future financial years.

The existence and level of reserves does not mean that there has been an underspend in the past. Reserves can be built up for various reasons, including timing differences between our financial year and our funders'.

The funds that form our unrestricted funds reserve, should be enough to keep a positive cashflow for day-to-day operations, and keep enough for emergencies. This could be including cutting back our operations in the event of a downturn in funding, or for a winding-up of the charity if there was a large drop in funding. Unrestricted funds can also be designated for investment in future development as part of our long-term strategy.

The full Board reviews the reserves policy annually and has agreed an unrestricted reserve fund target of between three and six months of budgeted general fund operating costs. The table below shows how reserves are calculated:

| | 31 March 2025 | 31 March 2024 (restated) |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Total net assets | 243,624 | 147,588 |
| Less | | |
| Carrying value of fixed assets | (1,711) | (3,406) |
| Carrying value of shop stock | (7,485) | (5,272) |
| Restricted funds | (40,014) | (24,713) |
| Certain designated funds | (6,327) | (2,399) |
| Total reserves | 188,087 | 111,798 |
| | | |
| Budgeted general funds expenditure | 568,720 | 524,132 |
| Number of months of expenditure | 4.0 | 2.6 |

The Board has instructed the Finance and Audit Committee to monitor reserves on a quarterly basis and to recommend any changes to the policy to the Board.

Financial review (continued)

Going concern

After reviewing our forecasts, projections and its reserves, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that we have adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. We therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Sources of funds

The Home Office grant provides funding for core activity and enables us to secure additional funding from commercial sponsors including ERA (home security products), Avast/Norton (internet security software), AirBnB (holiday accommodation), Simplisafe (home security products). We are indebted to our sponsors who support us and work closely with them to amplify our message through their networks.

Fundraising Practices

Neighbourhood Watch Network is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is fully compliant with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Fundraising is an Individual Member of the Institute of Fundraising. In the year 2024/25 we did not carry out any direct marketing or face-to-face fundraising and received no complaints related to our fundraising practices. We are committed to always protecting vulnerable people and will ensure adherence to the Code of Fundraising practice and clear guidelines should we undertake different types of fundraising in the future. All marketing materials contain clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Risk Management

We review the main risks facing the charity on a regular basis. The current risk register highlights the reliance on a narrow range of funders mentioned above and the related need to better demonstrate the impact of Neighbourhood Watch activities, particularly in respect of crime prevention. NWN also recognises the need to extend its reach and develop a stronger offer that is relevant to all parts of society and that builds engagement among younger people, those from ethnic minority backgrounds and those most at risk from crime. All of these issues are addressed in NWN's 2020-2025 strategy and being implemented in our future plans. The charity has also insured against risks where practical to do so.

Structure, governance and management

Legal structure

Neighbourhood Watch Network was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 9th June 2017. It replaced Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network, a registered charity and company which was then dissolved. The voting membership of the CIO is explained below; trustees are also voting members.

Governance

Our governing document is its Constitution, dated 10 April 2017 which is available on our website www.ourwatch.org.uk. The overall governance, finance and operations of NWN are controlled by the Trustees, within the regulatory framework set by the Charity Commission.

The Constitution, resolutions and complementary procedures set by the Board, are the rules that we operate by, and by which decisions are made. The Trustees are ultimately responsible for NWN.

Members

NWN's membership structure aligns with the 43 Police Force areas across England and Wales and each of these can form a "Force Level Association" and become voting members of NWN by signing a Memorandum of Understanding covering joint working arrangements and providing a common framework of ethics and standards. There are currently 30 of these Force Level Associations. The exception to the national structure is the Metropolitan Police Force Area which is organized around the 32 London Boroughs and which collectively account for 4 votes within the membership.

Individual membership of local Neighbourhood Watch Associations does not confer membership of the CIO.

Trustees

The governing document states that there must be between 4 and 12 trustees in post at any time. Trustees who serve at the date of this report, and those who served during the year under review are set out on page 18.

The trustees delegate much of the day-to-day management of NWN to the CEO, but remain ultimately responsible. Their responsibilities are active, not passive, and include:

- regular evaluation of the strategic direction of NWN and its management policies
- evaluation of outcomes and the effectiveness with which the CEO and management implement them
- monitoring legal compliance
- management of risks related to NWN's activities

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

Structure, governance, management (continued)

The trustees are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed are set out in note 5 to the financial statements.

The Board's operations

The Board of Trustees meets at least four times a year to conduct its business and oversee progress against strategic and operational plans. Trustees are also involved in various working groups that support strategic workstreams. The Board is supported by a Finance and Audit Committee, which oversees the Charity's finances (including reserves), income generation and risk management, and reports regularly to the Board on these matters.

Appointment and retirement of trustees

The Trustees are elected by the Members at NWN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and others may be co-opted by the Board between Annual General Meetings, provided that the total number of trustees does not exceed twelve. Members are entitled to nominate candidates for election as trustees at the AGM and other trustees are recruited through advertising and evidence-based recruitment processes against the trustees' role description.

Board recruitment and induction

The Board is responsible for ensuring that it is made up of trustees who are collectively able to fulfil the governance function of the Board and therefore needs to have a mix of skills, both those which relate to the objectives of NWN and more generic skills and experience such as legal and financial.

The Board regularly undertakes a self-assessed skills audit against the set of skills it has identified as being essential for the governance of the Charity; this enables the Board to identify skills gaps, which informs the recruitment process and training needs. Trustees are able to access learning and development opportunities relevant to their trustee position.

Management

The Trustees delegate day-to-day running of the charity to the CEO who reports directly to the Board. The CEO leads a staff team of 13 salaried staff (8.4 full-time equivalents) at the time of signing the report. The Chair and Treasurer hold a meeting with the CEO each month. The Board receives regular reports on operational performance and provides oversight and scrutiny of results, using a set of key performance indicators.

Remuneration

The remuneration of the CEO is set by the Board and the remuneration of other staff is set by the CEO. In all cases, this is informed by formal and informal benchmarking information from comparable organisations in the voluntary sector, the responsibilities of each individual role and the requirements of the person specification.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name: Neighbourhood Watch Network
Charity number: 1173349
Country of registration: England & Wales

Principal office: Room V108, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Ian Bretman | Chair |
| Kardaya Singh Rooprai | Treasurer |
| Rebecca Bryant OBE | |
| Mohamed Hammeda | (resigned 3 December 2024) |
| Sue Pillar | |
| Hugh Ind | |
| Andrew Whyte | |
| Karin Phillips MBE | (appointed 8 July 2025) |
| Andrew Jones | (appointed 8 July 2025) |

Key management personnel: John Hayward-Cripps, Chief Executive Officer

Bankers: HSBC, 41 Market Place, Loughborough, LE11 3EJ

Independent Examiner: Joanna Pittman, Sayer Vincent LLP
110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG

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 year. 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ian Bretman

Chair

Date: 19 November 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 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

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 CIO 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.

Signed:

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG
Date: 21 November 2025

Financial Statements

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | 31 March 25 Total £ | 31 March 24 (restated) Total £ |
|--|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Income from: | | | | | |
| Donations | | 2,610 | - | 2,610 | 38,730 |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 280,000 | 173,243 | 453,243 | 348,746 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 482,319 | 13,000 | 495,319 | 239,915 |
| Investments | - | 9,274 | - | 9,274 | 1,741 |
| Total income | | 774,203 | 186,243 | 960,466 | 629,132 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 584,610 | 170,941 | 755,551 | 536,619 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 108,859 | - | 108,859 | 72,834 |
| Total expenditure | | 693,469 | 170,941 | 864,410 | 609,453 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | 80,734 | 15,302 | 96,036 | 19,679 |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | 80,734 | 15,302 | 96,036 | 19,679 |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward (restated) | | 122,875 | 21,713 | 147,588 | 127,909 |
| Total funds carried forward | 10 | 203,610 | 40,014 | 243,624 | 147,588 |

All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities. There are no other gains or losses other than those stated above. Notes 1 – 14 form part of the financial statements.

**Balance sheet
at 31 March 2025**

| | Notes | 31 March 2025 £ | 31 March 2024 (restated) £ |
|---|-------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Intangible fixed assets | 7 | - | - |
| Tangible fixed assets | 7 | 1,711 | 3,406 |
| Total fixed assets | | 1,711 | 3,406 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Stock | | 7,485 | 5,272 |
| Debtors | 8 | 165,290 | 149,128 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 258,940 | 488,780 |
| Total current assets | | 431,715 | 643,180 |
| Creditors: amounts due within one year | 9 | (189,802) | (498,998) |
| Net current assets | | 241,933 | 144,182 |
| Total net assets | | 243,624 | 147,588 |
| Funds of the charity | | | |
| | 10 | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | |
| Designated funds | | 59,555 | 2,399 |
| General funds | | 144,055 | 120,476 |
| Total unrestricted funds | | 203,610 | 122,875 |
| Restricted funds | | 40,014 | 24,713 |
| Total funds | | 243,624 | 147,588 |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Bretman
Chair
Date: 19 November 2025

Sue Pillar
Deputy Chair
Date: 19 November 2025

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2024

| | Notes | 31 March 2025 £ | 31 March 2024 £ |
|---|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities | | | |
| Net income/(expenditure) as per the statement of financial activities | | 96,036 | 19,679 |
| Investment income | | (9,275) | (1,741) |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 7 | 1,695 | 1,877 |
| Movements in working capital | | | |
| Change in stock | | (2,213) | 4,744 |
| Change in debtors | 8 | (16,162) | (74,336) |
| Change in creditors | 9 | (309,196) | 423,767 |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | (239,115) | 393,990 |
| Cash flow statement | | | |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | - | (1,080) |
| Cash flow from investment activities | | | |
| Disposal of fixed assets | 7 | - | 123 |
| Investment income | | 9,275 | 1,741 |
| Net cash used in investment activities | | 9,275 | 784 |
| Change in cash in the year | | (229,840) | 374,775 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | | 488,780 | 114,006 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 258,940 | 488,780 |
| Analysis of cash and cash equivalents | | | |
| Current account | | 10,665 | 10,780 |
| Deposit account | | 128,275 | 478,000 |
| Money Markets | | 120,000 | - |
| Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 260,140 | 488,780 |

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

a. Statutory information

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Room V108, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH.

b. Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Charities SORP (FRS 102) – *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)*
- FRS 102 – The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- The Charities Act 2011.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

c. Critical accounting judgements and estimates

When preparing the financial statements in line with FRS 102, the trustees are required to make judgements and estimates. The estimates and judgements are based on historical experiences and other factors that are considered relevant including expectations of future events. The estimates and judgements include:

- Accruals: costs not yet invoiced (see Expenditure policy below)
- Allocation of support costs (see Expenditure policy below); and
- Depreciation and impairment (see Fixed Assets policy below).

In the view of the trustees, no assumptions concerning the future have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

d. Going concern

When considering going concern, the trustees consider all available information about the future at the date they approve the accounts, which includes information from budgets and forecasts about income, expenditure and cash flows. Attention is also given to reserves.

The charity has not been adversely affected by the cost of living crisis as it does not rely on donations from the general public as a result of fundraising events.

Given the reserves currently held, the trustees believe that the current economic situation, including the cost of living crisis, does not pose a material uncertainty that would cast doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees therefore consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e. Income

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income can be measured reliably.

Income is deferred when the Charity receives money in advance of the period to which it relates or before the Charity has fulfilled the related performance obligations. Deferred income is recognised as a liability in the Balance Sheet until the conditions for recognition are satisfied

Income from the online shop is recognised when orders are placed and funds are paid into the charity's Paypal account.

f. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is attributed to the following areas:

- *raising funds*
- *charitable activities*

Where expenditure cannot be directly attributed to these areas, it is allocated to them on a usage or head count basis. Support costs, such as general management, finance, office rent and governance costs are allocated in this way. Governance costs are costs associated with the general running of the charity and include audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Direct costs relating to the operation of the online shop are allocated on the following basis:

- written campaign material: 100% charitable activities
- signs, stickers and branded goods: 25% fundraising; 75% charitable activities

Raising funds relate to the costs in carrying out activities that are intended to generate income, such as staff time managing grant applications and developing commercial sponsorship agreements. It also includes costs relating to operating the online shop, such as the cost of items sold and fees for fulfilling orders.

Charitable activities are costs incurred in delivering activities and services for the charity's beneficiaries. These include providing information and resources to Neighbourhood Watch members and the general public on the Ourwatch.org.uk website, staff costs for delivering campaigns and project and paying grants. Grants are recognised as expenditure when they are approved and this has been communicated to the recipient.

The charity is unable to recover the majority of VAT charged. This irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

g. Fund accounting

Restricted funds are funds which arose when donors gave them for particular restricted purposes which are narrower than the general purposes of the charity. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the general objectives of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as for use at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the note 10 to the financial statements.

h. Operating leases

Payments made under operating leases are charged to the SOFA when incurred. The charity does not acquire assets under finance leases.

i. Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1000 are capitalised and are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over its estimated useful life as follows:

- Office equipment: 25% reducing balance
- Furniture and fittings: 20% reducing balance

Intangible fixed assets are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

The Ourwatch.org.uk website for the national Neighbourhood Watch Network is capitalised as an intangible asset and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life of 3 years.

Impairment reviews are conducted when events and changes in circumstances indicate that an impairment may have occurred. If any asset is found to have a carrying value materially higher than its recoverable amount, it is written down accordingly.

j. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, short term highly liquid investments and fix term deposits of less than 6 months.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

k. Stock

Stock consists of online shop branded items, such as road signs, mugs and pens and is valued at cost or written-down value. Stock is reviewed at least annually and its carrying value is reduced to the lower of cost or estimated net realisable value. If any items are given away at events, the cost is expensed at that time.

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due for the provision of services delivered. Prepayments are recognised at the amount prepaid or the amount paid in advance.

m. Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

n. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

o. Pensions

Pension costs comprise the costs of the charity's contribution to its employee's pension schemes. The charity provides a money purchase scheme which is available to all employees.

2. Income from charitable activities

| | 31 March 2025 | | | 31 March 2024 | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
| Grants | | | | | | |
| Home Office | 280,000 | - | 280,000 | 280,000 | - | 280,000 |
| Partners | - | 173,242 | 173,242 | - | 68,746 | 68,746 |
| Total | 280,000 | 173,242 | 453,242 | 280,000 | 68,746 | 348,746 |

3. Income from other trading activities

| | 31 March 2025 | | | 31 March 2024 | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
| Sponsorship | | | | | | |
| ERA | 50,000 | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | - | 50,000 |
| AVAST | 42,932 | - | 42,932 | 34,653 | - | 34,653 |
| Simplisafe | 39,480 | 3,000 | 42,480 | 28,352 | - | 28,352 |
| Airbnb | 20,381 | - | 20,381 | 20,000 | - | 20,000 |
| Other | 17,000 | 10,000 | 27,000 | 17,000 | 13,000 | 30,000 |
| Total sponsorship | 169,793 | 13,000 | 182,793 | 150,005 | 13,000 | 163,005 |
| Commission | 7,973 | - | 7,973 | 5,505 | - | 5,505 |
| Community projects - BT | 248,352 | - | 248,352 | 3,342 | - | 3,342 |
| Online shop sales | 25,965 | - | 25,965 | 32,119 | - | 32,119 |
| Lottery income | 24,734 | - | 24,734 | 30,250 | - | 30,250 |
| Other income | 5,502 | - | 5,502 | 5,694 | - | 5,694 |
| Total | 482,319 | 13,000 | 495,319 | 226,915 | 13,000 | 239,915 |

Other trading income includes licence fees and advertising fees.

4. Expenditure

Year ended 31 March 2025

| | Raising funds £ | Charitable activities £ | Governance costs £ | Support costs £ | Total £ |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 74,195 | 444,594 | 31,861 | 76,560 | 627,210 |
| Other direct costs | 8,824 | 154,314 | 12,288 | 59,968 | 235,394 |
| Grants paid | - | 1,806 | - | - | 1,806 |
| Total | 83,019 | 600,714 | 44,149 | 136,528 | 864,410 |
| Support costs | 19,526 | 117,002 | - | (136,528) | - |
| Governance costs | 6,314 | 37,835 | (44,149) | - | - |
| Total | 108,859 | 755,551 | - | - | 864,410 |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 108,859 | 584,610 | | | 693,469 |
| Restricted funds | - | 170,941 | | | 170,941 |
| Total | 108,859 | 755,551 | | | 864,410 |

Prior year, year ended 31 March 2024

| | Raising funds £ | Charitable activities £ | Governance costs £ | Support costs £ | Total £ |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 45,364 | 252,129 | 32,688 | 67,156 | 397,337 |
| Other direct costs | 7,293 | 162,875 | 6,431 | 26,042 | 202,642 |
| Grants paid | - | 9,475 | - | - | 9,475 |
| Total | 52,657 | 424,479 | 39,119 | 93,198 | 609,453 |
| Support costs | 14,212 | 78,986 | - | (93,198) | - |
| Governance costs | 5,965 | 33,154 | (39,119) | - | - |
| Total | 72,834 | 536,619 | - | - | |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 72,834 | 437,363 | | | 510,197 |
| Restricted funds | - | 99,256 | | | 99,256 |
| Total | 72,834 | 536,619 | | | 609,453 |

Staff costs are allocated to *raising funds*, *charitable expenditure*, *governance costs* and *support costs* using an activities-based time split. Non-staff costs are allocated directly to the category to which they relate.

Governance costs and support costs are allocated to *raising funds* and *charitable activities* on a percentage basis based on expenditure, as an approximation of usage.

5. Governance costs

The Independent Examiner's fee is included within governance costs. The amount payable in the year to the Independent examiner was £3,900 + VAT (2023/24: £3,700 + VAT).

Trustees give their time and expertise without charge and do not receive any other benefit from the charity. They are reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs incurred when fulfilling their duties as trustees. During the year two trustees (2023/24: three) were reimbursed a total of £600 (2023/24: £557).

There were no related party donations or other transactions during the year (2023/24: none).

6. Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

| | 31 March 2025 | 31 March 2024 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Wages and salaries | 510,834 | 342,115 |
| Social security costs | 44,833 | 30,329 |
| Pension costs | 21,581 | 13,756 |
| Total employment costs | 577,248 | 386,200 |
| Other staff related costs | 49,962 | 11,137 |
| Total staff related costs | 627,210 | 397,337 |

Other staff related costs include staff travel and other expenses, recruitment and training costs.

The average head count of staff employed throughout the period was 17.3 (2023/24: 9.0).

There was 1 member of staff whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) were between £80,000-£90,000 (2023/24: 1 member of staff whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) were between £70,001-£80,000).

Key management personnel

The total cost of employee benefits (salary and employer's National Insurance and pension contributions) for key management personnel in the year was £104,273 (202/24: £96,080).

7. Fixed assets

Intangible assets – Ourwatch.org.uk website

| | |
|--|----------|
| Cost | £ |
| At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025 | 16,971 |
| Amortisation | |
| At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025 | 16,971 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2025 | - |
| Net book value at 31 March 2024 | - |

7. Fixed assets (continued)

Tangible assets

| | Fixtures and fittings £ | Office equipment £ | Total £ |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Cost | | | |
| 1 April 2024 | 1,128 | 6,692 | 7,820 |
| Additions | - | - | - |
| Disposals | (1,128) | - | (1,128) |
| At 31 March 2025 | - | 6,692 | 6,692 |
| Depreciation | | | |
| At 1 April 2024 | 903 | 3,511 | 4,414 |
| Charge for the year | 225 | 1,470 | 1,695 |
| Disposals | (1,128) | - | (1,128) |
| At 31 March 2025 | - | 4,981 | 4,981 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2025 | - | 1,711 | 1,711 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2024 | 225 | 3,181 | 3,406 |

8. Debtors

| | 31 March 2025 £ | 31 March 2024 £ |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Trade debtors | 105,317 | 122,040 |
| Other debtors | 25,366 | 6,639 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 34,607 | 20,449 |
| Total | 165,290 | 149,128 |

9. Creditors

| | 31 March 2025 £ | 31 March 2024 (restated) £ |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Trade creditors | 6,327 | 10,576 |
| Other taxes and social security | 30,786 | 89,862 |
| Other creditors | 4,361 | 1,420 |
| Accruals and deferred income (restated) | 148,328 | 397,140 |
| Total | 189,802 | 461,498 |

10. Movement in funds

| Current year | At 1 April 2024 (restated) £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | At 31 March 2025 £ |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Community fund | 2,660 | 5,473 | (1,806) | 6,327 |
| BT Digital Switchover | (261) | 248,352 | (194,863) | 53,228 |
| Total designated funds | 2,399 | 253,825 | (196,669) | 59,555 |
| General fund | 120,476 | 520,379 | (496,800) | 144,055 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 122,875 | 774,224 | (693,469) | 203,610 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| Devon and Cornwall | 1,696 | 27,900 | (26,724) | 2,872 |
| Young people | 7,075 | - | - | 7,075 |
| Young people: CBF | (5,009) | 47,326 | (31,595) | 10,722 |
| Young people: Lottery | (375) | 48,048 | (42,231) | 5,442 |
| Newham Project | - | 47,000 | (29,095) | 11,605 |
| Leicestershire | 21,326 | - | (21,326) | - |
| Other restricted funds | - | 22,268 | (19,970) | 2,298 |
| Total restricted funds | 24,713 | 186,242 | (170,941) | 40,014 |
| Total funds | 147,588 | 960,446 | (864,410) | 243,624 |
| Prior year | | | | |
| | At 1 April 2023 (restated) £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | At 31 March 2024 (restated) £ |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Community fund | 7,295 | 4,529 | (9,164) | 2,660 |
| BT Digital Switchover | - | 3,342 | (3,603) | (261) |
| Project fund | 1,667 | - | (1,667) | - |
| Total designated funds | 8,962 | 7,871 | (14,434) | 2,399 |
| General fund | 108,163 | 508,076 | (495,763) | 120,476 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 117,125 | 515,947 | (510,197) | 122,875 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| Devon and Cornwall | 10,323 | 18,750 | (27,377) | 1,696 |
| Young people | - | 31,439 | (24,364) | 7,075 |
| Young people: CBF | - | 10,005 | (15,015) | (5,009) |
| Young people: Lottery | - | - | (375) | (375) |
| Leicestershire | - | 39,991 | (18,665) | 21,326 |
| NESTA | 461 | - | (461) | - |
| Other restricted funds | - | 13,000 | 13,000 | - |
| Total restricted funds | 10,784 | 113,185 | (99,256) | 24,713 |
| Total funds | 127,909 | 629,132 | (609,453) | 147,588 |

10. Movement in funds (continued)

Designated funds

Community fund is money set aside for making small grants to local neighbourhood watch community projects across England and Wales. Money used for this fund comes from Patlock commission, where Patlock donates £7 from each lock it sells to Neighbourhood Watch members.

BT Digital Switchover

This partnership with BT is advising vulnerable people on the switch from analogue to digital telephone networks, reducing the risk of them becoming victims of scams and fraud. BT is running large events in cities and major towns and we have been commissioned to run smaller local events with volunteers. The project will run until July 2025.

Project fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the charity to deliver a series of intervention projects to support the trustees' 10-point strategy. In the year, funds were used for crime prevention campaigns on social media.

Restricted funds

Devon and Cornwall is money received to fund a community project manager based and working in the Devon and Cornwall Police Force areas.

Young people is money raised from donations for use in youth projects.

Young people: City Bridge Foundation is a grant received to engage with young people in certain London boroughs. It enables us to employ a part-time project manager over two years.

Young people: National Lottery is a grant received to engage with young people across England and Wales. It enables us to employ a full-time project manager over three years and funds the Neighbourhood Watch Youth Council.

Newham Project is a restricted grant from London Borough of Newham's Violence Reduction Unit's grant from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). This project will set up a Neighbourhood Watch association in Newham, and carry out in-person events.

Leicestershire is money received from the PCC to fund a project worker based and working in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

NESTA grant fund is funding received from NESTA (a national grant-making charity, www.nesta.org.uk) for the 'Communities that Care' project. This was fully spent as at 31 March 2024.

Other restricted funds includes donations, grants or sponsorship received for specific projects or events.

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

| Current year | General fund £ | Designated funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds (restated) £ |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Fixed assets | 1,711 | - | - | 1,711 |
| Net current assets | 142,344 | 59,555 | 40,014 | 241,913 |
| Total funds | 144,055 | 2,399 | 40,014 | 243,624 |
| | | | | |
| Prior year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
| Fixed assets | 3,406 | - | - | 3,406 |
| Net current assets (restated) | 117,070 | 2,399 | 24,713 | 144,182 |
| Total funds | 120,476 | 2,399 | 24,713 | 147,588 |

12. Operating leases

The charity had one operating lease at the balance sheet date, for rented office space. The minimum non-cancellable lease payments are:

| | 31 March 2025 £ | 31 March 2024 £ |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Not later than one year | 20,223 | 10,210 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | - | - |

13. Prior year comparatives

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 March 2024

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total (restated) £ |
|---|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Income from: | | | | |
| Donations | | 7,291 | 31,439 | 38,730 |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 280,000 | 68,746 | 348,746 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 226,915 | 13,000 | 239,915 |
| Investments | - | 1,741 | - | 1,741 |
| Total income | | 515,947 | 113,185 | 629,132 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 437,363 | 99,256 | 536,619 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 72,834 | - | 72,834 |
| Total expenditure | | 510,197 | 99,256 | 609,453 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | 5,750 | 13,929 | 19,679 |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | 5,750 | 13,929 | 19,679 |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward (restated) | | 154,625 | 10,784 | 127,909 |
| Total funds carried forward | 10 | 160,375 | 24,713 | 147,588 |

14. Prior year adjustment

The financial statements and notes have been restated to incorporate the impact of a prior year adjustment. Following a review of sponsorship income and when it is recognised, it was identified that one sponsor of £50,000 should not be recognised in advance, but instead on a quarterly basis.

Total funds brought forward in the comparative year (year ended 31 March 2024) have been amended by £37,500 as a result, which is 9 months of £50,000.

Although income in the comparative year was also amended to include £37,500 of opening deferred income, because there was also an amendment for £37,500 of closing deferred income, there is no overall effect on income in the comparative year, and as such, no numbers have been restated.

14. Prior year adjustment (continued)

Changes to opening funds at 1 April 2024 resulting from a prior year adjustment are shown in the table below:

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | 31 March 24 (restated) Total £ |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Total funds brought forward at 31 March 2023 (as previously stated) | 154,625 | 10,784 | 165,409 |
| Income deferred for period 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 | (37,500) | - | (37,500) |
| Total funds brought forward at 31 March 2023 (restated) | 122,125 | 10,784 | 127,909 |
| Total funds brought forward at 31 March 2024 (as previously stated) | | | 185,088 |
| Income deferred for period 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 | | | (37,500) |
| Total funds brought forward at 31 March 2024 (restated) | | | 147,588 |

Changes to net assets at 31 March 2024 resulting from a prior year adjustment is shown in the table below:

| | 31 March 24 (restated) £ |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Net assets at 31 March 2024(as previously stated) | 185,088 |
| Income deferred for period 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 | (37,500) |
| Net assets at 31 March 2024 (restated) | 147,588 |

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1173349

Accounts



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

(Charity No. 1173349)

Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

As the national umbrella organisation of the largest voluntary movement for crime prevention in England and Wales, we support people to prevent and reduce crime by coming together with their neighbours to create safer, stronger and active communities.

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About Neighbourhood Watch Network

Neighbourhood Watch Network is the strategic voice and national umbrella organisation for England and Wales. We support the grassroots Neighbourhood Watch movement which involves over 2.3 million volunteers in preventing crime and strengthening communities. This work is delivered by our local Associations who are the members of Neighbourhood Watch Network.

Our vision

Our vision is a society where neighbours come together to create safer, stronger and active communities.

Our mission

Our mission is to support and enable individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe, which increases wellbeing and minimises crime.

Our values

Neighbourly, community-focused, inclusive, proactive, trusted, collaborative.

Introduction from the Chair and the CEO

In introducing this report on behalf of the trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ending 31 March 2024, it is impossible not to also reflect on the events of the past few months and their implications for the work of the charity and its supporters.

The new government, elected in July 2024 has stated that one of its missions is to “take back our streets” and we are pleased to see that the government has made it a priority to tackle in particular the unacceptable levels of anti-social behaviour, and violence against women and girls, that blights so many people’s lives. While providing additional resources for the police and criminal justice system to deal with offences is obviously critical to this, we have urged the new government to also support local efforts to strengthen communities and create places where crime cannot flourish. It has been a fundamental principle of British policing since the days of Sir Robert Peel, that it is a partnership with the public and it remains more relevant and necessary than ever. The primary goal of policing should put preventing crime above catching offenders, and success should be measured in lower crime rates and not just the number of arrests and convictions.

The importance of strong, connected communities was illustrated by the response to deplorable outbreaks rioting in the summer, which required a robust response from the police. But we also saw communities coming together to reject violence and hatred and show solidarity with their neighbours.

Neighbourhood Watch is at the heart of these efforts in communities throughout England and Wales, with local schemes run by 60,000 active volunteers that connect with over 2.3 million people. The work that we have always done to provide information and advice on keeping safe from crime, helping people to report concerns, and supporting victims, remains incredibly valuable. We are pleased that this is receiving more recognition from Police Forces and Police and Crime Commissioners in areas like Devon & Cornwall and Leicestershire, with growing interest elsewhere.

We are also seeing the fruits of investment in new areas of work, such as partnerships with business and new ways of engaging young people in our work. Our partnership with BT is advising vulnerable people on the switch from analogue to digital telephone networks, reducing the risk of them becoming victims of scams and fraud, while our youth work is expanding thanks to support from City Bridge Trust and the National Lottery.

However, while the charity is growing, our focus is on expanding impact rather than size. Our approach of co-ordinating programmes and services that are delivered by our member associations, rather than running things means that we are a small charity with a large footprint. People are constantly amazed by the range of activities delivered by the small group that makes up our Central Support Team and trustees are immensely grateful for their efforts and commitment.

2024 will be the final year of our current strategy which aimed to ensure Neighbourhood Watch remains relevant to the needs of all communities, and all the people who make up those communities. The coming year will see a broad-based dialogue with our member associations, individual volunteers, and other stakeholders to learn what has worked well, and what we need to do differently in the next five years. I am confident that we will continue to find inspiration in the work of our supporters and identify new opportunities to support efforts by ordinary people to make their neighbourhoods better places to live.

John Hayward-Cripps
CEO

Ian Bretman
Chair

Trustees report

The Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's trust deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Delivering Our Charitable Purpose

The Objects of NWN, as set out in the Constitution dated 10 April 2017 are to:

- Promote for the benefit of the public good citizenship, community safety and greater public participation in the prevention and detection of crime, and;
- Promote public support for the work of the police service and other partners in the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, crime.

To achieve these objects, we provide free online resources for everyone to help them reduce their chances of becoming a victim of crime. We also signpost them to local Neighbourhood Watch groups which aim to strengthen community cohesion and wellbeing and create better connected and more resilient communities.

At a national level, we work closely with government departments, the National Police Chiefs Council Police and Crime Commissioners and voluntary sector partners to extend the reach of our work as far as possible and involve policy and research institutions in assessing our impact and help us plan for future improvements.

Local Neighbourhood Watch groups make a real, long-lasting difference to communities: as well as helping to reduce crime they increase neighbourliness and community wellbeing and strengthen the voice of the community with councils, the police and other public services. We support and enable local schemes to operate by providing resources, training and networking support to volunteers and members.

Public Benefit & Contribution Made by Volunteers

The public benefit from the activities carried out by the Charity by:

- Having access to information and advice on crime prevention and personal security;
- Being part of better connected and more resilient communities – the Charity facilitates the work of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers to maintain and develop community-based Neighbourhood Watch schemes which in turn contribute to better connected and more resilient communities, where crime and anti-social behaviour can be reduced and also the incidence and impact of loneliness and isolation.

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers (estimated to number at least 2.3 million individuals) work through their local schemes, many of which are charities in their own right. So, while this is not a direct contribution to NWN, it is important to recognise the significant social value created within communities by preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime, alleviating loneliness and isolation, and providing practical assistance between neighbours.

Main Activities

We review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure they remain focused on the charity's stated purposes. In this report, we describe what the charity has achieved and how it has performed in the reporting period and how each key activity has benefitted the people that the charity was set up to help.

Objectives set out in our 2020-2025 strategic plan are to be:

- *the authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention*, so that everyone will be able to access advice and support they need
- *a recognised contributor to community health and wellbeing*, so that community cohesion is increased, and loneliness and isolation are reduced
- *the most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality*, so that neighbours have a place to go to connect with each other and their communities.

Activities to achieve these objectives, that we carry out as the umbrella body and the national voice for the Neighbourhood Watch movement in England and Wales, include:

- **Providing advice and resources:** we host the Ourwatch website for everyone to access crime prevention and community wellbeing advice and resources.
- **Campaigning:** we raise awareness of crime prevention actions that everyone can use, by launching national crime prevention campaigns across social media channels.
- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement:** We work with other charities, government bodies, sponsors the press to show Neighbourhood Watch as a modern, relevant movement for safer, connected communities for all.
- **Facilitating work of local Neighbourhood Watch groups:** we provide training, resources and networking opportunities for local groups, schemes and association across England and Wales.
- **Protecting the intellectual property of the NW movement:** we hold trademarks of the Neighbourhood Watch logo and name, to protect the reputation of the Neighbourhood Watch movement and to maximise income opportunities.
- **Assessing and reflecting:** we regularly survey Neighbourhood Watch members and also members of the public and commission research, to evaluate the impact of our work and assess ways to improve.
- **Increasing our reach:** we constantly look for new avenues to reach younger and more diverse audiences.
- **Growing the resources of our charity:** we continuously look for new sources of income and actively manage our relationships with existing sponsors, grant-givers, and other funders to ensure our income is sufficient for us to achieve all the work we set out to do.

Achievement and Performance

Some of our achievements in furthering Neighbourhood Watch Network's charitable purposes during 2023-2024 are described below.

Providing advice and resources

Website: Over the past year we have been refreshing our website and have added crime prevention information including new advice on rural crime, anti-social behaviour and updates to burglary, car crime and scams. We have seen a continuing increase in the number of young people 16 – 34 using the website.

In the year between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 – we received over 1 million visits to the site with pages relating to finding local schemes and crime prevention.

Newsletter: Our monthly newsletter is distributed directly to 1.1M households (up 160,000 from March 2023) and has an average open rate of 46% (well over twice the industry average). In each edition we run targeted crime prevention campaigns, guided by Home Office advice on key priority areas including burglary x 2, anti-social behaviour (ASB), harassment, car crime, scams, domestic abuse, cybercrime, fraud, loneliness & isolation, romance scams and password security.

Media coverage: We appeared on over 30 national and local TV and radio shows providing crime prevention advice and information. These included Crimewatch, GB News, The One Show, Radio 4, Radio Islam and numerous local BBC and independent radio stations.

Neighbourhood Watch Shop: This year, 20,000 membership, volunteer and community crime prevention booklets; 30,000 'Join Us' postcards; and 130,000 Neighbourhood Watch window stickers have been distributed across England and Wales as well as numerous promotional products including street sights wheelie bin stickers etc.

Campaigning

Crime prevention campaigns: In addition to the 1.1M supporters directly engaged with for each campaign our online digital crime prevention campaigns have had an additional reach of over 920,000. Most of these people are non-Neighbourhood Watch members or supporters targeted through paid social media. This figure is the direct reach with many of our local groups reposting our messages and campaigns making the total reach significantly higher. Our campaigns are always focused on giving simple, straightforward crime prevention advice and calls to action which have been reviewed by experts in the field. These include the National Cyber Security Centre, Suzy Lamplugh Trust, National Centre for Domestic Violence, Re-Engage, Anti-Slavery International, Historic England, Resolve, British Transport Police, Merseyside Police, Metropolitan Police, ASB Help, Fraud & Cyber Crime Prevention Dedicated Card and Payment Crime Unit, SimpliSafe and ERA Home Security.

Partners' campaigns: We have been working closely with the Home Office in delivering targeted campaigns and disseminating and supporting Home Office campaigns. This has included sharing and promoting the 'Stop! Think Fraud' campaign through our newsletter to 900,000 supporters giving advice on spotting and avoiding scams and fraud. We have also liaised closely with 32Red the Home Office communication and campaign provider. These campaigns have included the 'Fire Kills' campaign, Energy Saving and the NHS Talking Therapies.

Following the increased Home Office focus on anti-social behaviour, fraud and burglary we have been a contributing member of the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan Ministerial Taskforce; the Home Office/Serious Fraud Office Victims of Fraud Working Group and the Residential Burglary Task Force. We have also been involved in the developing focus on 'Future Crimes' working with the Home Office and stakeholders to develop good practice and awareness of cybercrime.

We promoted the Home Office 'No Place to Hide – Serious and Organised Crime Strategy' and have been involved national workshops developing and promoting 'Clear, Hold, Build' particularly focusing on the community promotion and development element of the 'Build' phase.

We also worked with the Metropolitan Police Service to deliver joint crime prevention initiatives and cyber protect reports in London.

Neighbourhood Watch Week: The focus of this year's Neighbourhood Watch Week was, 'Making this a Better Place to Live'. While there was a focus on crime prevention activities there was also a strong focus on community cohesion and wellbeing. We produced a large number of physical materials for coordinators and schemes including, postcards, leaflets on membership and benefits, crime prevention packs and information and distributed over 100,000 items for over 65,000 coordinators. We also engaged with 65,000 non-members via social media during the week. Neighbourhood Watch Week is part of the Month of Community and we partnered with other events such as The Big Lunch. Over 1M people engaged with Neighbourhood Watch Week this year according to research from Big Lunch's research.

Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement

Neighbourhood Alert: This is an IT system provided by Visav Ltd to most Police Forces in England and Wales that enables them to relay information to residents who have signed up to receive messages. Residents can also sign-up to receive messages from Neighbourhood Watch and so the Alert system functions as our membership database. By continuing to work closely with Visav we have increased the number of supporters we can directly message by over 160,000 to 1.1 million. This is the number households on the system so we estimate that our total reach is in the order of 2.5 million people across England and Wales. We recruit and train specialist volunteers across our network as Multi-Scheme Administrators who maintain our membership database on the Alert system which in turn helps maintain the police data where members of the public have signed up to receive messages from both the police and Neighbourhood Watch.

During the year Visav introduced Version 4 of the Alert system and we provided hundreds of hours of training and support to members and our Multi-Scheme Administrators through the transition from Version 3.

Crime and Community conference: Our second Crime a Community Conference was held at the Wellcome Foundation in London with over 116 attendees who gave excellent feedback about the event. The keynote talks were from Dr Mellissa Pepper and Assistant Police Commissioner Louisa Rolfe on Citizen volunteers in policing and community safety: A changing role in changing time; and Frontline Policing respectively. Seminars on our bystander project, local projects and good practice, working with young people, rural crime, and diversity in policing completed the day with lots of time for networking.

Impact Report: Our fourth Impact Report celebrated our impact and how we have made a difference in the key areas of crime in public places; community crime, community connection; and health and wellbeing. It also stated our commitment to a sustainable future.

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups

Volunteer Knowledge Hub: Our Knowledge Hub continues to attract volunteers with over 3,000 volunteers accessing resources to assist them in their roles including sharing crime prevention messages, running local projects, good practice and up to date resources. Volunteers can also communicate with each other across the network through subject forums. Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors have specific pages on the Knowledge Hub containing fraud prevention campaign materials from different partners and the monthly Fraud Threat Update from the City of London police.

Volunteer training: 8,243 hours of training has been delivered to volunteers including on running a crime prevention campaign, community engagement, equality & diversity, running an active scheme.

Supporting Association Leads: We have continued with our quarterly meetings, with Association Leads, Board members and staff. The meetings are regularly attended by the vast majority of Association Leads or their deputies. During the year we organised a series of 'Task and Finish' groups, focusing on Perception Change, Donor Development, Recruitment, Youth Offer, and Volunteer Development & Support with each having several Association Leads and volunteers as contributors.

The 2023/2024 AGM was attended by representatives from 47 Associations with presentations from Dr Revd Dr Carver Anderson (Executive Director, Bringing Hope Charity and Co-chair of the West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership - Faith Alliance) and Georgia Sanders (Networks and Engagement Officer, Vision for Volunteering)

Working with the Police: We negotiated a new framework with the National Police Chiefs Council to detail expectations and good practice in liaison and communication between local Neighbourhood Watch groups and local Police Forces.

Grant giving to local communities: we have continued to support local groups to undertake local targeted campaigns to address crime and community wellbeing in their areas as part of a Community Grant Fund. This year we granted over £8,000 to communities across the country, supporting community-based projects. Examples from this year include:

- **Clifton** Neighbourhood Watch have introduced local Crime Prevention Evenings and needed funding for a venue hire. The local events are attended by local residents and the local police who present on crime prevention, the area has reported a drop in crime and ASB.
- Gaskell Gardens in **Sheffield** was a local crime hotspot with a very diverse and multicultural population. The residents wanted to set up a Neighbourhood Watch to protect residents personal security and property. We provided funding for signs, stickers and meeting places. The group is now running and addressing local crime and other issues. Local residents have reported a drop in crime and that they feel safer and more connected.
- Keyham Neighbourhood Watch worked with **Plymouth** Lesbians Network and Pride Plymouth to write and create a play that tells the story of Kitty Genovese and the history of our charity. This is a collaboration with Theatre Royal Plymouth with the aim of highlighting hate crime and local work with the LGBTQ+ community.

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups (continued)

Work by local Neighbourhood Watch groups: Examples of work carried out at ground level are described below:

- Working in partnership with the Metropolitan Police Service to provide **London** members in areas that do not have a Neighbourhood Watch Borough Association to have monthly updates on fraud within the borough and have prevention advice sent to them.
- The Bell Road group in **Bottisham**, introduced a campaign of being an active and visible presence by patrolling and putting up warning signs and posters. This has reduced anti-social behaviour and drug use which had plagued the area. Nearby Arbour Close recruited new and active members enabling them to pass information to police on drug dealing near a large nearby school leading to arrests and convictions.
- **West Hill (London)** Neighbourhood Watch held a pop up stand in a local park that had been blighted by anti-social behaviour. This was well attended by local residents, police and local councillors and led to a range of activities and preventative measures in the park. This has led to a 25% reduction in ASB in the area.
- **Croydon** Neighbourhood Watch worked with police to have pathway stencils in areas of high street burglary. The scheme was a success and raised awareness of being aware of your surroundings and reporting crime. They also developed a local scam advice leaflet and distributed it to over 10,000 households across the borough.
- **Cumbria** Neighbourhood Watch helped fund equipment to enable 6 volunteers on horseback to help police prevent crime in the most rural areas. The volunteers on the ground and have gathered intelligence, reported suspicious incidents and provided advice to the often isolated communities.
- In **North Warwickshire** local Coordinators knocked door to door with local police in an awareness raising campaign to highlight best ways to prevent crime and reduce fear of crime.
- West Hill Neighbourhood Watch in **Dartford** has reduced antisocial behaviour and improved their area by campaigning to regenerate their local park. By campaigning and engaging in community litter picks, the group has inspired its residents to more collective activity, helping them to feel safer and more connected to their area.
- Red Lion Lane Neighbourhood Watch group in Shooters Hill, **SE London**, worked with local people to gain road safety improvements.
- **Greenwich** Neighbourhood Watch delivered a range of community talks and presentations on Burglary at the Safer Neighbourhood Board Conference in March 2024. They also delivered a range of Bystander Training and Scams Awareness workshops across the borough. They have developed their own bystander intervention booklet for local people.
- Members of **Hillingdon** Neighbourhood Watch in London gathered footage from several residents CCTV cameras and pieced evidence from a spate of local burglaries and handed it to the police which was vital in convicting the offenders.

Assessing and reflecting

Crime and Community survey: The fourth Neighbourhood Watch Crime and Community Survey was completed with 29,000 responses. The findings steer our campaigns and the top 3 crimes people worry about are anti-social behaviour (66%), having your home broken into (52%) and cybercrime (44%). Over 60% of responders report having witnessed or experienced anti-social behaviour with the next highest being physical assault at 24%. A clear link can be seen between Neighbourhood Watch membership and how safe people feel in their local areas. NW members are much more likely than non-members to think that crime has decreased, have more trust in police and significantly more likely to be satisfied with their personal safety. They feel a connection with their locality and regularly interact with their neighbours.

These results in terms of Neighbourhood Watch being effective in crime prevention, being a gateway for people to engage in their community, and being a contributor to community health and wellbeing are very similar to the previous year's results which is extremely positive. Our 5-Year strategy is aimed at raising awareness of these impacts among the general public and we are hopeful if improved results next year.

Increasing our reach

Social: Our reach on social media continued to grow with over 43,000 followers. Our paid campaigns reached over one million non-members/supporters through social media clips and advertising.

Youth Offer Development: We were successful in securing two significant grants for work with young people from the National Lottery and the City Bridge Trust. This will allow us to build on our work of the past two years. The Lottery grant is for a full time staff member to deliver local youth work groups in three distinct areas across the network and to introduce a Youth Board. The City Bridge Trust grant is focused in London and for a part time worker to deliver local youth work sessions in three London Boroughs. The project focuses on listening to young people to understand their concerns and needs and to co-produce Neighbourhood Watch youth offers that can be delivered in local Association areas. Volunteers in the various areas will support the paid staff in developing and delivering the work.

There have been 4 further editions of our student magazine 'The Lookout' focused on issues concerning students including harassment, drink spiking, burglary and theft, safety, nitrous oxide, loneliness & isolation, safe travel first aid and alcohol. The reach of the magazine is over 100,000 directly to young people and students via both hard copy and electronic and to our supporters households.

Supporting vulnerable people to manage transfer from an analogue to digital telephone network.: As the UK dismantles the existing copper analogue phone system and moves to a solely digital network many British Telecom (BT) customers will need to move their connection from analogue to digital. For many people this will cause very little disruption but for some particularly vulnerable customers this may be more challenging. BT is running large events in cities and major towns and we have been commissioned to run smaller local events with volunteers. This follows a successful pilot project in Cumbria and BT are funding an 18 month project to deliver 250 local information and assurance sessions across five government office regions. We will be employing a team of six staff to deliver the project which will offer information and support and will help prevent many people being victims of possible scams. The project will also enable local volunteers to talk about the benefits of being a members of Neighbourhood Watch to attendees of the sessions.

Increasing our reach (*continued*)

Community Safety Charter: The Community Safety Charter was launched in 2022 and was designed to engage a broad range of individuals and organisations in crime prevention activity focused on crime in public spaces. Since it was launched, over 3000 organisations and individuals have signed up to actively reduce street crime and support victims. The signatories include Police Forces, PCC's, MP's, Councils, Schools, Insurance Companies, Charities, Retailers, Youth Clubs, Museums, Libraries, and businesses (large and small). Training modules in street harassment, hate crime, anti-social behaviour and bystander intervention have been produced and distributed to all Community Safety Charter signatories. Dealing with confrontation and being the change in your community are additional themes to provide empowerment to change behaviours of ourselves and of others as part of the charter.

The University of East Anglia (UEA) has signed the charter and are proactively using it as a main plank of student safety. We are currently working with UEA and universities in Leicester, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Plymouth to develop a student module of the Charter, to raise awareness of crimes in university halls of residence, campus and surrounding neighbourhoods, affecting young people.

Cyberhood Watch: We have doubled the number of trained community Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors to 300 specialists spread across England and Wales. The training and upskilling of Ambassadors is delivered in partnership with the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) to ensure alignment with their national messaging for the public and not produce more/different advice or information. We partner on awareness campaigns with the likes of the NCSC, National Crime Agency, City of London Police's Multi Agency Campaign Group, Trading Standards and many more in order to ensure information and campaigns are communicated to our own audiences and also via Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors and to the wider public through their work and via social media platforms.

Increasing our reach

Social: Our reach on social media continued to grow steadily with over 42,000 followers. Our specific campaigns reached between one and two million people through direct email and Facebook advertising.

More diverse membership: According to those who answer demographic information on our database we now have a membership breakdown of 6.8% from ethnic minority communities and 53% of people under 54 years. This is a significant improvement from 2% and 26% respectively in 2020. We recognise that the ethnic and racial diversity of our membership is still lower than that of the national population and we will continue to focus on addressing this over the coming years. The percentage of people from areas of high crime joining Neighbourhood Watch remains steady at about 30%.

We have run training sessions and presentations on equality and diversity for members over the year and will continue to undertake this work and focus.

Growing the resources of our charity

Donations: We have raised over £38,000 from donations including a young peoples Crowdfunder campaign and individual giving.

Lottery: The second year of our lottery raised over £30,000 which supported the Community Grant Scheme and core work.

Grants: We gained over £65,000 in grants for young people's work.

Future Plans

Our current 5-year strategy ends at the end of 2025. In 2024-2025 we aim to complete the work within the strategy then review and reflect on this delivery. We will then work with Associations, volunteers and the public to develop a new 5-year strategy.

The 2024-2025 workstreams include:

- Increase the scope and work of the Cyberhood Watch Project including securing funding for a paid Co-ordinator for the project.
- Promote the Community Safety Charter with a significant campaign focused on small and medium sized businesses
- Work more closely with Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC's) to gain funding for paid local staff to deliver Neighbourhood Watch within the PCC area.
- Deliver the BT Project across 5 regions of the UK
- Co-develop and trial new approaches to working with young people increasing engagement in their communities and developing new skills.

And

- Develop a new 5-year strategy with trustees, volunteers, supporters and the public

Financial review

Financial position

The detailed figures for the year ended 31 March 2024 are set out in the financial statements that follow the Trustees' Report.

There was a net surplus in the year of £19,679 (2022/23: deficit of £17,953). The surplus was planned to build up reserves, for the future growth of the charity. The deficit in the previous year was planned as additional income had been received in prior years that was set aside by the Trustees, as designated funds, for projects in future years. This left total funds of £185,088 (2022/23: £165,409) at the end of the year.

Reserves

Total funds may include those that are –

- Restricted by the donor or funder for specific activities or programmes and that cannot be used for the general purposes of the charity,
and/or those that are
- Received in one financial year as part of a grant for work to be carried out wholly or partly in future financial years.

The existence and level of reserves does not mean that there has been an underspend in the past. Reserves can be built up for various reasons, including timing differences between our financial year and our funders'.

The funds that form our unrestricted funds reserve, should be enough to keep a positive cashflow for day-to-day operations, and keep enough for emergencies. This could be including cutting back our operations in the event of a downturn in funding, or for a winding-up of the charity if there was a large drop in funding. Unrestricted funds can also be designated for investment in future development as part of our long-term strategy.

The full Board reviews the reserves policy annually and has agreed an unrestricted reserve fund target of between three and six months of budgeted general fund operating costs. The table below shows how reserves are calculated:

| | 31 March 2024 | 31 March 2023 |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total net assets | 185,088 | 165,409 |
| Less | | |
| carrying value of fixed assets | (3,406) | (4,326) |
| Carrying value of shop stock | (5,272) | (10,016) |
| Restricted and designated funds | (27,112) | (10,784) |
| Total deductions | (35,790) | (25,126) |
| Total reserves | 149,298 | 140,283 |
| | | |
| Budgeted general funds expenditure | 524,132 | 481,637 |
| Number of months of expenditure | 3.4 | 3.3 |

The Board has instructed the Finance and Audit Committee to monitor reserves on a quarterly basis and to recommend any changes to the policy to the Board.

Financial review (continued)

Going concern

After reviewing our forecasts, projections and its reserves, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that we have adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. We therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Sources of funds

The Home Office grant to us provides funding for core activity and enables us to secure additional funding from commercial sponsors including ERA (home security products), Avast/Norton (internet security software), AirBnB (holiday accommodation), Simplisafe (home security products). We are indebted to our sponsors who support us and work closely with them to amplify our message through their networks.

Fundraising Practices

Neighbourhood Watch Network is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is fully compliant with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Fundraising is an Individual Member of the Institute of Fundraising. In the year 2023/24 we did not carry out any direct marketing or face-to-face fundraising and received no complaints related to our fundraising practices. We are committed to always protecting vulnerable people and will ensure adherence to the Code of Fundraising practice and clear guidelines should we undertake different types of fundraising in the future. All marketing materials contain clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Risk Management

We review the main risks facing the charity on a regular basis. The current risk register highlights the reliance on a narrow range of funders mentioned above and the related need to better demonstrate the impact of Neighbourhood Watch activities, particularly in respect of crime prevention. NWN also recognises the need to extend its reach and develop a stronger offer that is relevant to all parts of society and that builds engagement among younger people, those from ethnic minority backgrounds and those most at risk from crime. All of these issues are addressed in NWN's 2020-2025 strategy and being implemented in our future plans. The charity has also insured against risks where practical to do so.

Structure, governance and management

Legal structure

Neighbourhood Watch Network was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 9th June 2017. It replaced Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network, a registered charity and company which was then dissolved. The voting membership of the CIO is explained below; trustees are also voting members.

Governance

Our governing document is its Constitution, dated 10 April 2017 which is available on our website www.ourwatch.org.uk. The overall governance, finance and operations of NWN are controlled by the Trustees, within the regulatory framework set by the Charity Commission.

The Constitution, resolutions and complementary procedures set by the Board, are the rules that we operate by, and by which decisions are made. The Trustees are ultimately responsible for NWN.

Members

NWN's membership structure aligns with the 43 Police Force areas across England and Wales and each of these can form a "Force Level Association" and become voting members of NWN by signing a Memorandum of Understanding covering joint working arrangements and providing a common framework of ethics and standards. There are currently 30 of these Force Level Associations. The exception to the national structure is the Metropolitan Police Force Area which is organized around the 32 London Boroughs and which collectively account for 4 votes within the membership.

Individual membership of local Neighbourhood Watch Associations does not confer membership of the CIO.

Trustees

The governing document states that there must be between 4 and 12 trustees in post at any time. Trustees who serve at the date of this report, and those who served during the year under review are set out on page 16.

The trustees delegate much of the day-to-day management of NWN to the CEO, but remain ultimately responsible. Their responsibilities are active, not passive, and include:

- regular evaluation of the strategic direction of NWN and its management policies
- evaluation of outcomes and the effectiveness with which the CEO and management implement them
- monitoring legal compliance
- management of risks related to NWN's activities

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

Structure, governance, management (continued)

The trustees are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed are set out in note 5 to the financial statements.

The Board's operations

The Board of Trustees meets at least four times a year to conduct its business and oversee progress against strategic and operational plans. Trustees are also involved in various working groups that support strategic workstreams. The Board is supported by a Finance and Audit Committee, which oversees the Charity's finances (including reserves), income generation and risk management, and reports regularly to the Board on these matters.

Appointment and retirement of trustees

The Trustees are elected by the Members at NWN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and others may be co-opted by the Board between Annual General Meetings, provided that the total number of trustees does not exceed twelve. Members are entitled to nominate candidates for election as trustees at the AGM and other trustees are recruited through advertising and evidence-based recruitment processes against the trustees' role description.

Board recruitment and induction

The Board is responsible for ensuring that it is made up of trustees who are collectively able to fulfil the governance function of the Board and therefore needs to have a mix of skills, both those which relate to the objectives of NWN and more generic skills and experience such as legal and financial.

The Board regularly undertakes a self-assessed skills audit against the set of skills it has identified as being essential for the governance of the Charity; this enables the Board to identify skills gaps, which informs the recruitment process and training needs. Trustees are able to access learning and development opportunities relevant to their trustee position.

Management

The Trustees delegate day-to-day running of the charity to the CEO who reports directly to the Board. The CEO leads a staff team of 18 salaried staff (13.8 full-time equivalents) at the time of signing the report. The Chair and Treasurer hold a meeting with the CEO each month. The Board receives regular reports on operational performance and provides oversight and scrutiny of results, using a set of key performance indicators.

Remuneration

The remuneration of the CEO is set by the Board and the remuneration of other staff is set by the CEO. In all cases, this is informed by formal and informal benchmarking information from comparable organisations in the voluntary sector, the responsibilities of each individual role and the requirements of the person specification.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name: Neighbourhood Watch Network
Charity number: 1173349
Country of registration: England & Wales

Principal office: Room V108, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were:

Ian Bretman Chair
Kardaya Singh Rooprai Treasurer
Rebecca Bryant OBE
Mohamed Hammeda
Sue Pillar
Hugh Ind
Andrew Whyte

Key management personnel: John Hayward-Cripps, Chief Executive Officer

Bankers: HSBC, 41 Market Place, Loughborough, LE11 3EJ

Independent Examiner: Joanna Pittman, Sayer Vincent LLP
110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG

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 year. 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ian Bretman

Chair

Date: 20 November 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 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

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 CIO 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.

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG
Date: 28 November 2024

Financial Statements

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2024

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | 31 March 24 Total £ | 31 March 23 Total £ |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Income from: | | | | | |
| Donations | | 7,291 | 31,439 | 38,730 | 13,154 |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 280,000 | 68,746 | 348,746 | 306,306 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 226,915 | 13,000 | 239,915 | 231,449 |
| Investments | - | 1,741 | - | 1,741 | 283 |
| Total income | | 515,947 | 113,185 | 629,132 | 551,192 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 437,363 | 99,256 | 536,619 | 487,189 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 72,834 | - | 72,834 | 81,956 |
| Total expenditure | | 510,197 | 99,256 | 609,453 | 569,145 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | 5,750 | 13,929 | 19,679 | (17,953) |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | 5,750 | 13,929 | 19,679 | (17,953) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 154,625 | 10,784 | 165,409 | 183,362 |
| Total funds carried forward | 10 | 160,375 | 24,713 | 185,088 | 165,409 |

All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

There are no other gains or losses other than those stated above.

Notes 1 – 13 form part of the financial statements.

**Balance sheet
at 31 March 2024**

| | Notes | 31 March 2024 £ | 31 March 2023 £ |
|---|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Intangible fixed assets | 7 | - | - |
| Tangible fixed assets | 7 | 3,406 | 4,326 |
| Total fixed assets | | 3,406 | 4,326 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Stock | | 5,272 | 10,016 |
| Debtors | 8 | 149,128 | 74,792 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 488,780 | 114,006 |
| Total current assets | | 643,180 | 198,814 |
| Creditors: amounts due within one year | 9 | (461,498) | (37,731) |
| Net current assets | | 181,682 | 161,083 |
| Total net assets | | 185,088 | 165,409 |
| Funds of the charity | | | |
| | 10 | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | |
| Designated funds | | 2,399 | 8,962 |
| General funds | | 157,976 | 145,663 |
| Total unrestricted funds | | 160,375 | 154,625 |
| Restricted funds | | 24,713 | 10,784 |
| Total funds | | 185,088 | 165,409 |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Bretman
Chair

Kardaya Rooprai
Treasurer

Date: 20 November 2024

Date: 20 November 2024

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2024

| | Notes | 31 March 2024 £ | 31 March 2023 £ |
|---|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities | | | |
| Net income/(expenditure) as per the statement of financial activities | | 19,679 | (17,953) |
| Investment income | | (1,741) | (283) |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 7 | 1,877 | 7,409 |
| Movements in working capital | | | |
| Change in stock | | 4,744 | (9,176) |
| Change in debtors | 8 | (74,336) | (12,167) |
| Change in creditors | 9 | 423,767 | (18,437) |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | 393,990 | (50,607) |
| Cash flow statement | | | |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | (1,080) | (50,607) |
| Cash flow from investment activities | 8 | | |
| Purchase of fixed assets | 7 | - | (2,003) |
| Disposal of fixed assets | 7 | 123 | - |
| Investment income | | 1,741 | 283 |
| Net cash used in investment activities | | 784 | 1,720 |
| Change in cash in the year | | 374,775 | (52,327) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | | 114,006 | 166,333 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 488,780 | 114,006 |
| Analysis of cash and cash equivalents | | | |
| Current account | | 10,780 | 31,244 |
| Deposit account | | 478,000 | 82,762 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 488,780 | 114,006 |

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

a. Statutory information

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Room V108, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH.

b. Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Charities SORP (FRS 102) – *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)*
- FRS 102 – The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- The Charities Act 2011.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

c. Critical accounting judgements and estimates

When preparing the financial statements in line with FRS 102, the trustees are required to make judgements and estimates. The estimates and judgements are based on historical experiences and other factors that are considered relevant including expectations of future events. The estimates and judgements include:

- Accruals: costs not yet invoiced (see Expenditure policy below)
- Allocation of support costs (see Expenditure policy below); and
- Depreciation and impairment (see Fixed Assets policy below).

In the view of the trustees, no assumptions concerning the future have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

d. Going concern

When considering going concern, the trustees consider all available information about the future at the date they approve the accounts, which includes information from budgets and forecasts about income, expenditure and cash flows. Attention is also given to reserves.

The charity has not been adversely affected by the cost of living crisis as it does not rely on donations from the general public as a result of fundraising events.

Given the Home Office grant agreed for the year ending 31 March 2025 and the reserves currently held, the trustees believe that the current economic situation, including the cost of living crisis, does not pose a material uncertainty that would cast doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees therefore consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e. Income

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income can be measured reliably.

Income from the online shop is recognised when orders are placed and funds are paid into the charity's Paypal account.

f. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is attributed to the following areas:

- *raising funds*
- *charitable activities*

Where expenditure cannot be directly attributed to these areas, it is allocated to them on a usage or head count basis. Support costs, such as general management, finance, office rent and governance costs are allocated in this way. Governance costs are costs associated with the general running of the charity and include audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Direct costs relating to the operation of the online shop are allocated on the following basis:

- written campaign material: 100% charitable activities
- signs, stickers and branded goods: 25% fundraising; 75% charitable activities

Raising funds relate to the costs in carrying out activities that are intended to generate income, such as staff time managing grant applications and developing commercial sponsorship agreements. It also includes costs relating to operating the online shop, such as the cost of items sold and fees for fulfilling orders.

Charitable activities are costs incurred in delivering activities and services for the charity's beneficiaries. These include providing information and resources to Neighbourhood Watch members and the general public on the Ourwatch.org.uk website, staff costs for delivering campaigns and project and paying grants. Grants are recognised as expenditure when they are approved and this has been communicated to the recipient.

The charity is unable to recover the majority of VAT charged. This irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

g. Fund accounting

Restricted funds are funds which arose when donors gave them for particular restricted purposes which are narrower than the general purposes of the charity. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the general objectives of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as for use at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the note 10 to the financial statements.

h. Operating leases

Payments made under operating leases are charged to the SOFA when incurred. The charity does not acquire assets under finance leases.

i. Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1000 are capitalised and are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over its estimated useful life as follows:

- Office equipment: 25% reducing balance
- Furniture and fittings: 20% reducing balance

Intangible fixed assets are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

The Ourwatch.org.uk website for the national Neighbourhood Watch Network is capitalised as an intangible asset and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life of 3 years.

Impairment reviews are conducted when events and changes in circumstances indicate that an impairment may have occurred. If any asset is found to have a carrying value materially higher than its recoverable amount, it is written down accordingly.

j. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, short term highly liquid investments and fix term deposits of less than 6 months.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

k. Stock

Stock consists of online shop branded items, such as road signs, mugs and pens and is valued at cost or written-down value. Stock is reviewed at least annually and its carrying value is reduced to the lower of cost or estimated net realisable value. If any items are given away at events, the cost is expensed at that time.

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due for the provision of services delivered. Prepayments are recognised at the amount prepaid or the amount paid in advance.

m. Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

n. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

o. Pensions

Pension costs comprise the costs of the charity's contribution to its employee's pension schemes. The charity provides a money purchase scheme which is available to all employees.

2. Income from charitable activities

| | 31 March 2024 | | | 31 March 2023 | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
| Grants | | | | | | |
| Home Office | 280,000 | - | 280,000 | 280,000 | - | 280,000 |
| Partners | - | 68,746 | 68,746 | | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| Others | - | - | | 1,306 | - | 1,306 |
| Total | 280,000 | 68,746 | 348,746 | 281,306 | 25,000 | 306,306 |

3. Income from other trading activities

| | 31 March 2024 | | | 31 March 2023 | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
| Sponsorship | | | | | | |
| ERA | 50,000 | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | - | 50,000 |
| AVAST | 34,653 | - | 34,653 | 38,300 | - | 38,300 |
| Simplisafe | 28,352 | - | 28,352 | - | - | - |
| Airbnb | 20,000 | - | 20,000 | 20,000 | - | 20,000 |
| Co-op | - | - | - | 25,000 | - | 25,000 |
| Other | 17,000 | 13,000 | 30,000 | 17,800 | - | 17,800 |
| Commission | 5,505 | - | 5,505 | 13,757 | - | 13,757 |
| Community projects - BT | 3,342 | - | 3,342 | - | - | - |
| Online shop sales | 32,119 | - | 32,119 | 25,682 | - | 25,682 |
| Lottery income | 30,250 | - | 30,250 | 33,760 | - | 33,760 |
| Other income | 5,694 | - | 5,694 | 7,150 | - | 7,150 |
| Total | 226,915 | 13,000 | 239,915 | 231,449 | - | 231,449 |

Other trading income includes licence fees and advertising fees.

4. Expenditure

Year ended 31 March 2024

| | Raising funds £ | Charitable activities £ | Governance costs £ | Support costs £ | Total £ |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 45,364 | 252,129 | 32,688 | 67,156 | 397,337 |
| Other direct costs | 7,293 | 162,875 | 6,431 | 26,042 | 202,642 |
| Grants paid | - | 9,475 | - | - | 9,475 |
| Total | 52,657 | 424,479 | 39,119 | 93,198 | 609,453 |
| Support costs | 14,212 | 78,986 | - | (93,198) | - |
| Governance costs | 5,965 | 33,154 | (39,119) | - | - |
| Total | 72,834 | 536,619 | - | - | |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 72,834 | 437,363 | | | 510,197 |
| Restricted funds | - | 99,256 | | | 99,256 |
| Total | 72,834 | 536,619 | | | 609,453 |

Prior year, year ended 31 March 2023

| | Raising funds £ | Charitable activities £ | Governance costs £ | Support costs £ | Total £ |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 52,518 | 238,879 | 30,123 | 62,830 | 384,350 |
| Other direct costs | 5,601 | 131,630 | 9,204 | 30,104 | 176,539 |
| Grants paid | - | 8,256 | - | - | 8,256 |
| Total | 58,119 | 378,765 | 39,327 | 92,934 | 569,145 |
| Support costs | 16,749 | 76,185 | - | (92,934) | - |
| Governance costs | 7,088 | 32,239 | (39,327) | - | - |
| Total | 81,956 | 487,189 | - | - | 569,145 |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 81,956 | 455,195 | | | 537,151 |
| Restricted funds | - | 31,994 | | | 31,994 |
| Total | 81,956 | 487,189 | | | 569,145 |

Staff costs are allocated to *raising funds*, *charitable expenditure*, *governance costs* and *support costs* using an activities-based time split. Non-staff costs are allocated directly to the category to which they relate.

Governance costs and support costs are allocated to *raising funds* and *charitable activities* on a percentage basis based on expenditure, as an approximation of usage.

5. Governance costs

The Independent Examiner's fee is included within governance costs. The amount payable in the year to the Independent examiner was £3,700 + VAT (2022/23: £3,465 + VAT).

Trustees give their time and expertise without charge and do not receive any other benefit from the charity. They are reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs incurred when fulfilling their duties as trustees. During the year three trustees (2022/23: one) were reimbursed a total of £557 (2022/23: £76).

There were no related party donations or other transactions during the year (2022/23: none).

6. Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

| | 31 March 2024 | 31 March 2023 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Wages and salaries | 342,115 | 330,675 |
| Social security costs | 30,329 | 30,166 |
| Pension costs | 13,756 | 14,112 |
| Total employment costs | 386,200 | 374,953 |
| Other staff related costs | 11,137 | 9,397 |
| Total staff related costs | 397,337 | 384,350 |

Other staff related costs include staff travel and other expenses, recruitment and training costs.

The average head count of staff employed throughout the period was 9.0 (2022/23: 9.5).

There was 1 member of staff (2022/23: 1) whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) were between £70,001-£80,000.

Key management personnel

The total cost of employee benefits (salary and employer's National Insurance and pension contributions) for key management personnel in the year was £96,080 (2022/23: £90,940).

7. Fixed assets

Intangible assets – Ourwatch.org.uk website

| | |
|--|----------|
| Cost | £ |
| At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 | 16,971 |
| Amortisation | |
| At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 | 16,971 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2024 | - |
| Net book value at 31 March 2023 | - |

7. Fixed assets (continued)

Tangible assets

| | Fixtures and fittings £ | Office equipment £ | Total £ |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Cost | | | |
| 1 April 2023 | 1,128 | 6,647 | 7,775 |
| Additions | - | 1,080 | 1,080 |
| Disposals | - | (1,035) | (1,035) |
| At 31 March 2024 | 1,128 | 6,692 | 7,820 |
| Depreciation | | | |
| At 1 April 2023 | 677 | 2,772 | 3,449 |
| Disposals | - | (912) | (912) |
| Charge for the year | 226 | 1,651 | 1,877 |
| At 31 March 2024 | 903 | 3,511 | 4,414 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2024 | 225 | 3,181 | 3,406 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2023 | 451 | 3,875 | 4,326 |

8. Debtors

| | 31 March 2024 £ | 31 March 2023 £ |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Trade debtors | 122,040 | 45,160 |
| Other debtors | 6,639 | 6,838 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 20,449 | 22,794 |
| Total | 149,128 | 74,792 |

9. Creditors

| | 31 March 2024 £ | 31 March 2023 £ |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Trade creditors | 10,576 | 5,936 |
| Other taxes and social security | 89,862 | 20,697 |
| Other creditors | 1,420 | 3,390 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 359,640 | 7,708 |
| Total | 461,498 | 37,731 |

10. Movement in funds

| Current year | At 1 April 2023 | Income | Expenditure | At 31 March 2024 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Project funds | 1,667 | - | (1,667) | - |
| Community fund | 7,295 | 4,529 | (9,164) | 2,660 |
| BT Project | - | 3,342 | (3,603) | (261) |
| Total designated funds | 8,962 | 7,871 | (14,434) | 2,399 |
| General fund | 145,663 | 508,076 | (495,763) | 157,976 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 154,625 | 515,947 | (510,197) | 160,375 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| NESTA | 461 | - | (461) | - |
| Devon and Cornwall | 10,323 | 18,750 | (27,377) | 1,696 |
| Leicestershire | - | 39,991 | (18,665) | 21,326 |
| Young people | - | 31,439 | (24,364) | 7,075 |
| Young people: CBF | - | 10,005 | (15,015) | (5,009) |
| Young people: Lottery | - | - | (375) | (375) |
| Other restricted funds | - | 13,000 | 13,000 | - |
| Total restricted funds | 10,784 | 113,185 | (99,256) | 24,713 |
| Total funds | 165,409 | 629,132 | (609,453) | 185,088 |
| Prior year | | | | |
| | At 1 April 2022 | Income | Expenditure | At 31 March 2023 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Advancement fund | 2,783 | - | (2,783) | - |
| Project funds | 21,418 | - | (19,751) | 1,667 |
| Community fund | 2,646 | 12,905 | (8,256) | 7,295 |
| Total designated funds | 26,847 | 12,905 | (30,790) | 8,962 |
| General fund | 146,737 | 505,287 | (506,361) | 145,663 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 173,584 | 518,192 | (537,151) | 154,625 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| NESTA | 609 | - | (148) | 461 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 8,519 | 25,000 | (23,196) | 10,323 |
| Volunteer Programme | 650 | - | (650) | - |
| Co-op funded projects | - | 8,000 | (8,000) | - |
| Total restricted funds | 9,778 | 33,000 | (31,994) | 10,784 |
| Total funds | 183,362 | 551,192 | (569,145) | 165,409 |

10. Movement in funds (continued)

Designated funds

Advancement fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the 'Advancement Areas' programme, which aimed to deliver a framework for Neighbourhood Watch in areas of high crime and social disadvantage, and underrepresented communities.

Project fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the charity to deliver a series of intervention projects to support the trustees' 10-point strategy. In the year, funds were used for crime prevention campaigns on social media.

Community fund is money set aside for making small grants to local neighbourhood watch community projects across England and Wales. Money used for this fund comes from Patlock commission, where Patlock donates £7 from each lock it sells to Neighbourhood Watch members.

BT Project

This partnership with BT is advising vulnerable people on the switch from analogue to digital telephone networks, reducing the risk of them becoming victims of scams and fraud. BT is running large events in cities and major towns and we have been commissioned to run smaller local events with volunteers. The project will run until July 2025.

Restricted funds

NESTA grant fund is funding received from NESTA (a national grant-making charity, www.nesta.org.uk) for the 'Communities that Care' project. This fund continues to be spent.

Devon and Cornwall grant is money received to fund a part time post based and working in the Devon and Cornwall Force areas.

Leicestershire is money received from the PCC to fund a project worker based and working in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Young people is money raised from donations for use in youth projects.

Young people: City Bridge Foundation is a grant received to engage with young people in certain London boroughs. It enables us to employ a part-time project manager over two years.

Young people: National Lottery is a grant received to engage with young people across England and Wales. It enables us to employ a full-time project manager over three years and funds the Neighbourhood Watch Youth Council.

Volunteer Programme is restricted money from the National Lottery Community Fund, which was secured to support the volunteer programme – a project to invest in Neighbourhood Watch volunteers. The vast majority of this fund was spent in prior years.

Other restricted funds includes donations or sponsorship received for specific projects or events.

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

| Current year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | 3,406 | - | - | 3,406 |
| Net current assets | 154,570 | 2,399 | 24,713 | 181,682 |
| Total funds | 157,976 | 2,399 | 24,713 | 185,088 |
| | | | | |
| Prior year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | 4,326 | - | - | 4,326 |
| Net current assets | 141,337 | 8,962 | 10,784 | 161,083 |
| Total funds | 145,663 | 8,962 | 10,784 | 165,409 |

12. Operating leases

The charity had one operating lease at the balance sheet date, for rented office space. The minimum non-cancellable lease payments are:

| | 31 March 2024 | 31 March 2023 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Not later than one year | 10,210 | 9,724 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | - | - |

13. Prior year comparatives

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 March 2023

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Income from: | | | | |
| Donations | | 5,154 | 8,000 | 13,154 |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 281,306 | 25,000 | 306,306 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 231,449 | - | 231,449 |
| Investments | - | 283 | - | 283 |
| Total income | | 518,192 | 33,000 | 551,192 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 455,195 | 31,994 | 487,189 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 81,956 | - | 81,956 |
| Total expenditure | | 537,151 | 31,994 | 569,145 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (18,959) | 1,006 | (17,953) |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (18,959) | 1,006 | (17,953) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 173,584 | 9,778 | 183,362 |
| Total funds carried forward | 10 | 154,625 | 10,784 | 165,409 |

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1173349

Accounts



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

(Charity No. 1173349)

Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2023

As the national umbrella organisation of the largest voluntary movement for crime prevention in England and Wales, we support people to prevent and reduce crime by coming together with their neighbours to create safer, stronger and active communities.

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About Neighbourhood Watch Network

Neighbourhood Watch Network is the strategic voice and national umbrella organisation for England and Wales. We support the grassroots Neighbourhood Watch movement which involves over 2.3 million volunteers in preventing crime and strengthening communities. This work is delivered by our local Associations who are the members of Neighbourhood Watch Network.

Our vision

Our vision is a society where neighbours come together to create safer, stronger and active communities.

Our mission

Our mission is to support and enable individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe, which increases wellbeing and minimises crime.

Our values

Neighbourly, community-focused, inclusive, proactive, trusted, collaborative.

Introduction from the Chair and the CEO

Our 40th anniversary year in 2022 was, as we had hoped, a wonderful opportunity to honour the efforts and achievements of the thousands of volunteers across England and Wales who have worked tirelessly to make their neighbourhoods better places to live. Some of the highlights of campaigns and events held throughout the year are reported more fully in other parts of this report. We also wanted the anniversary to be more than a celebration of the past and to show how we are building on that legacy to create a vibrant and inclusive movement that is relevant to communities today and in the future.

The work we report on here certainly lived up to that ambition. One of its most visible aspects is the contemporary and colourful logo that we created for the anniversary celebrations and which has been embraced by many of our local associations to sit alongside the established image that has been used on street signs and window stickers for many years as the most visible aspect of our work on domestic crime prevention. The challenge of how to maintain and support the established work of Neighbourhood Watch schemes while also opening our movement to new initiatives and ways of working runs through so much of our work. We can only navigate this challenge by working closely with our local Associations and listening to their feedback and we are grateful for their interest and engagement in helping Neighbourhood Watch evolve.

The importance of neighbourliness in strengthening local communities, tackling loneliness and isolation and improving wellbeing was at the very forefront of the celebrations of the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. We were delighted to continue our partnership with the annual Big Lunch programme to support the street parties and other events that marked that momentous occasion. The past year has also been dominated by significant economic and social tensions, particularly the cost of living crisis and the constraints on public spending, which have increased demand pressures on all our public services. It's clear that different approaches are needed and we welcome the growing interest in reviving the spirit of local activism that can help tackle some of the causes of these tensions, and help prevent them from becoming more serious. We can see the value of this approach in our work on anti-social behaviour (ASB) and street harassment - our partnership with the Suzy Lamplugh Trust on bystander training, and our "Are You OK?" campaign that showed how to respond in the event of witnessing aggression aimed at women, racial minorities or LGBTQ+ people. During 2022/23 we also launched a Community Safety Charter which has been enthusiastically received by the Police, local authorities and many different public and commercial organisations as well as by individuals and local communities.

Voluntary organisations and movements like ours cannot replace public services, but this report shows how we can – and do – add value by allowing services to focus on their priorities and most serious problems. As a locally-based, volunteer-led movement we are a conduit for the efforts of over 90,000 people who give their time freely. As a small, national charity supporting that movement, we deliver an impressive range of work through a small, professional team. We very much hope that the potential these aspects of Neighbourhood Watch offer for national and local government to achieve impact and value-for-money will be better recognised in the future.

John Hayward-Cripps
CEO

Ian Bretman
Chair

Trustees report

The Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's trust deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Delivering Our Charitable Purpose

The Objects of NWN, as set out in the Constitution dated 10 April 2017 are to:

- Promote for the benefit of the public good citizenship, community safety and greater public participation in the prevention and detection of crime, and;
- Promote public support for the work of the police service and other partners in the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, crime.

To achieve these objects, we provide free online resources for everyone to help them reduce their chances of becoming a victim of crime. We also signpost them to local Neighbourhood Watch groups which aim to strengthen community cohesion and wellbeing and create better connected and more resilient communities.

At a national level, we work closely with government departments, the National Police Chiefs Council Police and Crime Commissioners and voluntary sector partners to extend the reach of our work as far as possible and involve policy and research institutions in assessing our impact and help us plan for future improvements.

Local Neighbourhood Watch groups make a real, long-lasting difference to communities: as well as helping to reduce crime they increase neighbourliness and community wellbeing and strengthen the voice of the community with councils, the police and other public services. We support and enable local schemes to operate by providing resources, training and networking support to volunteers and members.

Public Benefit & Contribution Made by Volunteers

The public benefit from the activities carried out by the Charity by:

- Having access to information and advice on crime prevention and personal security;
- Being part of better connected and more resilient communities – the Charity facilitates the work of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers to maintain and develop community-based Neighbourhood Watch schemes which in turn contribute to better connected and more resilient communities, where crime and anti-social behaviour can be reduced and also the incidence and impact of loneliness and isolation.

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers (estimated to number at least 2.3 million individuals) work through their local schemes, many of which are charities in their own right. So, while this is not a direct contribution to NWN, it is important to recognise the significant social value created within communities by preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime, alleviating loneliness and isolation, and providing practical assistance between neighbours.

Main Activities

We review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure they remain focused on the charity's stated purposes. In this report, we describe what the charity has achieved and how it has performed in the reporting period and how each key activity has benefitted the people that the charity was set up to help.

Objectives set out in our 2020-2025 strategic plan are to be:

- *the authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention*, so that everyone will be able to access advice and support they need
- *a recognised contributor to community health and wellbeing*, so that community cohesion is increased, and loneliness and isolation are reduced
- *the most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality*, so that neighbours have a place to go to connect with each other and their communities.

Activities to achieve these objectives, that we carry out as the umbrella body and the national voice for the Neighbourhood Watch movement in England and Wales, include:

- **Providing advice and resources:** we host the Ourwatch website for everyone to access crime prevention and community wellbeing advice and resources.
- **Campaigning:** we raise awareness of crime prevention actions that everyone can use, by launching national crime prevention campaigns across social media channels.
- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement:** We work with other charities, government bodies, sponsors the press to show Neighbourhood Watch as a modern, relevant movement for safer, connected communities for all.
- **Facilitating work of local Neighbourhood Watch groups:** we provide training, resources and networking opportunities for local groups, schemes and association across England and Wales.
- **Protecting the intellectual property of the NW movement:** we hold trademarks of the Neighbourhood Watch logo and name, to protect the reputation of the Neighbourhood Watch movement and to maximise income opportunities.
- **Assessing and reflecting:** we regularly survey Neighbourhood Watch members and also members of the public and commission research, to evaluate the impact of our work and assess ways to improve.
- **Increasing our reach:** we constantly look for new avenues to reach younger and more diverse audiences.
- **Growing the resources of our charity:** we continuously look for new sources of income and actively manage our relationships with existing sponsors, grant-givers, and other funders to ensure our income is sufficient for us to achieve all the work we set out to do.

Achievement and Performance

Some of our achievements in furthering Neighbourhood Watch Network's charitable purposes 2022-2023 are described below.

Providing advice and resources

Website: We continued to develop our website to provide new and relevant crime prevention and community cohesion content to the over 1.3 million users each year. One focus was hate crime content including a definition of hate crime, impact, reporting, support for victims, disability, homophobic, transphobic, and religious hate crime.

Newsletter: We regularly share our newsletters to over 800,000 people with information on preventing crimes including cybercrime, theft, burglary, ASB, car crime, and scams

Other media: We shared information and advice through monthly Family Life magazines both online and printed through people's doors in areas within the West Midlands, Shropshire, East Midlands and the North West.

Partners: We co-developed guides for Airbnb hosts and guests on crime prevention and being a good neighbour and gave expert advice to 197 hosts who attended a community safety webinar.

Media coverage: We provided crime prevention advice on 27 national and local TV and radio interviews this year including lengthy appearances on Crimewatch and BBC Morning Live. We also featured in 5 national newspaper articles and no less than 45 local articles.

Neighbourhood Watch Shop: After multiple requests from Associations and members for a central point to purchase Neighbourhood Watch branded merchandise, we successfully set up an on-line shop. Local coordinators, Associations, councils and police forces have purchased street signs, overlays stickers, window stickers, mugs, notebooks etc. The response has been extremely positive with local groups being able to purchase small quantities of products at bulk order prices. It has also enabled printed materials to be distributed locally for campaigns.

Campaigning

Crime prevention campaigns: We produced national targeted campaigns focused on password protection (June 2022), Street Harassment (September 2022), and Burglary (January 2023) with each campaign reaching over 1.2 million people via direct email or social media. The average time spent on the landing page of our 'Protect your Password' campaign was over 60 seconds, proving that our approach in messaging of providing simple, clear messages and calls to action, even in complex subjects, resonates with the public.

Partners' campaigns: We shared partner campaigns such as the Crimestoppers Courier Fraud campaign, the Governments 'Enough' campaign addressing Violence Against Women and Girls, and the National Hate Crime Awareness Week campaign.

Our campaigns in use: Our 'Are You OK' campaign message was stencilled onto pavements by Hackney Council, in areas of high street harassment. They also translated it into Arabic. Two other London boroughs are also interested in adopting this activity and the campaign.

Achievements and performance (continued)

Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement

40th Anniversary

As this year was the 40th Anniversary of Neighbourhood Watch, the focus of Neighbourhood Watch Week was a broad campaign featuring '40 Ways to Improve Your Neighbourhood' containing simple individual acts and larger community activities. Feedback from coordinators and volunteers was very positive as it supported local direct action. As previously, over 3 million people took part in Neighbourhood Watch Week and our collaboration with 'The Big Lunch' as part of the Week of Community provided further amplification of the week.

Crime and Community conference

In May 2022, we ran our first Neighbourhood Watch Crime Conference for volunteers, partners and other organisations to develop better relationships and joined up working with organisations at the local and national level. The event included presentations by experts in the field of disability hate crime, police/public engagement, bystander intervention and community organising. These themes were supported by workshops from the Jo Cox Foundation, the Country Landowners Association and Neighbourhood Watch volunteers. 91% of attendees rated the conference good or excellent and said the content extremely/very relevant for their role.

Broadcast Day

We held our first Broadcast Day as part of Neighbourhood Week with local volunteers supported to be spokespeople in all regions of England and Wales. Over 40 interviews on local and national radio took place highlighting the work of Neighbourhood Watch locally and nationally.

Impact Report

Our third Impact Report celebrating our 40th Anniversary focused on our impact on antisocial behaviour, drug dealing, burglary and other community crime with over 12,000 visits to the website page and 4,700 downloads of the report.

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups

Volunteer Training Hub

This has expanded to include over 1,750 volunteers actively using the site to access training, support and access to forums to discuss and share ideas with other volunteers across the network.

Volunteer workshops

We delivered on-line winter and summer development workshops, with over 1,000 volunteers attending over the year. Over 75% of volunteers reported that they are happy or very happy with the support they receive. While this is positive we aim to improve on this over the course of our 5-Year Strategy.

Supporting Association Leads

Quarterly meetings, with Board members and staff, continued to be well attended. Over the next year we will involve local Association Leads, coordinators and Board Members in a series of 'Task and Finish' groups, focusing on Perception Change, Donor Development, Recruitment, Youth Offer, and Volunteer Development & Support.

Achievements and performance (continued)

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups (continued)

Grant giving to local communities

We have continued to prioritise our Community Grant Scheme and enhance scope and funding to this programme. We distributed nearly £10,000 this year to local groups and schemes with very positive feedback. We are now starting to receive feedback on the impact of these grants which we will publish as part of our Newsletter and Impact Report.

Work by local Neighbourhood Watch groups

Some examples of the work carried out in the year at ground level are described below:

- In UPPER GRAIGWEN, PONTYPRIDD, Street Watch patrols were set up, and CCTV installed around the estate to address ASB, which had become a major problem at night. Crime reduced from about 65 crimes a year in 1999 to just three and there is a new community feel to the area.
- Four NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUPS IN PETERBOROUGH united to provide regular reports about drug dealing in the area, enabling the police to apply to a magistrate to close two addresses under the Misuse of Drugs Act.
- CHOSEN WAY, BURLEIGH CROFT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH in Gloucester supported residents to install video doorbells. They also erected dog patrol and CCTV signs as a visual deterrent. These measures led to no more car damage, and far fewer reports of ASB and drug dealing. People now feel safer, have more pride in their area, and are more trusting and neighbourly.
- FARMFIELD ROAD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH in Kent, recorded dates and times of drug dealing in a vulnerable person's house that they believed had been cuckooed. The police used this information to build intelligence profiles, deploy undercover officers, stop the activity and arrest the offenders. As a result, residents are now working directly with the police to improve women's safety in the area.
- SEATON VALE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH, Northumberland, collated the date, time, and location of shed and car break-ins. They shared CCTV footage to identify the culprits, leading to an arrest and almost no further crimes.
- Following an increase in car crime, SURREY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH organised leaflet drops, individual and group meetings. This resulted in 12 new Neighbourhood Watch groups being set up, with around 150 members.
- OXFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH led an evidence-based bike theft awareness project with Oxford University to help cyclists in socially deprived areas. They distributed 35,000 safety leaflets to cyclists and ran an event to provide free bike marking and demonstrate bike locks and safe locking techniques.
- CUMBRIA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION developed an initiative with the Cumbria Federation of Young Farmers' Club to create a unique training package to identify practical actions to prevent rural crime. The aim is for the training to become a module for young farmers across the UK.

Achievements and performance (continued)

Assessing and reflecting

Crime and Community survey: Our third Neighbourhood Watch Crime and Community Survey launched in November 2022 and received over 25,000 responses from supporters and members of the public. Results included:

- 60% thought that we are effective at preventing crime;
- 68% thought that we provide reliable community-based crime prevention advice and support;
- 57% thought that Neighbourhood Watch provides the first step for neighbours to connect with each other and get involved with other local community groups;
- 66% thought that Neighbourhood Watch contributes to community health and wellbeing; and
- 58% thought that Neighbourhood Watch effectively supports vulnerable members of the community.

While these results are extremely positive our 5-Year strategy is aimed at improving this perception further.

Increasing our reach

Social: Our reach on social media continued to grow with over 41,000 followers and our specific campaigns reached over one million people through direct email and Facebook advertising.

Youth Offer Development: We know how important it is to include young people in all stages of decision-making, to support their involvement in crime prevention and community building. In 2022 we recruited a Young Peoples Engagement and Development Manager to improve how we engage with young people and to develop a youth offer. We surveyed over 2,500 young people to better understand their views on crime and community. We delivered focus groups and community projects with over 340 young people in partnership with Bournemouth University, National Citizenship Service, Hereford College, Merton Young Inspectors and Free2Be. We also produced our fourth 'Lookout' magazine for students and worked in partnership with the Ben Kinsella Trust to deliver a set of knife Crime webinars to support parents and carers concerned about knife crime. Over the next year we will be applying for grant funding to trial new approaches for Neighbourhood Watch to engage with young people.

Community Safety Charter: This was designed to engage with a much broader range of individuals and organisations in crime prevention activity, focused on crime in public spaces. It was soft-launched to Neighbourhood Watch members at our Crime and Community Conference in May 2022 and more widely across England and Wales in July 2022. Since its launch, over 1,800 organisations and individuals have signed up to actively reduce street crime and support victims. Training modules in street harassment, hate crime, and ASB have been produced and distributed to all Community Safety Charter signatories, with Bystander intervention currently under development.

The Neighbourhood Watch Affiliate Membership model: The model was also launched at our Crime and Community conference. This model of engagement gives those signing up to the Community Safety Charter as well as other statutory and voluntary organisations a means to extend their engagement with Neighbourhood Watch whilst retaining their identity as a separate group or organisation.

Achievements and performance (continued)

Increasing our reach

Social: Our reach on social media continued to grow with over 41,000 followers and our specific campaigns reached over one million people through direct email and Facebook advertising.

More diverse Board: After running a Skills and Effectiveness Audit with the Board we embarked on a recruitment drive for new skilled Trustees. We were delighted to recruit Hugh Ind, Tayo Oguntonade and Andrew Whyte to the Board and formally vote them in at the 2022 Annual General Meeting. They bring a wealth of experience on policing, central government, housing, young people, communications and marketing

Growing the resources of our charity

Lottery: We launched a lottery, as part of One Lottery – an umbrella lottery platform – in July 2022. This has been popular with our supporters and raised £33,760 in 2022/23.

Future Plans

Our current 5-year strategy runs from 2020 to 2025. In 2023-2024 we aim to continue building on the strong foundations of the first 3 years. The workstreams include:

- Agree a new framework with the National Police Chiefs Council for liaison and communication between Neighbourhood Watch and local Police Forces.
- Gain funding to co-develop and trial new approaches to working with young people increasing engagement in their communities and developing new skills.
- Run a large scale recruitment drive across England and Wales supported by local Associations and schemes.
- Increase the capacity of the Central Support Team and involvement of local Associations by running several 'Task and Finish Groups'.

Financial review

Financial position

The detailed figures for the year ended 31 March 2023 are set out in the financial statements that follow the Trustees' Report.

There was a net deficit in the year of £17,953 (2021/22: £36,720). The deficit was planned as additional income had been received in previous years that was set aside by the Trustees, as designated funds, for projects in future years. This left total funds of £165,409 (2021/22: £183,362) at the end of the year.

Reserves

Total funds may include those that are –

- Restricted by the donor or funder for specific activities or programmes and that cannot be used for the general purposes of the charity,
and/or those that are
- Received in one financial year as part of a grant for work to be carried out wholly or partly in future financial years.

The existence and level of reserves does not mean that there has been an underspend in the past. Reserves can be built up for various reasons, including timing differences between our financial year and our funders'.

The funds that form our unrestricted funds reserve, should be enough to keep a positive cashflow for day-to-day operations, and keep enough for emergencies. This could be including cutting back our operations in the event of a downturn in funding, or for a winding-up of the charity if there was a large drop in funding. Unrestricted funds can also be designated for investment in future development as part of our long-term strategy.

The full Board reviews the reserves policy annually and has agreed an unrestricted reserve fund target of between three and six months of budgeted general fund operating costs. The table below shows how reserves are calculated:

| | 31 March 2023 | 31 March 2022 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total net assets | 165,409 | 183,362 |
| Less | | |
| carrying value of fixed assets | (4,326) | (9,732) |
| restricted funds | (10,784) | (9,778) |
| Certain designated funds | - | (2,783) |
| Total deductions | (15,010) | (22,293) |
| Total reserves | 150,299 | 161,069 |
| | | |
| Budgeted general funds expenditure | 481,637 | 432,628 |
| Number of months of expenditure | 3.8 | 4.5 |

The Board has instructed the Finance and Audit Committee to monitor reserves on a quarterly basis and to recommend any changes to the policy to the Board.

Financial review (continued)

Going concern

After reviewing our forecasts, projections and its reserves, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that we have adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. We therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Sources of funds

The Home Office grant to us provides funding for core activity and enables us to secure additional funding from commercial sponsors including ERA (home security products), Co-operative Insurance (insurance) Avast/Norton (internet security software), AirBnB (holiday accommodation), Deliveroo (home delivery). We are indebted to our sponsors who support us and work closely with them to amplify our message through their networks.

We continue to seek additional funding to grow the charity and introduced a lottery this year which has helped diversify our income. The Head of Fundraising and the CEO are focused on further increasing funds via grants, sponsorship and various forms of individual giving.

Fundraising Practices

Neighbourhood Watch Network is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is fully compliant with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Fundraising is an Individual Member of the Institute of Fundraising. In the year 2022/23 we did not carry out any direct marketing or face-to-face fundraising and received no complaints related to our fundraising practices. We are committed to always protecting vulnerable people and will ensure adherence to the Code of Fundraising practice and clear guidelines should we undertake different types of fundraising in the future. All marketing materials contain clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Risk Management

We review the main risks facing the charity on a regular basis. The current risk register highlights the reliance on a narrow range of funders mentioned above and the related need to better demonstrate the impact of Neighbourhood Watch activities, particularly in respect of crime prevention. NWN also recognises the need to extend its reach and develop a stronger offer that is relevant to all parts of society and that builds engagement among younger people, those from ethnic minority backgrounds and those most at risk from crime. All of these issues are addressed in NWN's 2020-2025 strategy and being implemented in our future plans. The charity has also insured against risks where practical to do so.

Structure, governance and management

Legal structure

Neighbourhood Watch Network was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 9th June 2017. It replaced Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network, a registered charity and company which was then dissolved. The voting membership of the CIO is explained below; trustees are also voting members.

Governance

Our governing document is its Constitution, dated 10 April 2017 which is available on our website www.ourwatch.org.uk. The overall governance, finance and operations of NWN are controlled by the Trustees, within the regulatory framework set by the Charity Commission.

The Constitution, resolutions and complementary procedures set by the Board, are the rules that we operate by, and by which decisions are made. The Trustees are ultimately responsible for NWN.

Members

NWN's membership structure aligns with the 43 Police Force areas across England and Wales and each of these can form a "Force Level Association" and become voting members of NWN by signing a Memorandum of Understanding covering joint working arrangements and providing a common framework of ethics and standards. There are currently 30 of these Force Level Associations. The exception to the national structure is the Metropolitan Police Force Area which is organized around the 32 London Boroughs and which collectively account for 4 votes within the membership.

Individual membership of local Neighbourhood Watch Associations does not confer membership of the CIO.

Trustees

The governing document states that there must be between 4 and 12 trustees in post at any time. Trustees who serve at the date of this report, and those who served during the year under review are set out on page 16.

The trustees delegate much of the day-to-day management of NWN to the CEO, but remain ultimately responsible. Their responsibilities are active, not passive, and include:

- regular evaluation of the strategic direction of NWN and its management policies
- evaluation of outcomes and the effectiveness with which the CEO and management implement them
- monitoring legal compliance
- management of risks related to NWN's activities

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

Structure, governance, management (continued)

The trustees are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed are set out in note 5 to the financial statements.

The Board's operations

The Board of Trustees meets at least four times a year to conduct its business and oversee progress against strategic and operational plans. Trustees are also involved in various working groups that support strategic workstreams. The Board is supported by a Finance and Audit Committee, which oversees the Charity's finances (including reserves), income generation and risk management, and reports regularly to the Board on these matters.

Appointment and retirement of trustees

The Trustees are elected by the Members at NWN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and others may be co-opted by the Board between Annual General Meetings, provided that the total number of trustees does not exceed twelve. Members are entitled to nominate candidates for election as trustees at the AGM and other trustees are recruited through advertising and evidence-based recruitment processes against the trustees' role description.

Board recruitment and induction

The Board is responsible for ensuring that it is made up of trustees who are collectively able to fulfil the governance function of the Board and therefore needs to have a mix of skills, both those which relate to the objectives of NWN and more generic skills and experience such as legal and financial.

The Board regularly undertakes a self-assessed skills audit against the set of skills it has identified as being essential for the governance of the Charity; this enables the Board to identify skills gaps, which informs the recruitment process and training needs. Trustees are able to access learning and development opportunities relevant to their trustee position.

Management

The Trustees delegate day-to-day running of the charity to the CEO who reports directly to the Board. The CEO leads a staff team of 8 salaried staff (7.8 full-time equivalents) at the time of signing the report. The Chair and Treasurer hold a meeting with the CEO each month. The Board receives regular reports on operational performance and provides oversight and scrutiny of results, using a set of key performance indicators.

Remuneration

The remuneration of the CEO is set by the Board and the remuneration of other staff is set by the CEO. In all cases, this is informed by formal and informal benchmarking information from comparable organisations in the voluntary sector, the responsibilities of each individual role and the requirements of the person specification.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name: Neighbourhood Watch Network
Charity number: 1173349
Country of registration: England & Wales

Principal office: Room WG07, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Ian Bretman | Chair |
| Kardaya Singh Rooprai | Treasurer |
| Rebecca Bryant OBE | |
| Mohamed Hammeda | |
| Sue Pillar | |
| Hugh Ind | appointed 17 August 2022 |
| Andrew Whyte | appointed 22 August 2022 |
| Tayo Oguntonade | appointed 22 August 2022 and resigned 8 July 2023 |

Key management personnel: John Hayward-Cripps, Chief Executive Officer

Bankers: HSBC, 41 Market Place, Loughborough, LE11 3EJ

Independent Examiner: Joanna Pittman, Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House,
108-114 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TL

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 year. 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ian Bretman

Chair

Date: 15 November 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ended 31 March 2023.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 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

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 CIO 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.

Signed:

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TL
Date: 31 January 2024

Financial Statements

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2023

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | 31 March 23 Total £ | 31 March 22 Total £ |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Income from: | | | | | |
| Donations | | 5,154 | 8,000 | 13,154 | 26,982 |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 281,306 | 25,000 | 306,306 | 320,341 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 231,449 | - | 231,449 | 179,722 |
| Investments | - | 283 | - | 283 | 16 |
| Total income | | 518,192 | 33,000 | 551,192 | 527,061 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 455,195 | 31,994 | 487,189 | 519,178 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 81,956 | - | 81,956 | 44,603 |
| Total expenditure | | 537,151 | 31,994 | 569,145 | 563,781 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (18,959) | 1,006 | (17,953) | (36,720) |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (18,959) | 1,006 | (17,953) | (36,720) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 173,584 | 9,778 | 183,362 | 220,082 |
| Total funds carried forward | 10 | 154,625 | 10,784 | 165,409 | 183,362 |

All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

There are no other gains or losses other than those stated above.

Notes 1 – 14 form part of the financial statements.

**Balance sheet
at 31 March 2023**

| | Notes | 31 March 2023 £ | 31 March 2022 £ |
|---|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Intangible fixed assets | 7 | - | 5,657 |
| Tangible fixed assets | 7 | 4,326 | 4,075 |
| Total fixed assets | | 4,326 | 9,732 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Stock | | 10,016 | 840 |
| Debtors | 8 | 74,792 | 62,625 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 114,006 | 166,333 |
| Total current assets | | 198,814 | 229,798 |
| Creditors: amounts due within one year | 9 | (37,731) | (56,168) |
| Net current assets | | 161,083 | 173,630 |
| Total net assets | | 165,409 | 183,362 |
| Funds of the charity | | | |
| | 10 | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | |
| Designated funds | | 8,962 | 26,847 |
| General funds | | 145,663 | 146,737 |
| Total unrestricted funds | | 154,625 | 173,584 |
| Restricted funds | | 10,784 | 9,778 |
| Total funds | | 165,409 | 183,362 |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Bretman
Chair

Kardaya Rooprai
Treasurer

Date: 15 November 2023

Date: 15 November 2023

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2023

| | Notes | 31 March 2023 £ | 31 March 2022 £ |
|---|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities | | | |
| Net expenditure as per the statement of financial activities | | (17,953) | (36,720) |
| Investment income | | (283) | (16) |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 7 | 7,409 | 6,522 |
| Movements in working capital | | | |
| Change in stock | | (9,176) | - |
| Change in debtors | 8 | (12,167) | 15,739 |
| Change in creditors | 9 | (18,437) | (565) |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | (50,607) | (15,040) |
| Cash flow statement | | | |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | (50,607) | (15,040) |
| Cash flow from investment activities | 8 | | |
| Purchase of fixed assets | 7 | (2,003) | (2,797) |
| Disposal of fixed assets | 7 | - | 318 |
| Investment income | | 283 | 16 |
| Net cash used in investment activities | | 1,720 | (2,463) |
| Change in cash in the year | | (52,327) | (17,503) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | | 166,333 | 183,836 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 114,006 | 166,333 |
| Analysis of cash and cash equivalents | | | |
| Current account | | 31,244 | 3,855 |
| Deposit account | | 82,762 | 162,478 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 114,006 | 166,333 |

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

a. Statutory information

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Room WG07, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH.

b. Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Charities SORP (FRS 102) – *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)*
- FRS 102 – The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- The Charities Act 2011.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

c. Critical accounting judgements and estimates

When preparing the financial statements in line with FRS 102, the trustees are required to make judgements and estimates. The estimates and judgements are based on historical experiences and other factors that are considered relevant including expectations of future events. The estimates and judgements include:

- Accruals: costs not yet invoiced (see Expenditure policy below)
- Allocation of support costs (see Expenditure policy below); and
- Depreciation and impairment (see Fixed Assets policy below).

In the view of the trustees, no assumptions concerning the future have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

d. Going concern

When considering going concern, the trustees consider all available information about the future at the date they approve the accounts, which includes information from budgets and forecasts about income, expenditure and cash flows. Attention is also given to reserves.

The charity has not been adversely affected by the cost of living crisis as it does not rely on donations from the general public as a result of fundraising events.

Given the Home Office grant agreed for the year ending 31 March 2024 and the reserves currently held, the trustees believe that the current economic situation, including the cost of living crisis, does not pose a material uncertainty that would cast doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees therefore consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e. Income

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income can be measured reliably.

Income from the online shop is recognised when orders are placed and funds are paid into the charity's Paypal account.

f. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is attributed to the following areas:

- *raising funds*
- *charitable activities*

Where expenditure cannot be directly attributed to these areas, it is allocated to them on a usage or head count basis. Support costs, such as general management, finance, office rent and governance costs are allocated in this way. Governance costs are costs associated with the general running of the charity and include audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Direct costs relating to the operation of the online shop are allocated on the following basis:

- written campaign material: 100% charitable activities
- signs, stickers and branded goods: 25% fundraising; 75% charitable activities

Raising funds relate to the costs in carrying out activities that are intended to generate income, such as staff time managing grant applications and developing commercial sponsorship agreements. It also includes costs relating to operating the online shop, such as the cost of items sold and fees for fulfilling orders.

Charitable activities are costs incurred in delivering activities and services for the charity's beneficiaries. These include providing information and resources to Neighbourhood Watch members and the general public on the Ourwatch.org.uk website, staff costs for delivering campaigns and project and paying grants. Grants are recognised as expenditure when they are approved and this has been communicated to the recipient.

The charity is unable to recover the majority of VAT charged. This irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

g. Fund accounting

Restricted funds are funds which arose when donors gave them for particular restricted purposes which are narrower than the general purposes of the charity. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the general objectives of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as for use at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the note 10 to the financial statements.

h. Operating leases

Payments made under operating leases are charged to the SOFA when incurred. The charity does not acquire assets under finance leases.

i. Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £350 are capitalised and are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over its estimated useful life as follows:

- Office equipment: 25% reducing balance
- Furniture and fittings: 20% reducing balance

Intangible fixed assets are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

The Ourwatch.org.uk website for the national Neighbourhood Watch Network is capitalised as an intangible asset and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life of 3 years.

Impairment reviews are conducted when events and changes in circumstances indicate that an impairment may have occurred. If any asset is found to have a carrying value materially higher than its recoverable amount, it is written down accordingly.

j. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments.

k. Stock

Stock consists of online shop branded items, such as road signs, mugs and pens and is valued at cost or written-down value. Stock is reviewed at least annually and its carrying value is reduced to the lower of cost or estimated net realisable value. If any items are given away at events, the cost is expensed at that time.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due for the provision of services delivered. Prepayments are recognised at the amount prepaid or the amount paid in advance.

m. Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

n. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

o. Pensions

Pension costs comprise the costs of the charity's contribution to its employee's pension schemes. The charity provides a money purchase scheme which is available to all employees.

2. Income from charitable activities

| | 31 March 2023 | | | 31 March 2022 | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
| Grants | | | | | | |
| Home Office | 280,000 | - | 280,000 | 280,000 | - | 280,000 |
| Partners | | 25,000 | 25,000 | - | 40,122 | 40,122 |
| Others | 1,306 | - | 1,306 | 219 | - | 219 |
| Total | 281,306 | 25,000 | 306,306 | 280,219 | 40,122 | 320,341 |

3. Income from other trading activities

| | 31 March 2023 | | | 31 March 2022 | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
| Sponsorship | | | | | | |
| ERA | 50,000 | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | - | 50,000 |
| AVAST | 38,300 | - | 38,300 | 62,833 | - | 62,833 |
| Co-op | 25,000 | - | 25,000 | 25,000 | - | 25,000 |
| Airbnb | 20,000 | - | 20,000 | 20,833 | - | 20,833 |
| Other | 17,800 | - | 17,800 | 10,000 | - | 10,000 |
| Commission | 13,757 | - | 13,757 | 5,393 | - | 5,393 |
| Online shop sales | 25,682 | - | 25,682 | - | - | - |
| Lottery income | 33,760 | - | 33,760 | - | - | - |
| Other income | 7,150 | - | 7,150 | 5,663 | - | 5,663 |
| Total | 231,449 | - | 231,449 | 179,722 | - | 179,722 |

Other trading income includes lottery income, licence fees and advertising fees.

4. Expenditure

Year ended 31 March 2023

| | Raising funds £ | Charitable activities £ | Governance costs £ | Support costs £ | Total £ |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 52,518 | 238,879 | 30,123 | 62,830 | 384,350 |
| Other direct costs | 5,601 | 131,630 | 9,204 | 30,104 | 176,539 |
| Grants paid | - | 8,256 | - | - | 8,256 |
| Total | 58,119 | 378,765 | 39,327 | 92,934 | 569,145 |
| Support costs | 16,749 | 76,185 | - | (92,934) | - |
| Governance costs | 7,088 | 32,239 | (39,327) | - | - |
| Total | 81,956 | 487,189 | - | - | 569,145 |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 81,956 | 455,195 | | | 537,151 |
| Restricted funds | - | 31,994 | | | 31,994 |
| Total | 81,956 | 487,189 | | | 569,145 |

Prior year, year ended 31 March 2022

| | Raising funds £ | Charitable activities £ | Governance costs £ | Support costs £ | Total £ |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 28,797 | 228,323 | 29,163 | 73,043 | 359,326 |
| Other direct costs | 349 | 163,424 | 5,535 | 30,271 | 199,579 |
| Grants paid | - | 4,876 | - | - | 4,876 |
| Total | 29,146 | 396,623 | 34,698 | 103,314 | 563,781 |
| Support costs | 11,571 | 91,743 | - | (103,314) | - |
| Governance costs | 3,886 | 30,812 | (34,698) | - | - |
| Total | 44,603 | 519,178 | - | - | 563,781 |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 44,603 | 426,697 | | | 471,300 |
| Restricted funds | - | 92,481 | | | 92,481 |
| Total | 44,603 | 519,178 | | | 563,781 |

Staff costs are allocated to *raising funds*, *charitable expenditure*, *governance costs* and *support costs* using an activities-based time split. Non-staff costs are allocated directly to the category to which they relate.

Governance costs and support costs are allocated to *raising funds* and *charitable activities* on a percentage basis based on expenditure, as an approximation of usage.

5. Governance costs

The Independent Examiner's fee is included within governance costs. The amount payable in the year to the Independent examiner was £3,465 + VAT (2021/22: £3,150 + VAT).

Trustees give their time and expertise without charge and do not receive any other benefit from the charity. They are reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs incurred when fulfilling their duties as trustees. During the year one trustee (2021/22: one) was reimbursed a total of £76 (2021/22: £51).

There were no related party donations or other transactions during the year (2021/22: none).

6. Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

| | 31 March 2023 | 31 March 2022 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Wages and salaries | 330,675 | 307,622 |
| Social security costs | 30,166 | 28,601 |
| Pension costs | 14,112 | 13,623 |
| Total employment costs | 374,953 | 349,846 |
| Other staff related costs | 9,397 | 9,480 |
| Total staff related costs | 384,350 | 359,326 |

Other staff related costs include staff travel and other expenses, recruitment and training costs.

The average head count of staff employed throughout the period was 9.5 (2021/22: 8.5).

There was 1 member of staff (2021/22: 1) whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) were between £70,001-£80,000.

Key management personnel

The total cost of employee benefits (salary and employer's National Insurance and pension contributions) for key management personnel in the year was £91,940 (2021/22: £89,655).

7. Fixed assets

Intangible assets – Ourwatch.org.uk website

| Cost | £ |
|--|--------------|
| At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 | 16,971 |
| Amortisation | |
| At 1 April 2022 | 11,314 |
| Charge for the year | 5,657 |
| At 31 March 2023 | 16,971 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2023 | - |
| Net book value at 31 March 2022 | 5,657 |

7. Fixed assets (continued)

Tangible assets

| | Fixtures and fittings £ | Office equipment £ | Total £ |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Cost | | | |
| 1 April 2022 | 1,128 | 4,644 | 5,772 |
| Additions | - | 2,003 | 2,003 |
| At 31 March 2023 | 1,128 | 6,647 | 7,775 |
| Depreciation | | | |
| At 1 April 2022 | 418 | 1,279 | 1,697 |
| Charge for the year | 259 | 1,493 | 1,752 |
| At 31 March 2023 | 677 | 2,772 | 3,449 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2023 | 451 | 3,875 | 4,326 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2022 | 710 | 3,365 | 4,075 |

8. Debtors

| | 31 March 2023 £ | 31 March 2022 £ |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Trade debtors | 45,160 | 14,602 |
| Other debtors | 6,838 | 6,078 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 22,794 | 41,945 |
| Total | 74,792 | 62,625 |

9. Creditors

| | 31 March 2023 £ | 31 March 2022 £ |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Trade creditors | 5,936 | 7,687 |
| Other taxes and social security | 20,697 | 12,624 |
| Other creditors | 3,390 | 13,410 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 7,708 | 22,447 |
| Total | 37,731 | 56,168 |

10. Movement in funds

| Current year | At 1 April 2022 | Income | Expenditure | At 31 March 2023 |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Advancement fund | 2,783 | - | (2,783) | - |
| Project funds | 21,418 | - | (19,751) | 1,667 |
| Community fund | 2,646 | 12,905 | (8,256) | 7,295 |
| Total designated funds | 26,847 | 12,905 | (30,790) | 8,962 |
| General fund | 146,737 | 505,287 | (506,361) | 145,663 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 173,584 | 518,192 | (537,151) | 154,625 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| NESTA | 609 | - | (148) | 461 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 8,519 | 25,000 | (23,196) | 10,323 |
| Volunteer Programme | 650 | - | (650) | - |
| Other restricted funds | - | 8,000 | (8,000) | - |
| Total restricted funds | 9,778 | 33,000 | (31,994) | 10,784 |
| Total funds | 183,362 | 551,192 | (569,145) | 165,409 |
| Prior year | At 1 April 2021 | Income | Expenditure | At 31 March 2022 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Advancement fund | 10,820 | - | (8,037) | 2,783 |
| Project funds | 46,951 | - | (25,533) | 21,418 |
| Community fund | - | 4,218 | (1,572) | 2,646 |
| Total designated funds | 57,771 | 4,218 | (35,142) | 26,847 |
| General fund | 126,115 | 456,780 | (436,158) | 146,737 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 183,886 | 460,998 | (471,300) | 173,584 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| NESTA | 5,131 | - | (4,522) | 609 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 423 | 40,122 | (32,026) | 8,519 |
| Volunteer Programme | 30,107 | - | (29,457) | 650 |
| Co-op funded projects | 535 | 25,941 | (26,476) | - |
| Total restricted funds | 36,196 | 66,063 | (92,481) | 9,778 |
| Total funds | 220,082 | 527,061 | (563,781) | 183,362 |

Designated funds

Advancement fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the 'Advancement Areas' programme, which aims to deliver a framework for Neighbourhood Watch development in areas of high crime areas, underrepresented communities and in areas of social disadvantage. The fund has paid for a full-time young people's engagement and development manager for part of the year.

10. Movement in funds (continued)

Project fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the charity to deliver a series of intervention projects to support the trustees' 10-point strategy. In the year, funds were used for crime prevention campaigns on social media.

Community fund is money set aside for making small grants to local neighbourhood watch community projects across England and Wales. Money used for this fund comes from Patlock commission, where Patlock donates £7 from each lock it sells to Neighbourhood Watch members.

Restricted funds

NESTA grant fund is funding received from NESTA (a national grant-making charity, www.nesta.org.uk) for the 'Communities that Care' project. This fund continues to be spent.

Devon and Cornwall grant is money received to fund a part time post based and working in the Devon and Cornwall Force area. During the year, further funding was received for additional 'Safer Streets' projects.

Volunteer Programme is restricted money from the National Lottery Community Fund, which was secured to support the volunteer programme – a project to invest in Neighbourhood Watch volunteers. The vast majority of this fund was spent in prior years.

Co-op funds projects is money received from the Co-op Group for specific projects, including purchase of window stickers for households and development of the Ourwatch website.

Other restricted funds includes donations or sponsorship received for specific projects or events.

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

| Current year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | 4,326 | - | - | 4,326 |
| Net current assets | 141,337 | 8,962 | 10,784 | 161,083 |
| Total funds | 145,663 | 8,962 | 10,784 | 165,409 |
| Prior year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
| Fixed assets | 9,732 | - | - | 9,732 |
| Net current assets | 137,005 | 26,847 | 9,778 | 173,630 |
| Total funds | 146,737 | 26,847 | 9,778 | 183,362 |

12. Operating leases

The charity had one operating lease at the balance sheet date, for rented office space. The minimum non-cancellable lease payments are:

| | 31 March 2023 | 31 March 2022 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Not later than one year | 9,724 | 9,261 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | - | - |

13. Prior year comparatives

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 March 2022

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Income from: | | | | |
| Donations | | 1,041 | 25,941 | 26,982 |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 280,219 | 40,122 | 320,341 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 179,722 | - | 179,722 |
| Investments | - | 16 | - | 16 |
| Total income | | 460,998 | 66,063 | 527,061 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 426,697 | 92,481 | 519,178 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 44,603 | - | 44,603 |
| Total expenditure | | 471,300 | 92,481 | 563,781 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (10,302) | (26,418) | (36,720) |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (10,302) | (26,418) | (36,720) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 183,886 | 36,196 | 220,082 |
| Total funds carried forward | 10 | 173,584 | 9,778 | 183,362 |

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1173349

Accounts



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

(Charity No. 1173349)

Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2022

As the national umbrella organisation of the largest voluntary movement for crime prevention in England and Wales, we support people to prevent and reduce crime by coming together with their neighbours to create safer, stronger and active communities.

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About Neighbourhood Watch Network

Neighbourhood Watch Network is the strategic voice and national umbrella organisation for England and Wales. We support the grassroots Neighbourhood Watch movement which involves over 2.3 million volunteers in preventing crime and strengthening communities. This work is delivered by our local Associations who are the members of Neighbourhood Watch Network.

Our vision

Our vision is a society where neighbours come together to create safer, stronger and active communities.

Our mission

Our mission is to support and enable individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe, which increases wellbeing and minimises crime.

Our values

Neighbourly, community-focused, inclusive, proactive, trusted, collaborative.

Introduction from the Chair and the CEO

2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the first NW scheme in England. While most of the events to mark this milestone will be covered in the next annual review for 2022/23, this report provides an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of the original initiatives. Known as Home Watch, the first scheme was set up in 1982 in Mollington in Cheshire and was joined soon after by groups in Harpenden and Chorleywood in Hertfordshire, Bedford and South Wales. These schemes reflected the ethos and values of the movement which has remained constant through the decades – locally mobilised and organised and reliant on the efforts of volunteers on behalf of their own communities. Incredibly, there are volunteers who set up a Neighbourhood watch 40 years ago and are still going strong today, while the national reach of the movement exceeds two million people.

We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the selfless work and tenacity of all our volunteers during the life of this charity. Without all of you, none of our work would be possible and just like us, we know our communities are hugely proud of you. But this anniversary year will be more than just a celebration of that historic legacy; it will also showcase the need and the potential to build on that legacy for the future. The past few years have highlighted the importance of connected communities to our health and wellbeing and the value people place on knowing their neighbours better. We are committed to our charity and our movement playing as important a role in the future of that work as it has done over the past 40 years. We also want to say a huge thank you to our funders, partners, trustees, staff, and our Neighbourhood Watch communities whose continued support will make that possible.

John Hayward-Cripps
CEO

Ian Bretman
Chair

Trustees report

The Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's trust deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Delivering Our Charitable Purpose

The Objects of NWN, as set out in the Constitution dated 10 April 2017 are to:

- Promote for the benefit of the public good citizenship, community safety and greater public participation in the prevention and detection of crime, and;
- Promote public support for the work of the police service and other partners in the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, crime.

To achieve these objects, we provide free online resources for everyone to help them reduce their chances of becoming a victim of crime. We also signpost them to local Neighbourhood Watch groups which aim to strengthen community cohesion and wellbeing and create better connected and more resilient communities.

At a national level, we work closely with government departments, the National Police Chiefs Council Police and Crime Commissioners and voluntary sector partners to extend the reach of our work as far as possible and involve policy and research institutions in assessing our impact and help us plan for future improvements.

Local Neighbourhood Watch groups make a real, long-lasting difference to communities: as well as helping to reduce crime they increase neighbourliness and community wellbeing and strengthen the voice of the community with councils, the police and other public services. We support and enable local schemes to operate by providing resources, training and networking support to volunteers and members.

Public Benefit & Contribution Made by Volunteers

The public benefit from the activities carried out by the Charity by:

- Having access to information and advice on crime prevention and personal security;
- Being part of better connected and more resilient communities – the Charity facilitates the work of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers to maintain and develop community-based Neighbourhood Watch schemes which in turn contribute to better connected and more resilient communities, where crime and anti-social behaviour can be reduced and also the incidence and impact of loneliness and isolation.

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers (estimated to number at least 2.3 million individuals) work through their local schemes, many of which are charities in their own right. So, while this is not a direct contribution to NWN, it is important to recognise the significant social value created within communities by preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime, alleviating loneliness and isolation, and providing practical assistance between neighbours.

Main Activities

We review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure they remain focused on the charity's stated purposes. In this report, we describe what the charity has achieved and how it has performed in the reporting period and how each key activity has benefitted the people that the charity was set up to help.

Objectives set out in our 2020-2025 strategic plan are to be:

- *the authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention*, so that everyone will be able to access advice and support they need
- *a recognised contributor to community health and wellbeing*, so that community cohesion is increased, and loneliness and isolation are reduced
- *the most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality*, so that neighbours have a place to go to connect with each other and their communities.

Activities to achieve these objectives, that we carry out as the umbrella body and the national voice for the Neighbourhood Watch movement in England and Wales, include:

- **Providing advice and resources:** we host the Ourwatch website for everyone to access crime prevention and community wellbeing advice and resources.
- **Campaigning:** we raise awareness of crime prevention actions that everyone can use, by launching national crime prevention campaigns across social media channels.
- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement:** We work with other charities, government bodies, sponsors the press to show Neighbourhood Watch as a modern, relevant movement for safer, connected communities for all.
- **Facilitating work of local Neighbourhood Watch groups:** we providing training, resources and networking opportunities for local groups, schemes and association across England and Wales.
- **Protecting the intellectual property of the NW movement:** we hold trademarks of the Neighbourhood Watch logo and name, to protect the reputation of the Neighbourhood Watch movement and to maximise income opportunities.
- **Assessing and reflecting:** we regularly survey Neighbourhood Watch members and also members of the public and commission research, to evaluate the impact of our work and assess ways to improve.
- **Increasing our reach:** we constantly look for new avenues to reach younger and more diverse audiences.
- **Growing the resources of our charity:** we continuously look for new sources of income and actively manage our relationships with existing sponsors, grant-givers, and other funders to ensure our income is sufficient for us to achieve all the work we set out to do.

Achievement and Performance

Some of our achievements in furthering Neighbourhood Watch Network's charitable purposes 2021-2022 are described below.

- **Providing advice and resources**

We have a wide range of crime prevention advice on our website, including regularly updated content which links to our most recent campaigns on fraud, dog theft, car theft, anti-social behaviour (ASB), county lines, hate crime, modern slavery and burglary. Our site was again visited by over 1.3million people over the year with the time spent on advice and actions-to-take pages being very high.

We have developed, with national agencies Historic England, Countryside Alliance, and the NFU, Rural Crime pages to identify what constitutes a rural crime and what people can do to prevent and report this. We have also worked with Safer Communities Wales, Crimestoppers, Get Safe Online, Eden project, Women's Aid, and the National Cyber Security Centre to co-develop revised content and 'how to' guides on the website to tackle local crime and community issues.

The National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) reviewed and updated our counter terrorism toolkit and provided accessible and engaging visual content. This has strengthened our partnership with NaCTSO and developed means to further raise public awareness of counter terrorism, promote the public online training available and use of the Action Counters Terrorism or ACT app.

The Communities that Care (CTC) programme continues to be rolled out to both volunteers in partner organisations and NW coordinators. This programme trains and provides resources for coordinators to support those vulnerable to fraud within their communities to protect themselves, while offering support and signposting to other agencies for victims of fraud. West Yorkshire Police are engaging their coordinators in the programme and 51 extra volunteers in a range of police forces have signed up this year to be a CTC volunteer.

- **Campaigning**

We have produced five national, targeted crime-prevention campaigns on car theft (April 2021), dog theft (June 2021), fraud (July 2021), ASB (Nov 2021) and burglary (March 2022). The social media reach of these campaigns was 295,000, 280,000, 392,000, 400,000 and 1.6million respectively with an additional 650,000 members via direct email in each campaign.

We continued to promote the governments Covid-19 messages and rules, and promoted the Home Office's Beating Crime Plan in our newsletter to 700,000 members. We have identified, and are adapting, a range of areas within our current workplan to support priorities within the Beating Crime Plan.

We also supported the Cabinet Office campaign to launch the emergency alerts service, which will broadcast alerts to people's phones in the event of a scenario that poses a significant threat to life, health, or property.

Achievements and performance (continued)

- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement**

We developed and trialled our 'Affiliate Model' where existing local organisations such as resident associations, faith groups or other community groups can join Neighbourhood Watch as a group with one member of the group acting as the local coordinator and disseminating information, advice and benefits via their own network. This approach is making it easier for people and groups to engage with us and is increasing the diversity of our members and supporters to be more representative of our whole communities.

Neighbourhood Watch Week 2021 reached 92,000 via social media people and over 4,500 engaged directly with the materials. We gained 2,500 new followers on social media and were featured in 12 local newspapers. We delivered our first podcast and over 700 people downloaded our listening campaign guide. Neighbourhood Watch Week was part of the nationwide "Month of Community" in which several good causes come together to celebrate everything that makes our communities stronger. It includes The Big Lunch, Volunteers Week, Carers Week and Refugee Week. Research undertaken on behalf of the Month of Community based on a nationally representative sample of 4000+ people and scaled up proportionally found:

- 5.2% of the population engaged with/took part in Neighbourhood Watch Week (3.5million)
- Of those most were 25- 34 years old followed by 35 - 44 years old and lived in city centres
- Most were a couple with children
- We reached one of the most diverse audiences for Month of Community events, with 29% of Black, Caribbean or Asian ethnicity.

We ran our annual Neighbour of the Year Award with the Coop, which serves to celebrate those volunteers in our community who have been actively involved in increasing community wellbeing and reducing crime and the fear of crime in their communities. This year we saw 800 nominations and over 800 pieces of press coverage. The individual winner, Lynette Pryke, set up and ran the amazing Alford Hum support service and Keyham Neighbourhood Watch won the community of the year award for incredible support after the tragic shootings there.

Neighbourhood Watch Network is now represented on the Home Office/ Serious Fraud Office Victims' Working Group and has actively contributed to development of the Fraud Action Plan for Safeguarding victims. Neighbourhood Watch Network is also on the Home Office Burglary Task Force and the ASB Task Force contributing to Home Office Policy and implementation from a community perspective.

We worked closely with Deliveroo and the Metropolitan Police Service to create, verify and deliver online training to Deliveroo riders to keep themselves and their communities safer. 3,000 riders completed the training which had modules on keeping safe, harassment, female safety, domestic abuse and hate crime. Feedback from riders and members has been very positive.

Achievements and performance (continued)

- **Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups**

We have continued to develop our Volunteer Training Hub which is a central point for all our training support and information for volunteers. Additional on-line training courses have been added on topics ranging from data security, governance, and compliance with Data Protection Regulations. The hub also provides volunteer forums, enabling coordinators from across England and Wales to discuss issues and ideas. Over 7,200 hours of training were delivered to volunteers including training on the new database for Neighbourhood Watch schemes provided by Visav.

The local Association Leads are meeting with Board members, the staff team and each other at quarterly meetings to ensure they are involved and support new projects and proposals and are involved in all the organisations working groups.

Some examples of the work of local Neighbourhood Watch groups carried out in the year are described below:

- We have developed the role of a Community Hate Crime Champion role in **Greenwich** in partnership with Berkeley Homes as a pilot model for other areas. Training for the Champions has been developed and delivered with the support of other local charities and partners.
- **Northampton** Association have worked closely with the Police and their Police and Crime Commissioner to gain funding from the Safer Streets programme. Their joint targeted programme has seen Neighbourhood Watch expand and take root in various high crime and high deprivation areas where there have been no previous schemes.
- Within 24 hours of the tragic shooting in the Plymouth district of **Keyham** the local watch had gained funding from the PCC and were getting names of local community members who felt unsafe in their homes. Work began with 5 days to improve the home security of over 100 people as part of the Feel Safe Keyham project and provided 100 personal alarms to vulnerable residents. Emotional support was provided by members and the community and the local watch were awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service.
- Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators in **Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale**, have been running our Communities that Care project for the past 3 years. They arrange events for their elderly and vulnerable residents, send regular messages, and conduct leaflet drops to share information about fraud protection. Residents are now aware of many scams and regularly contact their Coordinators to advise them of suspicious behaviour or activity and believe that due to the project, *'scams are stopped in their tracks'*.
- Four Neighbourhood Watch groups in **Peterborough** were commended by local police for coming together to provide daily reports concerning a local drug dealing operation. That support and coordination enabled the police to close two addresses under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Achievements and performance (continued)

- **Grant giving to local communities**

After launching our Community Grant Scheme last year, we committed to continue and enhance this programme into the future. The scheme has enabled local Neighbourhood Watch groups, schemes, and associations to apply for funds to support projects, growth or start-up. We have provided almost £5,000 over the year and are receiving very positive feedback on the reach, impact, and outcomes from the grants.

- **Assessing and reflecting**

16,500 and 14,000 people respectively responded to our second Crime and Community survey and our Insight surveys which enables us to reflect on our progress towards our strategic aims, the public's perception of us and the impact we have in communities. The results are positive with more people recognising us as the authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention; the most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality; and a recognised contributor to community health and wellbeing.

- **Increasing our reach**

We have increased the number of non-members we are reaching through targeted direct social media campaigns with positive results in terms of engagement with the campaigns and 9,000 new followers.

We are working closely with our partner the Coop to produce and roll out Student Watch in several universities with the 'Lookout' (student produced) magazine. Our Young Peoples Development Manager is working with various youth organisations and young people to develop a new youth and young people offer.

Our Community Safety Charter has been developed by the People, Culture and Ethics Committee to involve volunteers in promoting wider involvement by local businesses and organisations community safety. The Charter includes a range of resources for businesses, individuals and organisations to commit to supporting crime prevention in their area. It was launched at the NW Conference on 31st May 2022 following successful pilots in London and Thames Valley.

Working with Good Neighbour Networks in Suffolk and Avon and Somerset, residents' associations and communities networks in North Wales, mosques in High Wycombe, faith groups in Coventry, Historic England, Optivo Housing, Deliveroo and Thirteen and Accent Groups and students in several universities we have trained staff / members in crime prevention and given access to crime prevention materials either in printed format (e.g. Communities that Care Fraud prevention packs, Lookout magazines) or through the Knowledge Hub or our website. Through these organisations we are reaching new demographics and higher crime-rate areas.

Achievements and performance (continued)

- **Diversity and Inclusion**

People from ethnic minority backgrounds, people with disabilities and other marginalised groups continue to experience higher levels of crime and fear of crime than the overall population and so ensuring that we engage and involve them in our work is vital to our charitable mission.

Neighbourhood Watch Network has established a People, Culture and Ethics Committee, chaired by a Trustee and involving staff members, association leads and coordinators to take forward work to improve the diversity and reach of Neighbourhood Watch. This group has developed and published a Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Statement and supported the development of the Neighbourhood Watch Community Safety Charter. A revised Code of Ethics and Standards of Behaviour has been developed and published.

Neighbourhood Watch Network ran Diversity Awareness training sessions for Associations and coordinators and included a session on diversity, equality, and inclusion in each of the six 2021 summer seminars reaching an audience of 420 association leads and coordinators.

We were delighted to welcome John Azah, Chief Executive of Kingston Race and Equalities Council as a keynote speaker to our 2021 Annual General Meeting. John was able to share some of his 30 years' experience of working with government, police forces and local communities to promote strong community relations.

We are celebrating our 40th Anniversary by relaunching our brand guidelines, a special-edition logo, volunteer recognition awards, a timeline of our journey showing the breadth of our work – all of which include elements highlighting our relevance to all parts of our communities and expressing our commitment to attracting a more diverse audience.

Future Plans

Our current 5-year strategy runs from 2020 to 2025. In 2022-2023 we aim to continue building on the start to this new phase of work for Neighbourhood Watch Network. The workstreams include:

- Form a new agreement for the schemes and associations that make up the Neighbourhood Watch movement to work together on achieving the ambitions of the strategy by recognising our inter-dependencies, being open to new ways of working and empowering members.
- Creating a more engaging narrative of how our crime prevention mission is supported by work to strengthen community cohesion and resilience, and supports the repositioning of Neighbourhood Watch as a movement of “neighbours watching out for each other, building safer and more inclusive communities”, rather than "residents watching for suspicious behaviour"
- Further work with to develop renewed and consistent relationships with the police, with clearer separation of roles and an acknowledgement that citizens have a clear responsibility for doing what they can to keep themselves and their neighbours safe from crime, and support the detection of crime.
- Co-development of Neighbourhood Watch in areas of high need (higher crime or disadvantage) and with communities underrepresented in Neighbourhood Watch (young people, people with disabilities and those from minority ethnic backgrounds) working within an asset-based community development framework.
- Build a more expansive portfolio of partnerships with public services, voluntary organisations and the private sector to amplify our messages and engage with all parts of the community. This will include a broader range of commercial relationships.
- More active and diverse fundraising at community and national level, building on our voluntary ethos but enabling it to deliver professional, measurable work.
- Investment in monitoring, evaluation and learning so that we can demonstrate impact and justify investment, as well as taking on a stronger advocacy and policy-influencing role.

More information about our future plans are contained in the 2020-2025 strategy which can be found on our website: www.ourwatch.org.uk.

Financial review

Financial position

The detailed figures for the year ended 31 March 2022 are set out in the financial statements that follow the Trustees' Report.

There was a net deficit in the year of £36,720 (2020/21: £71,584). The deficit was planned as additional income had been received in previous years that was set aside by the Trustees, as designated funds, for projects in future years. This left total funds of the charity at £183,362 (2020/21: £220,082) at the end of the year.

Reserves

Total funds held by NWN may include those that are –

- Restricted by the donor or funder for specific activities or programmes and that cannot be used for the general purposes of the charity,

and/or those that are
- Received in one financial year as part of a grant for work to be carried out wholly or partly in future financial years.

The existence or level of these funds do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between NWN's financial year and that of our funders.

The balance of funds constitutes the charity's unrestricted funds reserve which should be at a level to maintain a positive cashflow for day-to-day operations and provide sufficient funds for contingencies including scaling back operations in the event of a downturn in funding or for a winding-up of the organisation in the event of more significant loss of revenue. Unrestricted funds may also be designated for investment in future developments as part of NWN's long-term strategy.

The full trustee board reviews the reserves policy at least annually and has agreed on an unrestricted reserve fund of at least £115,000 (2020/21: £105,000), which is more than three months of all budgeted operating costs. At the end of the year, the reserves held were £161,000 (2020/21: £159,000) which is calculated as total net assets less restricted funds, some designated funds and the carrying value of fixed assets. This is still 40% above the target level, although it has reduced from 52% of the target level at 31 March 2021 and we have developed plans to invest funds that are surplus to immediate requirements to implement the 2020-2025 strategic plan. The Board has also mandated the Finance and Audit Committee to monitor reserves on a quarterly basis and to recommend any changes to the policy to the Board.

Going concern

After reviewing the Charity's forecasts, projections and its reserves, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that NWN has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. The Charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Financial review (continued)

Sources of funds

NWN's core costs in 2021/22 were covered by sponsorship income from three commercial partners - Co-operative Group (home insurance), ERA (home security products) and Avast (internet security software). We are grateful for their sustained support that provides a stable base for us to work strategically on our mission. In addition, the Home Office provides a grant of £280,000 to fund key deliverables through programmes and projects. Work is on-going to secure new sponsors in 2022/23.

However, we recognise the risks arising from reliance on a narrow base of funders and have agreed an increase in fundraising capacity to address this. There appears to be strong potential for increasing revenue from carefully selected additional commercial sponsors but this will take sustained investment of time from the Head of Fundraising and the CEO.

Fundraising Practices

Neighbourhood Watch Network is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is fully compliant with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Fundraising is an Individual Member of the Institute of Fundraising. In the year 2021/22 we did not carry out any direct marketing or face-to-face fundraising and received no complaints related to our fundraising practices. We are committed to always protecting vulnerable people and will ensure adherence to the Code of Fundraising practice and clear guidelines should we undertake different types of fundraising in the future. All marketing materials contain clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Risk Management

We review the main risks facing the charity on a regular basis. The current risk register highlights the reliance on a narrow range of funders mentioned above and the related need to better demonstrate the impact of Neighbourhood Watch activities, particularly in respect of crime prevention. NWN also recognises the need to extend its reach and develop a stronger offer that is relevant to all parts of society and that builds engagement among younger people, those from ethnic minority backgrounds and those most at risk from crime. All of these issues are addressed in NWN's 2020-2025 strategy and being implemented in our future plans. The charity has also insured against risks where practical to do so.

Structure, governance and management

Legal structure

Neighbourhood Watch Network was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 9th June 2017. The charity replaced Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network, a registered charity and company which was then dissolved. The voting membership of the CIO is explained below; trustees are also voting members.

Governance

NWN's governing document is its Constitution, dated 10 April 2017 which is available on NWN's website www.ourwatch.org.uk. The overall governance, finance and operations of NWN are controlled by the Trustees, within the regulatory framework set by the Charity Commission.

The Constitution, resolutions and complementary procedures set by the Board, are the rules that NWN operates by, and by which decisions are made. The Trustees are ultimately responsible for NWN.

Members

NWN's membership structure aligns with the 43 Police Force areas across England and Wales and each of these can form a "Force Level Association" and become voting members of NWN by signing a Memorandum of Understanding covering joint working arrangements and providing a common framework of ethics and standards. There are currently 30 of these Force Level Associations. The exception to the national structure is the Metropolitan Police Force Area which is organized around the 32 London Boroughs and which collectively account for 4 votes within the membership.

Individual membership of local Neighbourhood Watch Associations does not confer membership of the CIO.

Trustees

The governing document states that there must be between 4 and 12 trustees in post at any time. Trustees who serve at the date of this report, and those who served during the year under review are set out on page 17.

The trustees delegate much of the day-to-day management of the Charity to the CEO, but remain ultimately responsible. Their responsibilities are active, not passive, and include:

- regular evaluation of the strategic direction of the Charity and its management policies
- evaluation of outcomes and the effectiveness with which the CEO and management implement them
- monitoring legal compliance
- management of risks related to the Charity's activities

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate 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.

Structure, governance, management (continued)

The trustees are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed are set out in note 5 to the financial statements.

The Board's operations

The Board of Trustees meets at least four times a year to conduct its business and oversee progress against strategic and operational plans. Trustees are also involved in various working groups that support strategic workstreams. The Board is supported by a Finance and Audit Committee, which oversees the Charity's finances (including reserves), income generation and risk management, and reports regularly to the Board on these matters.

Appointment and retirement of trustees

The Trustees are elected by the Members at NWN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and others may be co-opted by the Board between Annual General Meetings, provided that the total number of trustees does not exceed twelve. Members are entitled to nominate candidates for election as trustees at the AGM and other trustees are recruited through advertising and evidence-based recruitment processes against the trustees' role description.

Board recruitment and induction

The Board is responsible for ensuring that it is made up of trustees who are collectively able to fulfil the governance function of the Board and therefore needs to have a mix of skills, both those which relate to the objectives of NWN and more generic skills and experience such as legal and financial.

The Board regularly undertakes a self-assessed skills audit against the set of skills it has identified as being essential for the governance of the Charity; this enables the Board to identify skills gaps, which informs the recruitment process and training needs. Trustees are able to access learning and development opportunities relevant to their trustee position.

Management

The Trustees delegate day-to-day running of the charity to the CEO who reports directly to the Board. The CEO leads a staff team of 9 salaried staff (7.8 full-time equivalents) at the time of signing the report. The Chair and Treasurer hold a meeting with the CEO each month. The Board receives regular reports on operational performance and provides oversight and scrutiny of results, using a set of key performance indicators.

Remuneration

The remuneration of the CEO is set by the Board and the remuneration of other staff is set by the CEO. In all cases, this is informed by formal and informal benchmarking information from comparable organisations in the voluntary sector, the responsibilities of each individual role and the requirements of the person specification.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name: Neighbourhood Watch Network
Charity number: 1173349
Country of registration: England & Wales

Principal office: Room WG07, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Ian Bretman | Chair |
| Kardaya Singh Rooprai | Treasurer |
| Rebecca Bryant OBE | |
| Mohamed Hammeda | |
| Sue Pillar | |
| Hugh Ind | appointed 17 August 2022 |
| Tayo Oguntonade | appointed 17 August 2022 |
| Andrew Whyte | appointed 17 August 2022 |
| Peter Buchanan | resigned 2 May 2022 |
| Kirsty McHugh | resigned 7 December 2021 |

Key management personnel: John Hayward-Cripps, Chief Executive Officer

Bankers: HSBC, 41 Market Place, Loughborough, LE11 3EJ

Independent Examiner: Joanna Pittman, Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House,
108-114 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TL

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 year. 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ian Bretman

Chair

Date: 9 November 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ended 31 March 2022.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 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

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 CIO 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.

Signed:

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TL
Date: 21 November 2022

Financial Statements

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2022

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | 31 March 22 Total | 31 March 21 Total |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Income from: | | | | | |
| Donations | | 1,041 | 25,941 | 26,982 | 10,227 |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 280,219 | 40,122 | 320,341 | 343,250 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 179,722 | - | 179,722 | 116,711 |
| Investments | - | 16 | - | 16 | 116 |
| Total income | | 460,998 | 66,063 | 527,061 | 470,304 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 426,697 | 92,481 | 519,178 | 493,863 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 44,603 | - | 44,603 | 48,025 |
| Total expenditure | | 471,300 | 92,481 | 563,781 | 541,888 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (10,302) | (26,418) | (36,720) | (71,584) |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (10,302) | (26,418) | (36,720) | (71,584) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 183,886 | 36,196 | 220,082 | 291,666 |
| Total funds carried forward | 10 | 173,584 | 9,778 | 183,362 | 220,082 |

All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

There are no other gains or losses other than those stated above.

Notes 1 – 14 form part of the financial statements.

**Balance sheet
at 31 March 2022**

| | Notes | 31 March 2022 | 31 March 2021 |
|---|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Intangible fixed assets | 7 | 5,657 | 11,314 |
| Tangible fixed assets | 7 | 4,075 | 2,461 |
| Total fixed assets | | 9,732 | 13,775 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Stock | | 840 | 840 |
| Debtors | 8 | 62,625 | 78,364 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 166,333 | 183,836 |
| Total current assets | | 229,798 | 263,040 |
| Creditors: amounts due within one year | 9 | (56,168) | (56,733) |
| Net current assets | | 173,630 | 206,307 |
| Total net assets | | 183,362 | 220,082 |
| Funds of the charity | | | |
| | 10 | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | |
| Designated funds | | 26,847 | 57,771 |
| General funds | | 146,737 | 126,115 |
| Total unrestricted funds | | 173,584 | 183,886 |
| Restricted funds | | 9,778 | 36,196 |
| Total funds | | 183,362 | 220,082 |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Bretman
Chair

Kardaya Rooprai
Treasurer

Date: 9 November 2022

Date: 9 November 2022

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2022

| | Notes | 31 March 2022 | 31 March 2021 |
|---|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities | | | |
| Net expenditure as per the statement of financial activities | | (36,720) | (71,584) |
| Investment income | | (16) | (116) |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 7 | 6,522 | 6,403 |
| Movements in working capital | | | |
| Change in stock | | - | (840) |
| Change in debtors | 8 | 15,739 | 1,604 |
| Change in creditors | 9 | (565) | (10,888) |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | (15,040) | (75,421) |
| Cash flow statement | | | |
| Cash flow from operating activities | | (15,040) | (75,421) |
| Cash flow from investment activities | 8 | | |
| Purchase of fixed assets | 7 | (2,797) | (334) |
| Disposal of fixed assets | 7 | 318 | - |
| Investment income | | 16 | 116 |
| Net cash used in investment activities | | (2,463) | (218) |
| Change in cash in the year | | (17,503) | (75,639) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | | 183,836 | 259,475 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 166,333 | 183,836 |
| Analysis of cash and cash equivalents | | | |
| Current account | | 3,855 | 9,374 |
| Deposit account | | 162,478 | 174,462 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | | 166,333 | 183,836 |

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies

a. Statutory information

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Room WG07, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH.

b. Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Charities SORP (FRS 102) - *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)*
- FRS 102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- The Charities Act 2011.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

c. Critical accounting judgements and estimates

When preparing the financial statements in line with FRS 102, the trustees are required to make judgements and estimates. The estimates and judgements are based on historical experiences and other factors that are considered relevant including expectations of future events. The estimates and judgements include:

- Accruals: costs not yet invoiced (see Expenditure policy below)
- Allocation of support costs (see Expenditure policy below); and
- Depreciation and impairment (see Fixed Assets policy below).

In the view of the trustees, no assumptions concerning the future have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

d. Going concern

When considering going concern, the trustees consider all available information about the future at the date they approve the accounts, which includes information from budgets and forecasts about income, expenditure and cash flows. Attention is also given to reserves.

The charity has not been adversely affected by the cost of living crisis as it does not rely on donations from the general public as a result of fundraising events.

Given the Home Office grant agreed for the year ending 31 March 2023 and the reserves currently held, the trustees believe that the current economic situation, including the cost of living crisis, does not pose a material uncertainty that would cast doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees therefore consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e. Income

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income can be measured reliably.

f. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is attributed to the following areas:

- *raising funds*
- *charitable activities*

Where expenditure cannot be directly attributed to these areas, it is allocated to them on a usage or head count basis. Support costs, such as general management, finance, office rent and governance costs are allocated in this way. Governance costs are costs associated with the general running of the charity and include audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Raising funds relate to the costs in carrying out activities that are intended to generate income, such as staff time managing grant applications and developing commercial sponsorship agreements.

Charitable activities are costs incurred in delivering activities and services for the charity's beneficiaries. These include providing information and resources to Neighbourhood Watch members and the general public on the Ourwatch.org.uk website, staff costs for delivering campaigns and project and paying grants. Grants are recognised as expenditure when they are approved and this has been communicated to the recipient.

The charity is unable to recover the majority of VAT charged. This irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

g. Fund accounting

Restricted funds are funds which arose when donors gave them for particular restricted purposes which are narrower than the general purposes of the charity. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 11 to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the general objectives of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as for use at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the note 11 to the financial statements.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

h. Operating leases

Payments made under operating leases are charged to the SOFA when incurred. The charity does not acquire assets under finance leases.

i. Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £350 are capitalised and are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over its estimated useful life as follows:

- Office equipment: 25% reducing balance
- Furniture and fittings: 20% reducing balance

Intangible fixed assets are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

The Ourwatch.org.uk website for the national Neighbourhood Watch Network is capitalised as an intangible asset and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life of 3 years.

Impairment reviews are conducted when events and changes in circumstances indicate that an impairment may have occurred. If any asset is found to have a carrying value materially higher than its recoverable amount, it is written down accordingly.

j. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments

k. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due for the provision of services delivered. Prepayments are recognised at the amount prepaid or the amount paid in advance.

l. Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

n. Pensions

Pension costs comprise the costs of the charity's contribution to its employee's pension schemes. The charity provides a money purchase scheme which is available to all employees.

2. Income from charitable activities

| | 31 March 2022 | | | 31 March 2021 | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total |
| Grants | | | | | | |
| Home Office | 280,000 | - | 280,000 | 280,000 | - | 280,000 |
| NESTA | - | - | - | - | 15,330 | 15,330 |
| National Lottery | - | - | - | - | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Partners | 219 | 40,122 | 40,341 | - | 7,920 | 7,920 |
| Total | 280,219 | 40,122 | 320,341 | 280,000 | 63,250 | 343,250 |

3. Income from other trading activities

| | 31 March 2022 | | | 31 March 2021 | | |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total |
| Sponsorship | | | | | | |
| AVAST | 62,833 | - | 62,833 | 39,301 | - | 39,301 |
| ERA | 50,000 | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | - | 50,000 |
| Co-op | 25,000 | - | 25,000 | 25,000 | - | 25,000 |
| Airbnb | 20,833 | - | 20,833 | - | - | - |
| Deliveroo | 10,000 | - | 10,000 | - | - | - |
| Licence fees | 5,000 | - | 5,000 | - | - | - |
| Commission | 5,393 | - | 5,393 | 2,410 | - | 2,410 |
| Other income | 663 | - | 663 | - | - | - |
| Total | 179,722 | - | 179,722 | 116,711 | - | 116,711 |

4. Expenditure

Year ended 31 March 2022

| | Raising funds | Charitable activities | Governance costs | Support costs | Total |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 28,797 | 228,323 | 29,163 | 73,043 | 359,326 |
| Other direct costs | 349 | 163,424 | 5,535 | 30,271 | 199,579 |
| Grants paid | - | 4,876 | - | - | 4,876 |
| Total | 29,146 | 396,623 | 34,698 | 103,314 | 563,781 |
| Support costs | 11,571 | 91,743 | - | (103,314) | - |
| Governance costs | 3,886 | 30,812 | (34,698) | - | - |
| Total | 44,603 | 519,178 | - | - | 563,781 |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 44,603 | 426,697 | | | 471,300 |
| Restricted funds | - | 92,481 | | | 92,481 |
| Total | 44,603 | 519,178 | | | 563,781 |

4. Expenditure (continued)

Prior year, year ended 31 March 2021

| | Raising funds | Charitable activities | Governance costs | Support costs | Total |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | | |
| Staff costs | 32,862 | 246,968 | 24,508 | 68,278 | 372,616 |
| Other direct costs | 606 | 133,029 | 7,000 | 24,174 | 164,809 |
| Grants paid | - | 4,463 | - | - | 4,463 |
| Total | 33,468 | 384,460 | 31,508 | 92,452 | 541,888 |
| Support costs | 10,857 | 81,595 | - | (92,452) | - |
| Governance costs | 3,700 | 27,808 | (31,508) | - | - |
| Total | 48,025 | 493,863 | - | - | 541,888 |
| Split between | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 48,025 | 428,619 | | | 476,644 |
| Restricted funds | - | 65,244 | | | 65,244 |
| Total | 48,025 | 493,863 | | | 541,888 |

Staff costs are allocated to *raising funds*, *charitable expenditure*, *governance costs* and *support costs* using an activities-based time split. Non-staff costs are allocated directly to the category to which they relate.

Governance costs and support costs are allocated to *raising funds* and *charitable activities* on a percentage basis based on expenditure, as an approximation of usage.

5. Governance costs

The Independent Examiner's fee is included within governance costs. The amount payable in the year to the Independent examiner was £3,150 + VAT (2020/21: £3,000 + VAT).

Trustees give their time and expertise without charge and do not receive any other benefit from the charity. They are reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs incurred when fulfilling their duties as trustees. During the year one trustee (2020/21: none) was reimbursed a total of £51 (2020/21: £nil).

There were no related party donations or other transactions during the year (2020/21: none).

6. Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

| | 31 March 2022 | 31 March 2021 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wages and salaries | 307,622 | 325,392 |
| Social security costs | 28,601 | 29,734 |
| Pension costs | 13,623 | 11,055 |
| Total employment costs | 349,846 | 366,181 |
| Other staff related costs | 9,480 | 6,435 |
| Total staff related costs | 359,326 | 372,616 |

6. Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel (continued)

The average head count of staff employed throughout the period was 8.5 (2020/21: 9.1).

There was 1 member of staff (2020/21: 1) whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) were between £70,001-£80,000.

Key management personnel

The total cost of employee benefits (salary and employer's National Insurance and pension contributions) for key management personnel in the year was £89,655 (2020/21: £88,033).

7. Fixed assets

Intangible assets – Ourwatch.org.uk website

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Cost | |
| 1 April 2021 | 16,971 |
| Additions | |
| Disposals | - |
| At 31 March 2022 | 16,971 |
| Amortisation | |
| At 1 April 2021 | 5,657 |
| Charge for the year | 5,657 |
| Disposals | - |
| At 31 March 2022 | 11,314 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2022 | 5,657 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2021 | 11,314 |

7. Fixed assets (continued)

Tangible assets

| | Fixtures and fittings | Office equipment | Total |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Cost | | | |
| 1 April 2021 | 1,128 | 3,397 | 4,525 |
| Additions | - | 2,797 | 2,797 |
| Disposals | - | (1,550) | (1,550) |
| At 31 March 2022 | 1,128 | 4,644 | 5,772 |
| Depreciation | | | |
| At 1 April 2021 | 240 | 1,824 | 2,064 |
| Charge for the year | 178 | 687 | 865 |
| Disposals | - | (1,232) | (1,232) |
| At 31 March 2022 | 418 | 1,279 | 1,697 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2022 | 710 | 3,365 | 4,075 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2021 | 888 | 1,573 | 2,461 |

8. Debtors

| | 31 March 2022 | 31 March 2021 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Trade debtors | 14,602 | 70,000 |
| Other debtors | 6,078 | 5,550 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 41,945 | 2,814 |
| Total | 62,625 | 78,364 |

9. Creditors

| | 31 March 2022 | 31 March 2021 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Trade creditors | 7,687 | 1,684 |
| Other taxes and social security | 12,624 | 4,895 |
| Other creditors | 13,410 | 19,540 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 22,447 | 30,614 |
| Total | 56,168 | 56,733 |

10. Movement in funds

| Current year | At 1 April 2021 | Income | Expenditure | At 31 March 2022 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Advancement fund | 10,820 | - | (8,037) | 2,783 |
| Project funds | 46,951 | - | (25,533) | 21,418 |
| Community fund | - | 4,218 | (1,572) | 2,646 |
| Total designated funds | 57,771 | 4,218 | (35,142) | 26,847 |
| General fund | 126,115 | 456,780 | (436,158) | 146,737 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 183,886 | 460,998 | (471,300) | 173,584 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| NESTA | 5,131 | - | (4,522) | 609 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 423 | 40,122 | (32,026) | 8,519 |
| Volunteer Programme | 30,107 | - | (29,457) | 650 |
| Co-op funded projects | 535 | 25,941 | (26,476) | - |
| Total restricted funds | 36,196 | 66,063 | (92,481) | 9,778 |
| Total funds | 220,082 | 527,061 | (563,781) | 183,362 |

10. Movement in funds (continued)

| Prior year | At 1 April 2020 | Income | Expenditure | At 31 March 2021 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Advancement fund | 55,787 | - | (44,967) | 10,820 |
| Project funds | 92,449 | - | (45,498) | 46,951 |
| Total designated funds | 148,236 | - | (90,465) | 57,771 |
| General fund | 115,240 | 397,054 | (386,179) | 126,115 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 263,476 | 397,054 | (476,644) | 183,886 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| NESTA | 7,969 | 15,330 | (18,168) | 5,131 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 20,221 | 7,920 | (27,718) | 423 |
| Volunteer Programme | - | 40,000 | (9,893) | 30,107 |
| Co-op funded projects | - | 10,000 | (9,465) | 535 |
| Total restricted funds | 28,190 | 73,250 | (65,244) | 36,196 |
| Total funds | 291,666 | 470,304 | (541,888) | 220,082 |

Designated funds

Advancement fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the 'Advancement Areas' programme, which aims to deliver a framework for Neighbourhood Watch development in areas of high crime areas, underrepresented communities and in areas of social disadvantage. The fund has paid for a full-time young people's engagement and development manager for part of the year.

Project fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the charity to deliver a series of intervention projects to support the trustees' 10-point strategy. In the year, funds were used for crime prevention campaigns on social media.

Community fund is money set aside for making small grants to local neighbourhood watch community projects across England and Wales. Money used for this fund comes from Patlock commission, where Patlock donates £7 from each lock it sells to neighbourhood watch members.

Restricted funds

NESTA grant fund is funding received from NESTA (a national grant-making charity, www.nesta.org.uk) for the 'Communities that Care' project. This fund continues to be spent.

Devon and Cornwall grant is money received to fund a part time post based and working in the Devon and Cornwall Force area. During the year, further funding was received for additional 'Safer Streets' projects.

Volunteer Programme is restricted money from the National Lottery Community Fund, which was secured to support the volunteer programme – a project to invest in Neighbourhood Watch volunteers.

10. Movement in funds (continued)

Co-op funds projects is money received from the Co-op Group for specific projects, including purchase of window stickers for households and development of the Ourwatch website.

Segmentation grant fund was formed from a grant received from the Home Office between 2015-2017 for a project to test the application and measurable impact of the serious and organised crime public intervention model. After discussing the fund with the Home Office in 2020, it was agreed the unspent fund would be returned to the Home Office and the fund wound up, and this was recorded as 'grants unspent' in expenditure in 2019-2020. However, since this balance sheet date, further discussions with the Home Office have resulted in the instruction that the fund can be kept by NWN but ringfenced to boost our neighbourhood crime / safer streets programme in the financial year 2022-2023. As a result of this, in the next financial period, the fund will be transferred and spent within the terms set by the Home Office.

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

| Current year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Fixed assets | 9,732 | - | - | 9,732 |
| Net current assets | 137,005 | 26,847 | 9,778 | 173,630 |
| Total funds | 146,737 | 26,847 | 9,778 | 183,362 |

| Prior year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Fixed assets | 13,775 | - | - | 13,775 |
| Net current assets | 112,340 | 57,771 | 36,196 | 206,307 |
| Total funds | 126,115 | 57,771 | 36,196 | 220,082 |

13. Operating leases

The charity had one operating lease at the balance sheet date, for rented office space. The minimum non-cancellable lease payments are:

| | 31 March 2022 | 31 March 2021 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Not later than one year | 9,261 | 8,820 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | - | - |

14. Prior year comparatives

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 March 2021

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Income from: | | | | |
| Donations | | 227 | 10,000 | 10,227 |
| Charitable activities | | 280,000 | 63,250 | 343,250 |
| Other trading activities | | 116,711 | - | 116,711 |
| Investments | | 116 | - | 116 |
| Total income | | 397,054 | 73,250 | 470,304 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | | 428,619 | 65,244 | 493,863 |
| Raising funds | | 48,025 | - | 48,025 |
| Total expenditure | | 476,644 | 65,244 | 541,888 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (79,590) | 8,006 | (71,584) |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (79,590) | 8,006 | (71,584) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 263,476 | 28,190 | 291,666 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 183,886 | 36,196 | 220,082 |

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1173349

Accounts



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

(Charity No. 1173349)

Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2021

As the national umbrella organisation of the largest voluntary movement for crime prevention in England and Wales, we support people to prevent and reduce crime by coming together with their neighbours to create safer, stronger and active communities.

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About Neighbourhood Watch Network

Neighbourhood Watch Network is the strategic voice and national umbrella organisation for England and Wales. We support the grassroots Neighbourhood Watch movement which involves over 2.3 million volunteers in preventing crime and strengthening communities. This work is delivered by our local Associations who are the members of Neighbourhood Watch Network.

Our vision

Our vision is a society where neighbours come together to create safer, stronger and active communities.

Our mission

Our mission is to support and enable individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe, which increases wellbeing and minimises crime.

Our values

Neighbourly, community-focused, inclusive, proactive, trusted, collaborative.

Introduction from the Chair and the CEO

While the Covid-19 pandemic has brought much hardship and sadness over the last 18 months, it has also highlighted the hidden strengths of local communities where people watch out for one another and provide mutual support. It is widely recognised that these are assets to be sustained and developed if the country is to not just recover from the health crisis but to also tackle the inequalities and social pressures highlighted by the pandemic. Neighbourhood Watch groups and volunteers have been at the heart of community responses throughout the pandemic, helping neighbours to connect and support each other, as well as maintaining our traditional role of helping to prevent crime and keep people safe. We are firmly committed to making our knowledge, experience and resources available to even more communities in the future.

We have therefore used the experience of the past year to look towards to our future and to understand how we can better support communities in need across England and Wales. In particular, we have recognised the need to focus on diversity and inclusion and to extend our reach to everyone no matter their age, culture, background, or ethnicity. At the heart of our 5-year strategy are goals to reach more young people, more people in high crime areas and broaden the diversity of our supporter base.

Our staff, trustees and volunteers have embraced the challenges and opportunities that have arisen during the pandemic and have delivered impactful and effective new ways of working to support their communities. The move online has enabled us to more closely connect our trustees with volunteers in the community by running quarterly online meetings and setting up more joint working groups, including: Rural Crime; People, Culture and Ethics; Digital Development; Volunteer Support Programme; and Alert System Multi-Scheme Administrators. This has ensured our volunteers and members are fully involved in the delivery of our ambitious strategy.

With the increased use of virtual technology to maintain engagement, our events have been held online, enabling more people to attend and cutting our running costs. We added these savings to the launch of our Community Grant Programme pilot, which in the first six months to June 2021 distributed over £5,000 to local Neighbourhood Watch groups for projects. More information about this is on page 9.

With the pandemic restrictions tentatively easing, Neighbourhood Watch will remain at the forefront of strengthening communities, with our volunteers becoming more visible once again as they resume face-to-face community activities. The ambitious 5-year strategy is progressing well, with our new Volunteer Development Programme underway, and a stronger focus on working in areas of high need and with people who are vulnerable or isolated.

We want to say a big THANK YOU to our funders, partners, trustees staff and our own communities. Your support means we can keep on progressing and maximise our efforts to help support stronger, connected and resilient communities. We reserve our BIGGEST THANKS for our incredible volunteers! Without you, none of our work would be possible and just like us, we know our communities are hugely proud of you.

With thanks

John Hayward-Cripps
CEO

Ian Bretman
Chair

Trustees report

The Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's trust deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Delivering Our Charitable Purpose

The Objects of NWN, as set out in the Constitution dated 10 April 2017 are to:

- Promote for the benefit of the public good citizenship, community safety and greater public participation in the prevention and detection of crime, and;
- Promote public support for the work of the police service and other partners in the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, crime.

To achieve these objects, we provide free online resources for everyone to help them reduce their chances of becoming a victim of crime. We also signpost them to local Neighbourhood Watch groups which aim to strengthen community cohesion and wellbeing and create better connected and more resilient communities.

At a national level, we work closely with government departments, and voluntary sector partners to extend the reach of our work as far as possible and involve policy and research institutions in assessing our impact and help us plan for future improvements.

Local Neighbourhood Watch groups make a real, long-lasting difference to communities: as well as helping to reduce crime they increase neighbourliness and community wellbeing and strengthen the voice of the community with councils, the police and other public services. We support and enable local schemes to operate by providing resources, training and networking support to volunteers and members.

Public Benefit & Contribution Made by Volunteers

The public benefit from the activities carried out by the Charity by:

- Having access to information and advice on crime prevention and personal security;
- Being part of better connected and more resilient communities – the Charity facilitates the work of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers to maintain and develop community-based Neighbourhood Watch schemes which in turn contribute to better connected and more resilient communities, where crime and anti-social behaviour can be reduced and also the incidence and impact of loneliness and isolation.

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers (estimated to number at least 2.3 million individuals) work through their local schemes, many of which are charities in their own right. So, while this is not a direct contribution to NWN, it is important to recognise the significant social value created within communities by preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime, alleviating loneliness and isolation and providing practical assistance between neighbours.

Main Activities

We review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure they remain focused on the charity's stated purposes. In this report, we describe what the charity has achieved and how it has performed in the reporting period and how each key activity has benefitted the people that the charity was set up to help.

Objectives set out in our 2020-2025 strategic plan are to be:

- *the authoritative voice on community based crime prevention*, so that everyone will be able to access advice and support they need
- *a recognised contributor to community health and wellbeing*, so that community cohesion is increased and loneliness and isolation are reduced
- *the most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality*, so that neighbours have a place to go to connect with each other and their communities.

Activities to achieve these objectives, that we carry out as the umbrella body and the national voice for the Neighbourhood Watch movement in England and Wales, include:

- **Providing advice and resources:** we host the Ourwatch website for everyone to access crime prevention and community wellbeing advice and resources.
- **Campaigning:** we raise awareness of crime prevention actions that everyone can use, by launching national crime prevention campaigns across social media channels.
- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement:** We work with other charities, government bodies, sponsors the press to show Neighbourhood Watch as a modern, relevant movement for safer, connected communities for all.
- **Facilitating work of local Neighbourhood Watch groups:** we providing training, resources and networking opportunities for local groups, schemes and association across England and Wales.
- **Protecting the intellectual property of the NW movement:** we hold trademarks of the Neighbourhood Watch logo and name, to protect the reputation of the Neighbourhood Watch movement and to maximise income opportunities.
- **Assessing and reflecting:** we regularly survey Neighbourhood Watch members and also members of the public and commission research, to evaluate the impact of our work and assess ways to improve.
- **Increasing our reach:** we constantly look for new avenues to reach younger and more diverse audiences.
- **Growing the resources of our charity:** we continuously look for new sources of income and actively manage our relationships with existing sponsors, grant-givers, and other funders to ensure our income is sufficient for us to achieve all the work we set out to do.

Achievement and Performance

Some of our achievements in furthering Neighbourhood Watch Network's charitable purposes 2020/2021 are described below.

- **Providing advice and resources**

Over 1.3million people visited our website during the year. We continue to add new information and advice to the website for everyone to be able to reach.

A new role of '**Community Champion**' was piloted. This aims to build networks and support wellbeing within communities, helping to raise awareness of local issues, crime prevention advice and to reach a wider audience to enhance the existing volunteer structure. Over the year we trained 12 Community Champions with a further 87 volunteers signing up in two pilot areas of Lewisham, South-East London and North Yorkshire.

The '**Communities That Care**' fraud prevention programme, enables volunteers to start conversations about fraud with those who are most at risk within their communities and offer direct advice and practical help to support residents to protect themselves. During the year 273 new Communities That Care volunteers were recruited - 50 in Suffolk, 100 across South East England, 80 in West Yorkshire, and 43 in North Wales, including Neighbourhood Watch members and new partner agencies, Suffolk Good Neighbour Network and Optivo Housing Association.

Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors support their communities in understanding and protecting themselves against cyber risks and to use technology with confidence. This programme is a partnership with cybersecurity firm, Avast. We have trained 53 Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors and developed 14 toolkits for them to use in their communities.

- **Campaigning**

Three national crime prevention campaigns were delivered during the year: 'Protect your Car', 'Protect your Password' and 'Safety in Neighbours' reached 295,000, 182,000 and 53,000 people respectively, through Facebook adverts to members of the public and Neighbourhood Watch members via email.

The Government's Covid-19 messages were relayed to our supporter base throughout the year, sharing guidelines and advice to support everyone through lockdowns and transitioning back to school, work, and socialising. The NHS 'Every Mind Matters' campaign to support mental wellbeing and reduce loneliness and isolation was also featured in our communications.

- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Movement**

The successful Neighbour of the Year competition was repeated in partnership with Co-op Insurance, with the introduction of an award for Young Neighbour of the Year'. Among 655 pieces of media coverage was a comprehensive feature on BBC1's The One Show.

A sponsorship arrangement with the distributors of the film 'The Croods 2: A New Age', enabled us to successfully engage with a younger audience than our traditional supporter base through a competition for children to design a 'Croods 2'-inspired treehouse to be built in their local community. This was organised in partnership with Co-op Insurance and the Wildlife Trust.

Achievements and performance (continued)

NWN joined with over 35 community-focused charities as founder members of the Community Action Response group to campaign for neighbours, community groups and individuals to do their bit to reduce the impact of social isolation, loneliness and localised inequality brought to light during the Covid-19 crisis.

Two surveys on 'cybercrime' and 'using technology during the pandemic' were conducted, reaching over 19,000 people responded to the surveys. We used this and our work with the Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors, to built on our existing relationship with the National Cyber Security Centre and strengthen our voice in this area.

- **Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups**

The National Lottery Community Fund approved our application for a £40,000 grant to support our Volunteer Programme. With this funding secured, we have launched a new 'Knowledge Hub' for volunteers – the hub provides resources and forums, allowing volunteers to learn and exchange information with other volunteers.

Over 1,100 hours of training were delivered to our volunteers via workshops and seminars.

Some examples of the work of local Neighbourhood groups carried out in the year are described below:

- **Kenilworth Watch** appeared on Frontline Fightback on BBC1 and BBC2 to promote what they are doing to fight crime as a community. 1,260 homes in and around Kenilworth are now part of Kenilworth Watch, keeping residents informed about crime in their area 24/7. It also operates a CCTV register of 60 households, helping to reduce the time the police spend investigating crime by identifying CCTV owners in the areas where crimes have occurred and collating CCTV footage to pass onto the police.
- **Greenwich Neighbourhood Watch** raised awareness about measures to reduce bicycle and parcel thefts and saw a 24% reduction in these crimes within a month of the campaign. Residents followed their advice and passed it onto the others. In addition, they delivered crime prevention online workshops to over 250 residents who agreed to take positive action to reduce the risks in their area and share the information.
- **Blackbird Leys Neighbourhood Watch** was recognised by the police as a bridge between themselves and the community in an area where joint work has been challenging in the past. They helped residents with deliveries, organised litter picking groups and set up a Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page with 2,200 members. These activities facilitated communication between residents and led to reduced loneliness and isolation. In addition, residents now pass on information about everything from litter build-ups to drug dealing in confidence to the police. This intelligence contributed to three drugs raids at houses and one closure order.
- **Thames Valley Neighbourhood Watch developed** relationships with the Imams and Secretaries of the main Mosques in their town, enabling them to regularly share crime prevention advice with up to 3,000 members of the Muslim community. The Secretaries of the three largest Mosques have now become Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, creating three large schemes with members from their mosques.

Achievements and performance (continued)

- **Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch** posted 3,500 leaflets to residents during the first lockdown, with important information for those who needed support and ran weekly socially distanced events to bring the community together. An example of this was organising an Easter bunny parade with inflatables and presented over 600 Easter eggs to children - bringing some much-needed cheer to the community.
- **Grant giving to local communities**

A grant programme for local Neighbourhood Watch groups was introduced for the first time. Local Associations can request funds for their project work. In the first tranche of funding between January and June 2021, we distributed over £5,000 for projects including: Seeds of Change - Young People planting up window boxes for older people, Looking after our Neighbours – creating 'help' cards for support and a thank you recognition scheme, a Little Library, and several brilliant litter pick initiatives. The programme was very well received and we plan to continue (and hopefully extend) it for future years.
- **Assessing and reflecting**

Over 10,000 people responded to our 'new members' survey, which helped us better understand the reasons why people join Neighbourhood Watch.
- **Increasing our reach**

We have established a presence on Instagram to increase our reach to a younger audience and a presence on LinkedIn to enhance our professional and network partnerships. As a result of this, and some of the other promotional work described above, four times as many 18-24 year olds visited our website compared to the previous year.

The Croods 2 campaign described above reached 83,000 younger people online.

Overall, we had over 7,500 new followers on social media.

- **Diversity and Inclusion**

The trustee board considered the revisions to the Charity Governance Code issued in December 2020 and welcomed the increasing focus on Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) as integral to delivering public benefit by enabling charities to understand where their work is most needed and how it can have most impact. This resonated strongly with our new strategy, as extending the reach of our work requires us to tackle attitudes and perceptions that have limited engagement in the past. We also recognise the need to better support people and communities who are most vulnerable to crime. In order to support our local Associations in this regard, and to share the good practice that exists across the movement, a People and Ethics and Culture Committee was formed, chaired by Rebecca Bryant a member of NWN's Trustee Board and involving volunteers from our local Associations. The Committee has consulted on and developed an organisational Diversity Statement and a Community Charter and updated the organisational Ethics and Standards. The Committee has liaised with other organisations about the Community Charter and is planning on launching the Charter at the Neighbourhood Watch Crime and Community Conference early in 2022.

Future Plans

Our current 5-year strategy runs from 2020 to 2025. In 2021/2022 we aim to continue building on the start to this new phase of work for Neighbourhood Watch Network. The workstreams include:

- Form a new agreement for the schemes and associations that make up the Neighbourhood Watch movement to work together on achieving the ambitions of the strategy by recognising our inter-dependencies, being open to new ways of working and empowering members.
- Creating a more engaging narrative of how our crime prevention mission is supported by work to strengthen community cohesion and resilience, and supports the repositioning of Neighbourhood Watch as a movement of “neighbours watching out for each other, building safer and more inclusive communities”, rather than “residents watching for suspicious behaviour”.
- Further work with to develop renewed and consistent relationships with the police, with clearer separation of roles and an acknowledgement that citizens have a clear responsibility for doing what they can to keep themselves and their neighbours safe from crime, and support the detection of crime.
- Co-development of Neighbourhood Watch in areas of high need (higher crime or disadvantage) and with communities underrepresented in Neighbourhood Watch (young people and BAME) working within an asset-based community development framework.
- Build a more expansive portfolio of partnerships with public services, voluntary organisations and the private sector to amplify our messages and engage with all parts of the community. This will include a broader range of commercial relationships.
- More active and diverse fundraising at community and national level, building on our voluntary ethos but enabling it to deliver professional, measurable work.
- Investment in monitoring, evaluation and learning so that we can demonstrate impact and justify investment, as well as taking on a stronger advocacy and policy-influencing role.

More information about our future plans are contained in the 2020-2025 strategy which can be found on our website: www.ourwatch.org.uk.

Financial review

Financial position

The detailed figures for the year ended 31 March 2021 are set out in the financial statements that follow the Trustees' Report.

There was a net deficit in the year of £71,584 (2019/20: £146,378). The deficit was planned as additional income had been received in previous years that was set aside by the Trustees, as designated funds, for projects in future years. This left total funds of the charity at £220,082 (2019/20: £291,666) at the end of the year.

Reserves

Total funds held by NWN may include those that are –

- Restricted by the donor or funder for specific activities or programmes and that cannot be used for the general purposes of the charity,

and/or those that are
- Received in one financial year as part of a grant for work to be carried out wholly or partly in future financial years.

The existence or level of these funds do not imply that there has been an underspend but may result from a variety of circumstances including timing differences between NWN's financial year and that of our funders.

The balance of funds constitutes the charity's unrestricted funds reserve which should be at a level to maintain a positive cashflow for day-to-day operations and provide sufficient funds for contingencies including scaling back operations in the event of a downturn in funding or for a winding-up of the organisation in the event of more significant loss of revenue. Unrestricted funds may also be designated for investment in future developments as part of NWN's long-term strategy.

We review the reserves policy at least annually and have agreed on an unrestricted reserve fund of £105,000, which is more than three months of all budgeted operating costs. At the end of the year, the reserves held, after taking into account restricted funds and some designated amounts and the carrying amount of fixed assets was £159,000 (2019/20: £187,000). Although this is 52% (2019/20: 79%) above the minimum level, we expect funds surplus to immediate requirements to be applied to implementation of the 2020-2025 strategic plan. We have also mandated the Finance and Audit Committee to monitor reserves on a quarterly basis and to recommend any changes to the policy to the Board.

Going concern

After reviewing the Charity's forecasts, projections and its reserves, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that NWN has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. The Charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Financial review (continued)

Sources of funds

NWN's core costs in 2020/21 were covered by sponsorship income from three commercial partners - Co-operative Group (home insurance), ERA (home security products) and Avast (internet security software). In addition, the Home Office provides a grant of £280,000 to fund key deliverables through programmes and projects. Work is on-going to secure new sponsors in 2021/22.

We recognise the risks arising from reliance on a narrow base of funders and have agreed an increase in fundraising capacity to address this. There appears to be strong potential for increasing revenue from additional commercial sponsors but this will take sustained investment of time from the Head of Fundraising and the CEO.

Fundraising Practices

Neighbourhood Watch Network is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is fully compliant with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Fundraising is an Individual Member of the Institute of Fundraising. In the year 2020/21 we did not carry out any direct marketing or face-to-face fundraising and received no complaints related to our fundraising practices. We are committed to always protecting vulnerable people and will ensure adherence to the Code of Fundraising practice and clear guidelines should we undertake different types of fundraising in the future. All marketing materials contain clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Risk Management

We review the main risks facing the charity on a regular basis. The current risk register highlights the reliance on a narrow range of funders mentioned above and the related need to better demonstrate the impact of Neighbourhood Watch activities, particularly in respect of crime prevention. NWN also recognises the need to extend its reach and develop a stronger offer that is relevant to all parts of society and that builds engagement among younger people, those from ethnic minority backgrounds and those most at risk from crime. All of these issues are addressed in NWN's 2020-2025 strategy and being implemented in our future plans. The charity has also insured against risks where practical to do so.

Structure, governance and management

Legal structure

Neighbourhood Watch Network was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 9th June 2017. The charity replaced Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network, a registered charity and company which was then dissolved. The voting membership of the CIO is explained below; trustees are also voting members.

Governance

NWN's governing document is its Constitution, dated 10 April 2017 which is available on NWN's website www.ourwatch.org.uk. The overall governance, finance and operations of NWN are controlled by the Trustees, within the regulatory framework set by the Charity Commission.

The Constitution, resolutions and complementary procedures set by the Board, are the rules that NWN operates by, and by which decisions are made. The Trustees are ultimately responsible for NWN.

Members

NWN's membership structure aligns with the 43 Police Force areas across England and Wales and each of these can form a "Force Level Association" and become voting members of NWN by signing a Memorandum of Understanding covering joint working arrangements and providing a common framework of ethics and standards. There are currently 30 of these Force Level Associations. The exception to the national structure is the Metropolitan Police Force Area which is organized around the 32 London Boroughs and which collectively account for 4 votes within the membership.

Individual membership of local Neighbourhood Watch Associations does not confer membership of the CIO.

Trustees

The governing document states that there must be between 4 and 12 trustees in post at any time. Trustees who serve at the date of this report, and those who served during the year under review are set out on page 14.

The trustees delegate much of the day-to-day management of the Charity to the CEO, but remain ultimately responsible. Their responsibilities are active, not passive, and include:

- regular evaluation of the strategic direction of the Charity and its management policies
- evaluation of outcomes and the effectiveness with which the CEO and management implement them
- monitoring legal compliance
- management of risks related to the Charity's activities

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate 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.

Structure, governance, management (continued)

The trustees are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed are set out in note 6 to the financial statements.

The Board's operations

The Board of Trustees meets at least four times a year to conduct its business and oversee progress against strategic and operational plans. Trustees are also involved in various working groups that support strategic workstreams. The Board is supported by a Finance and Audit Committee, which oversees the Charity's finances (including reserves), income generation and risk management, and reports regularly to the Board on these matters.

Appointment and retirement of trustees

The Trustees are elected by the Members at NWN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and others may be co-opted by the Board between Annual General Meetings, provided that the total number of trustees does not exceed twelve. Members are entitled to nominate candidates for election as trustees at the AGM and other trustees are recruited through advertising and evidence-based recruitment processes against the trustees' role description.

Board recruitment and induction

The Board is responsible for ensuring that it is made up of trustees who are collectively able to fulfil the governance function of the Board and therefore needs to have a mix of skills, both those which relate to the objectives of NWN and more generic skills and experience such as legal and financial.

The Board regularly undertakes a self-assessed skills audit against the set of skills it has identified as being essential for the governance of the Charity; this enables the Board to identify skills gaps, which informs the recruitment process and training needs. Trustees are able to access learning and development opportunities relevant to their trustee position.

Management

The Trustees delegate day-to-day running of the charity to the CEO who reports directly to the Board. The CEO leads a staff team of 8 salaried staff (6.8 full-time equivalents) at the time of signing the report. The Chair and Treasurer hold a meeting with the CEO each month. The Board receives regular reports on operational performance and provides oversight and scrutiny of results, using a set of key performance indicators.

Remuneration

The remuneration of the CEO is set by the Board and the remuneration of other staff is set by the CEO. In all cases, this is informed by formal and informal benchmarking information from comparable organisations in the voluntary sector, the responsibilities of each individual role and the requirements of the person specification.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name: Neighbourhood Watch Network
Charity number: 1173349
Country of registration: England & Wales

Principal office: Room WG07, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Ian Bretman | Chair |
| Peter Buchanan | |
| Rebecca Bryant OBE | appointed June 2020 |
| Mohamed Hammeda | appointed July 2020 |
| Kirsty McHugh | |
| Sue Pillar | appointed June 2020 |
| Kardaya Singh Rooprai | Treasurer |
| David Huse | resigned April 2020 |
| Derek Pratt | resigned June 2020 |

Key management personnel: John Hayward-Cripps, Chief Executive Officer

Bankers: HSBC, 41 Market Place, Loughborough, LE11 3EJ

Independent Examiner: Joanna Pittman, Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House,
108-114 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TL

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 year. 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ian Bretman

Chair

Date: 4 November 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ended 31 March 2021.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 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.

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 CIO 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.

Signed:

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TL
Date: 12 November 2021

Financial Statements

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2021

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | 31 March 21 Total | 31 March 20 Total |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Income from: | | | | | |
| Donations | | 227 | 10,000 | 10,227 | - |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 280,000 | 63,250 | 343,250 | 344,987 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 116,711 | - | 116,711 | 113,534 |
| Investments | - | 116 | - | 116 | 664 |
| Total income | | 397,054 | 73,250 | 470,304 | 459,185 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 428,619 | 65,244 | 493,863 | 546,220 |
| Raising funds | 4 | 48,025 | - | 48,025 | 59,343 |
| Total expenditure | | 476,644 | 65,244 | 541,888 | 605,563 |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (79,590) | 8,006 | (71,584) | (146,378) |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (79,590) | 8,006 | (71,584) | (146,378) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 263,476 | 28,190 | 291,666 | 438,044 |
| Total funds carried forward | 11 | 183,886 | 36,196 | 220,082 | 291,666 |

All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

There are no other gains or losses other than those stated above.

Notes 1 – 14 form part of the financial statements.

**Balance sheet
at 31 March 2021**

| | Notes | 31 March 2021 | 31 March 2020 |
|---|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Intangible fixed assets | 8 | 11,314 | 16,971 |
| Tangible fixed assets | 8 | 2,461 | 2,874 |
| Total fixed assets | | 13,775 | 19,845 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Stock | | 840 | - |
| Debtors | 9 | 78,364 | 79,967 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 183,836 | 259,475 |
| Total current assets | | 263,040 | 339,442 |
| Creditors: amounts due within one year | 10 | (56,733) | (67,621) |
| Net current assets | | 206,307 | 271,821 |
| Total net assets | | 220,082 | 291,666 |
| Funds of the charity | | | |
| | 11 | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | |
| Designated funds | | 57,771 | 148,236 |
| General funds | | 126,115 | 115,240 |
| Total unrestricted funds | | 183,886 | 263,476 |
| Restricted funds | | 36,196 | 28,190 |
| Total funds | | 220,082 | 291,666 |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Bretman
Chair

Kardaya Rooprai
Treasurer

Date: 4 November 2021

Date: 4 November 2021

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Accounting policies

a. Statutory information

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Room WG07, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH.

b. Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Charities SORP (FRS 102) - *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)*
- FRS 102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- The Charities Act 2011.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

c. Critical accounting judgements and estimates

When preparing the financial statements in line with FRS 102, the trustees are required to make judgements and estimates. The estimates and judgements are based on historical experiences and other factors that are considered relevant including expectations of future events. The estimates and judgements include:

- Accruals: costs not yet invoiced (see Expenditure policy below)
- Allocation of support costs (see Expenditure policy below); and
- Depreciation and impairment (see Fixed Assets policy below).

In the view of the trustees, no assumptions concerning the future have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

d. Going concern

When considering going concern, the trustees consider all available information about the future at the date they approve the accounts, which includes information from budgets and forecasts about income, expenditure and cash flows. Attention is also given to reserves.

The charity has not been adversely affected by Covid-19 as it does not rely on donations from the general public as a result of fundraising events.

Given the Home Office grant agreed for the year ending 31 March 2022 and the reserves currently held, the trustees believe that the continuing Covid-19 pandemic does not pose a material uncertainty that would cast doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees therefore consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e. Income

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income can be measured reliably.

f. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is attributed to the following areas:

- *raising funds*
- *charitable activities*

Where expenditure cannot be directly attributed to these areas, it is allocated to them on a usage or head count basis. Support costs, such as general management, finance, office rent and governance costs are allocated in this way. Governance costs are costs associated with the general running of the charity and include audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Raising funds relate to the costs in carrying out activities that are intended to generate income, such as staff time managing grant applications and developing commercial sponsorship agreements.

Charitable activities are costs incurred in delivering activities and services for the charity's beneficiaries. These include providing information and resources to Neighbourhood Watch members and the general public on the Ourwatch.org.uk website, staff costs for delivering campaigns and project.

The charity is unable to recover the majority of VAT charged. This irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

g. Fund accounting

Restricted funds are funds which arose when donors gave them for particular restricted purposes which are narrower than the general purposes of the charity. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 11 to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the general objectives of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as for use at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the note 11 to the financial statements.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

h. Operating leases

Payments made under operating leases are charged to the SOFA when incurred. The charity does not acquire assets under finance leases.

i. Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £350 are capitalised and are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over its estimated useful life as follows:

- Office equipment: 25% reducing balance
- Furniture and fittings: 20% reducing balance

Intangible fixed assets are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

The Ourwatch.org.uk website for the national Neighbourhood Watch Network is capitalised as an intangible asset and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life of 3 years.

Impairment reviews are conducted when events and changes in circumstances indicate that an impairment may have occurred. If any asset is found to have a carrying value materially higher than its recoverable amount, it is written down accordingly.

j. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments

k. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due for the provision of services delivered. Prepayments are recognised at the amount prepaid or the amount paid in advance.

l. Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

n. Pensions

Pension costs comprise the costs of the charity's contribution to its employee's pension schemes. The charity provides a money purchase scheme which is available to all employees.

2. Income from charitable activities

| | 31 March 2021 | | | 31 March 2020 | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total |
| Grants | | | | | | |
| Home Office | 280,000 | - | 280,000 | 280,000 | - | 280,000 |
| NESTA | - | 15,330 | 15,330 | - | 34,987 | 34,987 |
| National Lottery | - | 40,000 | 40,000 | - | - | - |
| Partners | - | 7,920 | 7,920 | - | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| Total | 280,000 | 63,250 | 343,250 | 280,000 | 64,987 | 344,987 |

3. Income from other trading activities

| | 31 March 2021 | | | 31 March 2020 | | |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total |
| Sponsorship | | | | | | |
| AVAST | 39,301 | - | 39,301 | 21,700 | - | 21,700 |
| ERA | 50,000 | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | - | 50,000 |
| Co-op | 25,000 | - | 25,000 | 40,063 | - | 40,063 |
| Commission | | | | | | |
| Patlock | 2,410 | - | 2,410 | 1,771 | - | 1,771 |
| Total | 116,711 | - | 116,711 | 113,534 | - | 113,534 |

4. Expenditure

Year ended 31 March 2021

| | Raising funds | Charitable activities | Support costs | Total |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | |
| Staff costs | 32,862 | 246,968 | 92,786 | 372,616 |
| Other direct costs | 606 | 133,029 | 31,174 | 164,809 |
| Grants paid | - | 4,463 | - | 4,463 |
| Total | 33,468 | 384,460 | 123,960 | 541,888 |
| Support costs | 14,557 | 109,403 | (123,960) | - |
| Total | 48,025 | 493,863 | - | 541,888 |
| Split between | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 48,025 | 428,619 | | 476,644 |
| Restricted funds | - | 65,244 | | 65,244 |
| Total | 48,025 | 493,863 | | 541,888 |

4. Expenditure (continued)

Prior year, year ended 31 March 2020

| | Raising funds | Charitable activities | Support costs | Total |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Direct costs | | | | |
| Staff costs | 38,727 | 246,389 | 57,129 | 342,245 |
| Other direct costs | 1,050 | 166,352 | 86,916 | 254,318 |
| Grants repaid* | - | 9,000 | - | 9,000 |
| Total | 39,777 | 421,741 | 144,045 | 605,563 |
| Support costs | 19,566 | 124,479 | (144,045) | - |
| Total | 59,343 | 546,220 | - | 605,563 |
| Split between | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 59,343 | 479,869 | | 539,212 |
| Restricted funds | - | 66,351 | | 66,351 |
| Total | 59,343 | 546,220 | | 605,563 |

* Grants repaid are any part of a grant received, that is unspent and needs to be returned to the funder.

Staff costs are allocated to *raising funds*, *charitable expenditure* and *support costs* using an activities-based time split. Non-staff costs are allocated directly to the category to which they relate.

5. Analysis of support costs

Year ended 31 March 2021

| | Raising funds | Charitable activities | Total |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Staff costs | 10,896 | 81,889 | 92,785 |
| Office running costs (rent, IT) | 2,757 | 20,718 | 23,475 |
| Professional fees (HR, legal) | 82 | 618 | 700 |
| Governance (audit, trustee expenses) | 822 | 6,178 | 7,000 |
| Total | 14,557 | 109,403 | 123,960 |

Prior year, year ended 31 March 2020

| | Raising funds | Charitable activities | Total |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Staff costs | 7,760 | 49,369 | 57,129 |
| Office running costs (rent, IT) | 6,877 | 43,749 | 50,626 |
| Professional fees (HR, legal) | 412 | 2,622 | 3,034 |
| Governance (audit, trustee expenses) | 4,517 | 28,739 | 33,256 |
| Total | 19,566 | 124,479 | 144,045 |

Support costs are allocated to *raising funds* and *charitable activities* on a percentage basis based on expenditure, as an approximation of usage.

6. Governance costs

The Independent Examiner's fee and the Auditor's remuneration is included within governance costs. The amount payable in the year to the Independent examiner was £3,000 + VAT. The amount paid to the Auditor in the previous year was £4,700+VAT.

Trustees give their time and expertise without charge and do not receive any other benefit from the charity. They are reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs incurred when fulfilling their duties as trustees. During the year no trustees (2019/20: 8) were reimbursed a total of £nil (2019/20: £8,979).

There were no related party transactions during the year.

7. Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

| | 31 March 2021 | 31 March 2020 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wages and salaries | 325,392 | 286,650 |
| Social security costs | 29,734 | 26,553 |
| Pension costs | 11,055 | 9,647 |
| Total employment costs | 366,181 | 322,850 |
| Other staff related costs | 6,435 | 19,395 |
| Total staff related costs | 372,616 | 342,245 |

The average head count of staff employed throughout the period was 9.1 (2019/20: 8.4).

There was 1 member of staff (2019/20: 1) whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) were between £70,001-£80,000.

Key management personnel

The total cost of employee benefits (salary and employer's National Insurance and pension contributions) for key management personnel in the year was £88,033 (2019/20: £86,352).

8. Fixed assets

Intangible assets – Ourwatch.org.uk website

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Cost | |
| 1 April 2020 | 16,971 |
| Additions | |
| Disposals | - |
| At 31 March 2021 | 16,971 |
| Amortisation | |
| At 1 April 2020 | - |
| Charge for the year | 5,657 |
| Disposals | - |
| At 31 March 2021 | 5,657 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2021 | 11,314 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2020 | 16,971 |

8. Fixed assets (continued)

Tangible assets

| | Fixtures and fittings | Office equipment | Total |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| Cost | | | |
| 1 April 2020 | 1,128 | 3,063 | 4,191 |
| Additions | - | 334 | 334 |
| At 31 March 2021 | 1,128 | 3,397 | 4,525 |
| Depreciation | | | |
| At 1 April 2020 | 18 | 1,299 | 1,317 |
| Charge for the year | 222 | 525 | 747 |
| At 31 March 2021 | 240 | 1,824 | 2,064 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2021 | 888 | 1,573 | 2,461 |
| Net book value at 31 March 2020 | 1,110 | 1,764 | 2,874 |

9. Debtors

| | 31 March 2021 | 31 March 2020 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Trade debtors | 70,000 | 30,329 |
| Other debtors | 5,550 | 11,803 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 2,814 | 37,835 |
| Total | 78,364 | 79,967 |

10. Creditors

| | 31 March 2021 | 31 March 2020 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Trade creditors | 1,684 | 7,752 |
| Other taxes and social security | 4,895 | 26,180 |
| Other creditors | 19,540 | 18,414 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 30,614 | 15,275 |
| Total | 56,733 | 67,621 |

11. Movement in funds

| Current year | At 1 April 2020 | Income | Expenditure | At 31 March 2021 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | |
| Advancement fund | 55,787 | - | (44,967) | 10,820 |
| Project funds | 92,449 | - | (45,498) | 46,951 |
| Total designated funds | 148,236 | - | (90,465) | 57,771 |
| General fund | 115,240 | 397,054 | (386,179) | 126,115 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 263,476 | 397,054 | (476,644) | 183,886 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| NESTA | 7,969 | 15,330 | (18,168) | 5,131 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 20,221 | 7,920 | (27,718) | 423 |
| Volunteer Programme | - | 40,000 | (9,893) | 30,107 |
| Co-op funded projects | - | 10,000 | (9,465) | 535 |
| Total restricted funds | 28,190 | 73,250 | (65,244) | 36,196 |
| Total funds | 291,666 | 470,304 | (541,888) | 220,082 |

| Prior year | At 1 April 2020 | Income | Expenditure | Transfers | At 31 March 2021 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| Designated funds | | | | | |
| Advancement fund | 60,000 | - | (4,213) | - | 55,787 |
| Project funds | 177,053 | - | (87,174) | 2,570 | 92,449 |
| Total designated funds | 237,053 | - | (91,387) | 2,570 | 148,236 |
| General fund | 169,037 | 394,198 | (447,825) | (170) | 115,240 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 406,090 | 394,198 | (539,212) | 2,400 | 263,476 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| NESTA | 18,284 | 34,987 | (45,302) | - | 7,969 |
| Devon and Cornwall | - | 30,000 | (9,779) | - | 20,221 |
| Patlock Fund | 2,270 | - | (2,270) | - | - |
| Segmentation Fund | 9,000 | - | (9,000) | - | - |
| CQC Leaflet Fund | 2,400 | - | - | (2,400) | - |
| Total restricted funds | 31,954 | 64,987 | (66,351) | (2,400) | 28,190 |
| Total funds | 438,044 | 459,185 | (605,563) | - | 291,666 |

Designated funds

Advancement fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the 'Advancement Areas' programme, which aims to deliver a framework for Neighbourhood Watch development in areas of high crime areas, underrepresented communities and in areas of social disadvantage. The fund has paid for a full-time development manager for one year.

Project fund is money received from the Home Office and designated by the trustees for the charity to deliver a series of intervention projects to support the trustees' 10-point strategy.

11. Movement in funds (continued)

Restricted funds

NESTA grant fund is funding received from NESTA (a national grant-making charity, www.nesta.org.uk) for the 'Communities that Care' project. During the year, a further £15,330 was received to fund a piece of research on social change.

Devon and Cornwall grant is money received to fund a part time post based and working in the Devon and Cornwall Force area. This fund is expected to run for two years from October 2019, with potential to extend for a further period.

Volunteer Programme is restricted money from the National Lottery Community Fund, which was secured to support the volunteer programme – a project to invest in Neighbourhood Watch volunteers.

Co-op funds projects is money received from the Co-op Group for specific projects, including purchase of window stickers for households and development of the Ourwatch website.

Force area Patlock commission fund is money received from Patlock, the manufacturer of a patio locking system, where for each product sold, £5 is donated to the local force area association, and the charity receives an administration fee of £2. In previous years this had been treated as a restricted fund however, the money due to local force area associations is accounted for as a creditor immediately as it is received and is no longer treated as a restricted fund.

Segmentation grant fund was formed from a grant received from the Home Office between 2015-2017 for a project to test the application and measurable impact of the serious and organised crime public intervention model. After discussing the fund with the Home Office, it was agreed the unspent fund would be returned to the Home Office and the fund wound up.

Care Quality Commission (CQC) leaflet and survey fund was formed from money received in September 2015 from the CQC for the charity to deliver a survey and leaflet distribution on behalf of the CQC. After discussing the fund with the CQC, it was agreed the fund could be transferred to general funds.

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

| Current year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Fixed assets | 13,775 | - | - | 13,775 |
| Net current assets | 112,340 | 57,771 | 36,196 | 206,307 |
| Total funds | 126,115 | 57,771 | 36,196 | 220,082 |
| Prior year | General fund | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total funds |
| Fixed assets | 19,845 | - | - | 19,845 |
| Net current assets | 96,395 | 148,236 | 28,190 | 271,821 |
| Total funds | 115,240 | 148,236 | 28,190 | 291,666 |

13. Operating leases

The charity had one operating lease at the balance sheet date, for rented office space. The minimum non-cancellable lease payments are:

| | 31 March 2021 | 31 March 2020 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Not later than one year | 8,820 | 8,400 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | - | - |

14. Prior year comparatives

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 March 2020

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total |
|------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income from: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | | 280,000 | 64,987 | 344,987 |
| Other trading activities | | 113,534 | - | 113,534 |
| Investments | | 664 | - | 664 |
| Total income | | 394,198 | 64,987 | 459,185 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | | 479,869 | 66,351 | 546,220 |
| Raising funds | | 59,343 | - | 59,343 |
| Total expenditure | | 539,212 | 66,351 | 605,563 |
| Net income | | (145,014) | (1,364) | (146,378) |
| Transfers between funds | | 2,400 | (2,400) | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (142,614) | (3,764) | (146,378) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 406,090 | 31,954 | 438,044 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 263,476 | 28,190 | 291,666 |