

Registered number: CE011177
Charity number: 1173621

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

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NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Trustees	A McCormack J H Pyatt K J Shadbolt N Floyde L A Ryder-Davies S V Santilal E M Pordes A Scoltock K Roxburgh A J Cerny (appointed 6 February 2023) J Quittner (appointed 7 November 2022) M Long (appointed 7 November 2022)
Company registered number	CE011177
Charity registered number	1173621
Registered office	Shaftesbury Hall Herbert Road London N11 2QN
Company secretary	N Webster
Director	L A Ryder-Davies
Accountants	James Cowper Kreston Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor Reading Bridge House George Street Reading Berkshire RG1 8LS
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 20 The Town Enfield EN2 6LS Barclays Bank plc 3 Walthamstow Leicestershire, LE87 2BB CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

THE VISION

Samaritans Vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

THE MISSION

We work to achieve this Vision by making it our Mission to alleviate emotional distress and reduce the incidence of suicide feelings and suicidal behavior.

We do this by:

- Being available 24 hours a day to provide emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of emotional distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide;
- Reaching out to high-risk groups and communities to reduce the risk of suicide;
- Working in partnership with other organisations, agencies and experts to achieve our Vision;
- Influencing public policy and raising awareness of the challenges of reducing suicide

THE VALUES

We are committed to the following Values:

Listening, because exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them;

- Confidentiality, because if people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings;
- People making their own decisions wherever possible, because we believe that people have the right to find their own solution and telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them;
- Being non-judgmental, because we want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection;
- Human contact, because giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2022 - 2023 was my last year as Director, I will step down at the beginning of July 2023. The year has seen a gradual return to normal working within the branch. We continued to staff only two stations per shift until the start of 2022 but from the beginning of March 2022 we returned to triple staffing as many shifts as possible and we removed the 20 minute gap between shifts.

Committee and Leadership team meetings all now take place in the hall in person. We have still not been able to see face to face callers, but the findings of the pilot scheme have been analysed and Samaritans have introduced a new protocol for branches to follow if they wish to re-introduce face to face callers. Volunteers must opt in to seeing visitors and NLS has shown enthusiasm for welcoming callers back into the branch and we hope to have our new system up and running towards the autumn of 2023.

Our regular hires have returned, which in addition to Yoga, Pilates and children's music classes include monthly Gong Bath sessions and periodic Terrazzo craft workshops, we also had bookings for 3 Vintage Markets, 2 Affordable Art Fairs, Barnet Council free health screenings, 2 folk concerts given by Bowes Park Folk Club, a Health and Holistic Fair, Bounds Green Food Bank - training for volunteers, CAHMS (Haringey) training course for local parents.

Selection interviews and Core Training courses are now all taking place in person in the Hall, we continue to deliver Information sessions via zoom because it has proved to be an effective way of doing this. The specific Mentoring shifts we introduced during the pandemic have been made a permanent feature of the Rota and are very helpful in getting New Samaritans onto the Rota quickly and into doing shifts without too much of a gap after completing Core Training. The Rota team continues to devote many hours ensuring that rotas are filled and shifts continue to run. We currently have 122 Listening volunteers and 9 Support volunteers.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

As always, we have had some volunteers leave us to relocate around the country but have had others transferring to us. 22 new volunteers completed training and joined the branch between March 2021 and 2022, and 3 volunteers transferred from other branches, we continue to share a number of volunteers with other branches. We have run in person refresher training sessions for all our volunteers in the Hall.

The Book Club which started in June 2021 and initially met via Zoom has been taking place in person over the past year, its membership is increasing.

We have 30 volunteers who are trained to give Emotional Support in Other Settings (ESOS). The Team Leader for Outreach continues to attend Haringey Suicide Prevention Group meetings which now take place in person. Samaritans were one of a small number of organisations that were invited to take part in Operation London Bridge. Several NLS volunteers were on duty throughout the lying in state of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in conjunction with volunteers from other London branches. We provided emotional support in a number of locations including supporting people leaving flowers in the parks, in the queue along the Southbank and those exiting Westminster Hall after filing past the catafalque. A few NLS volunteers were lucky enough to be invited to pay their respects in the Great Hall on the last evening.

School activities were allowed to resume from March 2022 for pupils in year 9 and above. We provide volunteers for Outreach at the Police Custody Suite at Bishopsgate. In conjunction with Central London branch we provided emotional support in Islington at the request of the council after a suicide.

Some of our volunteers helped with the annual Crisis at Christmas provision for homeless people.

The Prison Team are continuing the valuable work of recruiting and training Listeners at Pentonville and raising awareness of the scheme among newly recruited staff.

Fundraising continues to be successful; we have appointed a Support Volunteer for Fundraising who brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm with her. We are delighted to have been chosen as the Charity Partner of The Mall Wood Green who have hosted awareness raising sessions and fundraising activities on our behalf, our ESOS trained volunteers have given emotional support to members of the public at coffee & chat sessions hosted by The Mall.

As always, the above was made possible through the efforts of all our Support and Listening volunteers and our Hall/Premises Manager who have all supported me and each other to keep the branch open and running for our callers. Thank you.

Lesley 805

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

COMMITTEE REPORT

The branch has run very smoothly this year. Committee meetings are now being held in the Hall in person and are well attended and productive.

There have not been many changes to the Trustees this year.

Outgoing

Keith 1269 retired at the last AGM on 07.11.22

Incoming

Joanne 1383 was voted in at the AGM on 7.11.22

Marianne 1433 was voted in at the AGM on 7.11.22

Amanda 1417 was co-opted on 19.01.23 and took over from Sonam as the Secretary.

At the end of the year, the trustees are

Lesley 805 Director

Alison 1031

Adam 1352S Treasurer

Nat 1330

John 1219

Sonam 1490

Kirsty 1371

Erik 1379

Joanne 1383

Marianne 1433

Amanda 1417 Secretary

Alison 1031

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

BRANCH MATTERS

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

For the year to 31st March 2023 we responded to:

Phone calls 7476

Emails 3401

Face to Face Outside the branch 31

Total Contacts 10,908

This is an increase in activity in comparison with the previous year, outside branch contacts resumed at the start of 2022, but face to face in branch has still not resumed. Pre March 2022 shifts still had 2 rather than 3 volunteers taking calls, the introduction of a new system for checking emails has significantly reduced the number that can be dealt with during a shift. We are still awaiting the roll out of Online Chat to all branches and at the time of writing we are making arrangements to welcome callers into the branch again. Outreach activity continues to increase.

Lesley 805

SHAFTESBURY HALL

After several years of disruption due to the COVID Pandemic and the Government rules on lockdown 2022/2023 was back to normal use. The Hall being hired out to both the local community and North London Samaritans.

Regular bookings have remained reasonably strong throughout the year with several new classes introduced, although in the last 6 months class sizes have been weaker due in part to the cost-of-living issues that have affected everyone. The same situation exists for one off weekend bookings. This trend is expected to continue well into 2023/ 2024.

Users included health and fitness organisations, local services supporting minorities and the disadvantaged, music and arts groups, a variety of individuals and businesses providing classes and activities for children and charitable and voluntary organisations. Haringey CAMHS, Pinhole and GDPQ/ Barnet Council Health Screening used the Hall during the year, whilst 3 weeks were set aside for holiday clubs during the summer holidays. In addition to this, the Hall has been hired by members of the local community to host a variety of social events and parties.

Subject to availability, North London Samaritans have again hired the Hall at the current hourly rate for meetings, training, information and selection events.

During the year further investment was made in ensuring the fixtures and fittings were maintained to a high standard including a re-paint of the Hall interior, re-polishing of the floor and the replacement of the locking window handles. Unfortunately, the roof panels to the building are showing some early signs of blistering/ peeling and the Main Contractor has been put on notice that these are latent defects under the Building Contract. This has been accepted and remedial work is expected to be carried out during this year.

The Hall Committee continued to closely monitor the operation of the Hall facility in a manner similar to that of a village hall, ensuring that it benefits the local community, by being available to a wide range of activities which are social ,recreational or community-oriented in nature and complies with the advice of Bates Wells Braithwaite LLP provided on the 14th June 2018 and the terms of HMRC VAT clearance letter dated 11th August 2017. The Hall Committee is satisfied that the Hall operation has been consistent with that advice and clearance.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Hall Committee consists of representatives of North London Samaritans (as the recipient of the Big Lottery Fund and other grants to enable the establishment of a hall facility available for hire for community activities) and members of the local community and hall users. The Committee monitors the type of activities carried on in the Hall and oversees the Hall Manager in the performance of her duties regarding the day to day letting of the Hall space and the maintenance and general upkeep of the building and ensuring that the Hall operates, when open, in compliance with the terms of the grants and in a manner consistent with the village hall principal.

We look forward to another successful year in 2023/ 2024.

John 1219

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising income was lifted by the partnership with The Mall, Wood Green who reached their milestone to raise over £3,000 for our branch through hosting events for their staff and the general public. We continue to be successful securing funding from local charities and through grants alongside funds raised by our volunteers and their fundraising activities.

Nat 1330

CALLER SUPPORT

Caller Support has been taken out of Branches and there is now a new Caller Support and Safeguarding Hub which supports our most complex callers. Volunteers are welcome to join this hub in addition to their regular listening shifts.

Lesley 805

INFORMATION

The Information Event team continued to comprise Brian 1359, who was admirably supported by Arancha 1432S. As always, I'd like to place on record my thanks and appreciation to Arancha for all the work she has done behind the scenes to ensure that all the Information Events ran seamlessly throughout the year.

Notwithstanding the ending of the COVID-19 pandemic, all Information Events during the period continued to be delivered by Brian 1359 on-line via Zoom.

Seven on-line Information events were held during the period, as follows:

- 27th April 2022
- 14th June 2022
- 26th July 2022
- 25th September 2022
- 24th January 2023
- 2nd March 2023
- 30th March 2023

146 potential volunteer made enquiries to the branch during the year.

86 potential volunteers attended one of the above Information Events.

62 potential volunteers attending an Information Event subsequently requested a Selection Interview.

Compared to the previous year (1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022), the number of potential volunteers expressing an interest in finding out more about Samaritans reduced significantly. This is potentially because during the COVID-19 pandemic (and for a significant period afterwards), potential volunteers didn't have much else to do, and as such, they decided they find out more about the work of Samaritans.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Finally, and after three years of presenting the Information Events on behalf of NLS, Brian 1359 has decided to step down with effect from 30th June 2023, and give other volunteers the opportunity to present subsequent Information Events.

Brian 1359

SELECTION

Between April 2022 and March 2023, Sheila1226 offered to lead Selection Interviews temporarily after the team lead Barbara1309 stepped down. Sheila1226 was later supported by Sonam1490 from December onwards. Selection Interviews are back to being face-to-face at Shaftesbury Hall. Dependent on volunteer help, the maximum number of interviews that can run on a selection day is 12. There have been 5 selection days, with a total of 49 PVs interviewed, and 44 offered training. There have been some non-shows from Potential Volunteers (PVs) on the day, we hope to improve this for the next year.

Sonam 1490

TRAINING

Summer 2022

The summer cohort started training on the 21st of April. Only 10 of 12 invited trainees started the course. We had two late dropouts with unfortunately no waiting list people selected to take up the places. As it turned out it was more difficult, now we are back in the hall, to provide trainers for every session so though at first I was concerned by the late drop outs having to provide 5 rather than 6 trainers every week made it easier.

Life has opened up for everyone with holidays and activities and we are all busier than ever. The team remained the same as those who trained for the five courses that we ran on Zoom and despite some initial doubts everyone thought the quality of training was raised by face to face interaction.

As we moved into the hall I was hoping to bring new people in to help so on the 23rd of April I ran a short course for eight people on how to use the BEAR feedback forms. Angela, Nili and Tracey have come to one or two evenings and taken part in call practices with enthusiasm. In the end 8 New Samaritans were invited into the branch.

Autumn 2022

The Autumn Training started with a cohort of 11 trainees and 9 were ready on Skills Day to go into the branch.

Spring 2023

This Core training started out with a full complement of twelve trainees and 8 reached the required standard to go into the branch. None of this training could have taken place without the trainers, course mentors and call practices whose invaluable contribution to training made it possible to prepare 25 New Samaritans to go into the branch this year.

The team comprised. - Sally, Deborah, Eliza, Christian, Joanne, Nili, Clare, Keith, Ben, Hugh, Brian, Jacky, Ruby, and Kirsty.

A third half day training with lunch 'Applying Our Key Policies' took place on Saturday 9th October in the Hall.

Liz 939

EMBEDDING

The Embedding team continue to run embedding sessions over 4 weeks, taking place in the Hall.

It has been difficult getting a healthy number of participants attending the sessions and even when agreeing to participate a number of attendees were not able to attend all 4 sessions. Some last minute drop outs resulting in cancelled and re-scheduled sessions.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

At the core of embedding sessions are discussions about experiences in branch which cover the various key themes of embedding. When numbers are small it is difficult for participants to learn from the experiences of others.

In an attempt to improve attendance a reminder that embedding must be taken within 12 months of completing Core training is now included in the invitation to attend the Embedding sessions and the frequency of embedding sessions has been reduced to twice per year from March 2022.

Six volunteers completed the Embedding sessions from 1 April 2022.

Alison 1031, Amanda 1417 and Tia 1424

PRISON SUPPORT

There were approximately 1,100 Listens totalling 390 hours. The top five concerns were Mental Health, First Time in Prison, Problems with Staff / Regime, Isolation / Loneliness.

Listener Support meetings took place every Saturday morning with at least 2 Samaritans. The jail is getting better at facilitating the group in one place but still very slow and dependent on staff that are in on a particular Saturday. We were still having to go onto each wing and talk to Listeners individually. This takes up quite a lot of time and resources.

It was still difficult to organise any staff trainings or awareness sessions but we worked closely with Safer Custody to get things into a routine as how they were pre-covid.

There were 13 Current Listeners plus 2 transferred in from Thameside where the scheme has closed.

Mejjinder1325, Nick 1294

PUBLICITY

Our focus on publicity in the last year has predominantly been the partnership with The Mall shopping centre. We created assets to promote Samaritans generally in the centre (to both callers and prospective volunteers), and also specific material to support specific events for example directing people to coffee and cake events with volunteers.

We continued to keep the branch Twitter up to date to maintain our profile in the community and to potential volunteers.

Jess 6246

OUTREACH & SCHOOLS

It was a busy year for the Outreach team with various activities including:

HSPG meetings monthly
GTRG likewise
British Transport Police support visits
National Railway Network Outreach Training
ESOS training
School's support visits

Cathy1356 & Keith1269

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ROTA TEAM

Tracy 1385 joined the Rota Team and quickly got up to speed.

The rota period was standardised to five weeks to maximise the number of shifts with three volunteers on them.

The volunteer numbers during certain "Hours of Need" became a national focus and the branch changed the weekly Hours of Need shifts from 5am–7am to 3am–7am. In March, there was a national 'Light up the Night' week to highlight the need for volunteers on night shifts so we can provide a 24-hour service when other services are closed.

The number of pull-outs and shift closures is a concern, and the branch does continues trying to fill the gaps as they open.

Nick 1294

SHIFT SUPPORT

In November 2022 Lizzie stepped down from Shift Support leadership. Hannah1256 continued in the role and was joined by Clare1414. There was a healthy number of shift supporters during the year but the majority of shifts were done by the same few people. Most shifts were covered but there were still frequent gaps in the twilight shift cover.

Hannah 1256

MENTORING

Mentoring continues to be successful with overall positive feedback received by Ps. Regular Mentors' meetings took place every 6 weeks and are helpful for Mentors.

The Pilot of doing practice emails proved to be unpopular so was dropped and Ns were advised to ask if they wanted to do practice emails.

More mentors are required. Nicola 1278 and Sheila 1226 decided to step down from co-leading Mentoring.

Sheila 1226, Nicola 1278

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Lou continued to monitor email traffic to the rota team, in order to identify volunteers who were dealing with some kind of personal crisis impacting their ability to do shifts. After discussion with Lesley 805 where appropriate, she contacted those volunteers to offer support. Regular follow-up to those taking time out from shifts was maintained, to encourage and facilitate a return to shifts where possible. As in previous years, volunteers occasionally made contact independently to talk over personal issues.

Lesley and Lou decided to provide edible 'thank you's to the branch at Christmas and during National Volunteer Week, after an exploratory exercise suggested that giving volunteers personalised certificates (available from Central Office) would be expensive, potentially divisive (depending on the criteria used) and costly in both time and trees!

Lou 1336

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

This year's income totalled £45,606, up 11% on last year, largely due to an increase in donations and fundraising. Income from hiring out the Hall was broadly unchanged at £23,091.

Total expenditure, including the costs of operating the hall, was marginally higher at £59,711, producing a net deficit of £14,105. It should be noted that this includes depreciation of £16,373. Net of depreciation, and before deducting our contribution to Central Samaritans, we achieved a surplus of £3,449. Given the challenges faced, this is once again an encouraging outcome. Nevertheless, we will need to ensure that we continue to closely monitor our expenditure and fundraise to cover our costs.

In the financial year ended 31 March 2023, the trustees reiterated their decision to restrict the income from the Hall for the development and maintenance of the Hall. The Trustees will monitor the spending of these funds to ensure that the surplus is used to sustain the Hall so that it does not become a burden on the charity.

RESERVES POLICY

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain free unrestricted reserves equivalent to 18 months of charitable expenditure; this will ensure that the charity can continue to provide its services in the event of any disruption. At the balance sheet date the unrestricted reserves amounted to £89,361, which is above target on an historic basis. At the balance sheet date restricted funds, including fixed assets, totalled £790,877. Unrestricted funds are held for the continuance of the Charity's objectives and activities. Restricted funds are held to cover expenditure that will be incurred in relation to specific projects, in particular the Hall. The trustees will review the reserves policy to ensure that it is consistent and prudent. Any shortfall in total reserves will be addressed over time by additional fundraising.

Adam 1352

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

LEGAL STATUS

North London Samaritans (incorporating Enfield, Haringey and Barnet Samaritans) was a registered charity, with charity registration number 270761. In November 2017 we successfully became a CIO and have a new Charity number 1173621.

We are now governed by a constitution, adopted on 27 November 2017. We have retained the name North London Samaritans (incorporating Enfield, Haringey and Barnet Samaritans), although we intend to amend this to North London Samaritans in due course. At the same time, we affiliated to the new central Samaritans charity.

North London Samaritans (incorporating Enfield, Haringey and Barnet Samaritans) is one of 201 charities within the Samaritans movement. Samaritans is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its memorandum and articles of association, and a registered charity. It was incorporated as a company on 11 April 1963 having been founded by Dr Chad Varah on 2 November 1953.

Legal ownership of Shaftesbury Hall is held by North London Samaritans (incorporating Enfield, Haringey and Barnet Samaritans) and a legal charge has been given to big Lottery Fund for 20 years.

GOVERNANCE

North London Samaritans (incorporating Enfield, Haringey and Barnet Samaritans) is, like all Samaritans branches, independently operated and funded, within the guidelines of the constitution. A directorate and a committee manage the branch.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Branch Director heads the directorate and it is she or he who is ultimately responsible for all branch operations. The Director appoints co-directors who oversee all aspects of the branch involving callers, visitors and volunteers (this includes caller support, volunteer recruitment, selection and training, and volunteer mentoring). The Director is also an ex-officio member of the committee. She or he is chosen by a process of consultation with volunteers carried out by a working group, to serve for three years.

The Committee is responsible for fundraising and facilities, including the maintenance and administration of the branch premises. The Committee members are elected at Annual General Meetings and can serve for up to three years. The Committee can also co-opt members within the limits set by the Constitution. By the terms of the Constitution each member of the Committee is a trustee of the charity.

We moved to the new Branch Leadership Team at the First AGM of the CIO on 14th January 2019. The Branch Director took on the single leadership role and is chair of the Trustee Board and chair of the Leadership Team.

The trustees believe that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

This relates to Section 4 of the 2006 Act to have due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

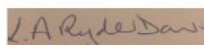
The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Lesley Ryder-Davies 22 Nov 2023 12:18:48 GMT (UTC +0)

.....
L A Ryder-Davies

Director

Date: 22 November 2023

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of North London Samaritans ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's 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 Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Alexander Peal

Dated: 22 November 2023

BSc (Hons) FCA DChA

James Cowper Kreston
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Reading Bridge House
George Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 8LS

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	26,790	18,815	45,605	40,922
Investments	3	-	1	1	2
Total income		26,790	18,816	45,606	40,924
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	33,638	26,073	59,711	58,651
Total expenditure		33,638	26,073	59,711	58,651
Net movement in funds		(6,848)	(7,257)	(14,105)	(17,727)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		797,725	96,618	894,343	912,070
Net movement in funds		(6,848)	(7,257)	(14,105)	(17,727)
Total funds carried forward		790,877	89,361	880,238	894,343

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 16 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS
REGISTERED NUMBER: CE011177

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	769,532	785,905
Current assets			
Debtors	10	4,336	1,079
Cash at bank and in hand		112,850	112,887
		<u>117,186</u>	<u>113,966</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(6,480)	(5,528)
Net current assets		<u>110,706</u>	<u>108,438</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>880,238</u></u>	<u><u>894,343</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	12	790,877	797,725
Unrestricted funds	12	89,361	96,618
Total funds		<u><u>880,238</u></u>	<u><u>894,343</u></u>

The Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Adam McCormack 20 Nov 2023 17:12:01 GMT (UTC +0)

A McCormack

Trustee

Date: 20 November 2023

The notes on pages 16 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	15	(38)	7,151
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	-
Interest received		1	2
Net cash provided by investing activities		1	2
Net cash (outflow)/inflow brought forward		(37)	7,153
Cash flows from financing activities			
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(37)	7,153
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		112,887	105,734
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	16	112,850	112,887

The notes on pages 16 to 25 form part of these financial statements

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

North London Samaritans meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Income

All 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 receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Charity, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.4 Government grants

Government grants, including Covid-19 related grants, are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	2%
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1.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.9 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

1.10 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 with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. 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 the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	-	18,815	18,815	14,817
Prison funding	3,699	-	3,699	888
Covid-19 Job Retention Scheme grant income	-	-	-	1,697
Hall income	23,091	-	23,091	23,520
	<u>26,790</u>	<u>18,815</u>	<u>45,605</u>	<u>40,922</u>
Total 2022	<u>29,102</u>	<u>11,820</u>	<u>40,922</u>	

3. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Interest income	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total 2022	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Expenditure on charitable activities	33,638	26,073	59,711	58,651
Total 2022	38,940	19,711	58,651	

5. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Expenditure on charitable activities	28,828	30,883	59,711	58,651
Total 2022	30,505	28,146	58,651	

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	13,090	12,864
Depreciation	16,373	16,373
Bank charges	239	206
Contribution to Head Office	1,181	(1,297)
	30,883	28,146

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Charity's annual accounts	2,520	2,520
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner in respect of: Preparation of the Charity's annual accounts	<u>1,080</u>	<u>1,080</u>

7. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	<u>13,090</u>	<u>12,864</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Employee	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

8. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2022	818,651
At 31 March 2023	<u>818,651</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2022	32,746
Charge for the year	16,373
At 31 March 2023	<u>49,119</u>
Net book value	
At 31 March 2023	<u>769,532</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>785,905</u>

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>4,336</u>	<u>1,079</u>

11. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	<u>6,480</u>	<u>5,528</u>

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds - all funds	96,618	18,816	(26,073)	89,361
Restricted funds				
Hall development fund	797,725	23,091	(29,939)	790,877
Prison fund	-	3,699	(3,699)	-
	797,725	26,790	(33,638)	790,877
Total of funds	894,343	45,606	(59,711)	880,238

The Hall development fund is restricted for the development and maintenance of the hall.

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds - all funds	102,019	11,822	(19,711)	2,488	96,618
Restricted funds					
Hall development fund	807,524	25,217	(35,016)	-	797,725
Prison fund	2,488	888	(888)	(2,488)	-
Pears Foundation fund	39	2,997	(3,036)	-	-
	810,051	29,102	(38,940)	(2,488)	797,725
Total of funds	912,070	40,924	(58,651)	-	894,343

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
General funds	96,618	18,816	(26,073)	89,361
Restricted funds	797,725	26,790	(33,638)	790,877
	<u>894,343</u>	<u>45,606</u>	<u>(59,711)</u>	<u>880,238</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
General funds	102,019	11,822	(19,711)	2,488	96,618
Restricted funds	810,051	29,102	(38,940)	(2,488)	797,725
	<u>912,070</u>	<u>40,924</u>	<u>(58,651)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>894,343</u>

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	769,532	-	769,532
Current assets	21,345	95,841	117,186
Creditors due within one year	-	(6,480)	(6,480)
Total	<u>790,877</u>	<u>89,361</u>	<u>880,238</u>

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	785,905	-	785,905
Current assets	11,820	102,146	113,966
Creditors due within one year	-	(5,528)	(5,528)
Total	797,725	96,618	894,343

15. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(14,105)	(17,727)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	16,373	16,373
Interest received	(1)	(2)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(3,257)	8,049
Increase in creditors	952	458
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(38)	7,151

16. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	112,850	112,887
Total cash and cash equivalents	112,850	112,887

NORTH LONDON SAMARITANS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

17. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2022	Cash flows	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	112,887	(37)	112,850
	<u>112,887</u>	<u>(37)</u>	<u>112,850</u>