

Rotherham Samaritans

**22 Percy Street
Rotherham
South Yorkshire
S65 1ED**

**Charity Registration Number
1173826**

**Annual Report & Financial Statements
for the 12 Months Ended
31 March 2024**

Rotherham Samaritans

Annual Report & Financial Statements for the 12 month period ended 31 March 2024

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Rotherham Samaritans

Trustees' Report

for the period ended 31 March 2023

The officers present their report and the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2023

Governance

From 1st October 2017 Rotherham Samaritans has been a Charitable Incorporated Institution (CIO) with charity registration number 1173826. Prior to that, it was an unincorporated charity, called The Samaritans of Rotherham charity, number 1057161. It is also an independent affiliated branch of The Samaritans which is a legally constituted company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and whose registered office is situated at The Upper Mill, Kingston Road, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AF

The administration, control and management of the Rotherham Samaritans are vested in a local Director together with a number of Trustees, no less than three and not more than thirteen. The Trustees, together with the Secretary and Treasurer, are elected by the members at the AGM.

Principal Objective

To enable persons in Rotherham and the surrounding area as well as elsewhere who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide.

Investment Powers

Under its constitution the charity has the power to make any investment which the trustees see fit.

Reserves

The reserves policy is to maintain sufficient unrestricted cash reserves to continue operating for at least eighteen months in the unlikely event of our receiving no income from any source, as well as designated reserves where there are potential commitments that cannot be met by anticipated future income alone. The funds are held as short term investments as shown in the statement of Assets and Liabilities on page 7. The Reserves policy is shown in full on page 11 along with an up-to-date appraisal against actual funds held.

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting for Charities published in 2005 and applicable accounting standards. These accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis. All grants and voluntary income are accounted for gross when received. All expenditure is accounted for and when paid. Direct charitable expenditure includes the direct cost of activities. Where cash costs relate to more than one functional category, they have been split as appropriate.

Rotherham Samaritans

Trustees' Report (Continued)

for the period ended 31 March 2024

Trustees

Trustees during the year were:

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| David Pinder | Director |
| Andy Scott | Treasurer |
| John Glynn | |
| Mark Smith | |
| Fiona Wilson | |
| Steve Wilson | |

The trustees are recruited from the charity's membership. They must be volunteers who have undertaken a course of preparation and had sufficient experience of the charity to afford proper direction in accordance with its defined purposes. Trustees are given a copy of the Charity Commission guidelines for trustees and are required to complete Samaritans on-line training.

Director's Report

Rotherham Samaritans is a small, independent charity affiliated to the National Samaritan Charity. As such, the branch is self-sustaining, and continues to function entirely through the work of unpaid volunteers, most of whom are active, trained listeners who answer telephone calls on the Samaritan crisis line, but who also fulfil all the legal and financial duties necessary to maintaining and running the charity.

The branch has had a successful year in terms of volunteer retention and recruitment. There were 41 listening volunteers on the list on December 31st 2023, which compares to 42 on the list in December 2022. This is due largely to good retention levels among volunteers. It has become more difficult to attract new volunteers post COVID19. In 2023, 15 new volunteers started training. Seven completed basic training and became branch members.

The branch is stable financially. Our financial security has been helped by continued grant support from the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board who have expressed appreciation for the support which we give to Mental Health practitioners and GPs in supplementing their care for patients, particularly those with Mental Health problems or who have expressed suicidal thoughts. In recognition of this, the board have worked with us to develop an innovative partnership (The Rotherham Samaritans Wellness Check Pathway) whereby counsellors, Mental Health crisis team members and other specialist carers are able to refer particular patients to the Rotherham branch for supplementary Samaritan support at times when specialist support is not available to them. A portion of the grant money is used to fund the dedicated answerphone service but also for publicity material which is made available in NHS sites. In 2023, 218 people were referred for Samaritan support via this Pathway. Samaritans and ICB both recognize that this has been a very successful project.

Our volunteers, working in pairs, cover 48 hours of telephone listening shifts in 14 sessions every week. Telephone contacts form the backbone of Samaritan work. As with all Samaritan branches, calls can be directed to us from any part of the United Kingdom and Ireland at any time of the day or night and on every day of the year. We no longer answer emails, and the face-to-face contacts in the branch have not been reinstated post COVID19. We have however built up a team of volunteers who are trained to offer emotional support at venues away from the branch. We have

visited the local football stadium twice for pre-match promotions; we have visited the local railway station and have had a presence at two local shows. We have also developed a link with the Social supermarket group which meets in Rotherham Minster. Samaritan volunteers attend sessions of this group.

Our links with other local charities, particularly those working to reduce the incidence of suicide, remain very strong, as do our links with Rotherham Borough Council and the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioners office. This concerted work in suicide prevention seems to be effective as the number of people taking their lives in Rotherham has been falling since 2019.

We continue to comply with Samaritan protocols and standards, including in respect to premises and equipment, Health and Safety, Data protection and safeguarding. We are also working to comply with Samaritans new EDI standards.

The members of the branch have retained a good ethos of mutual support and a strong team spirit which is one of the key strengths of the branch.

By order of the Trustees



17.4.24

David Pinder
Director

Rotherham Samaritans

Statement of Officers' Responsibilities

for the period ended 31 March 2024

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the officers to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the treasurer must follow best practice and:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- (b) make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- (c) state whether applicable Accounting Standards of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- (d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in business.

The officers are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity, and which enable them to both ascertain the financial position of the charity and ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and consider that the charity comfortably meets the published criteria.

The following financial report covers the accounts for the charity which operated under the name of Rotherham Samaritans (1173826). The charity changed its name half way through the financial year 2017-18 from the Samaritans of Rotherham (1057161).

Bankers

NatWest Bank,
27 Effingham Street,
Rotherham
S65 1AU

Independent Examiner

Tom May
8 Stonely Brook,
Ravenfield,
Rotherham
S65 4QY

Rotherham Samaritans

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of Rotherham Samaritans on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 11

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Tom May
8 Stonely Brook,
Ravenfield,
Rotherham
S65 4QY

20 / 05 / 2024

Rotherham Samaritans

Receipts and Payments Account: Year ended 31st March 2024

| | | 2023-24 | | | 2022-23 |
|--|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | Total |
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Donations, Legacies and Similar Resources | 1 | 3,864 | 0 | 3,864 | 4,644 |
| Grants & Funding Received | 2 | 25,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 21,000 |
| Fund Raising Activities | 3 | 1,708 | 0 | 1,708 | 2,237 |
| Refunds | 4 | -20 | 0 | -20 | 440 |
| Bank Interest | | 501 | 0 | 501 | 163 |
| Total Receipts | | 31,053 | 0 | 31,053 | 28,484 |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Costs of Charitable Activities | 5 | 16,575 | 5,981 | 22,556 | 17,783 |
| Centre Refurbishment | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,028 |
| Cost of Fund Raising | 7 | 329 | 0 | 329 | 1,708 |
| Governance Costs | 8 | 10,120 | 0 | 10,120 | 8,348 |
| Total Payments | | 27,024 | 5,981 | 33,005 | 29,866 |
| Net Income / (Expenditure) for Year | | 4,029 | -5,981 | -1,952 | -1,382 |

Represented By:

| | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cash & Bank Balances as at 1st April 2023 | 72,301 | 5,981 | 78,282 | 79,664 |
| Cash & Bank Balances as at 31st March 2024 | 76,330 | 0 | 76,330 | 78,282 |
| Net Movement in Funds This Year | 4,029 | -5,981 | -1,952 | -1,382 |

Rotherham Samaritans

Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ending 31 March 2024

| 2023-24 | | | Total |
|--------------|------------|-------|---------|
| Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | 2022-23 |

Monetary Assets

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|---------------|
| NatWest Current Account | 11,091 | | 11,091 | 8,182 |
| NatWest Legacy Account | 100 | | 100 | 100 |
| Virgin Money Charity Account | 65,139 | | 65,139 | 70,000 |
| Petty Cash | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| | 76,330 | 0 | 76,330 | 78,282 |

Non Monetary Assets

Land & Buildings

Based on recent sales of adjoining property, the trustees estimate that the value of 22 Percy Street is £125,000

Fixtures & Fittings

The Charity has use of various fixtures and fittings, including computers and office equipment, purchased over the years and written off in the year of purchase. The cost and market value of these sundry assets are not significant to the Charity.

Liabilities

General Office Contribution

The Central Office contribution based on income during 2023-24 is estimated to be £8,251. This becomes due before the end of 2024.

Entry Fobs

A deposit is collected from Volunteers in lieu of their branch entry fobs. This is reclaimable when a volunteer leaves.

Approved by the Trustees on 17/4/24 and signed on their behalf by :

Director



FRANCIS DAVID PINDER

Rotherham Samaritans

Notes on the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024

| | 2023-24 | | | 2022-23 |
|---|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | Total |
| 1. Donations | | | | |
| Anonymous and under £50 | 107 | 0 | 107 | 90 |
| Deposits on Fobs | 50 | 0 | 50 | 90 |
| Donations Gift Aided | 2,195 | 0 | 2,195 | 2,069 |
| Individuals | 412 | 0 | 412 | 149 |
| Organisations | 1,100 | 0 | 1,100 | 2,246 |
| | 3,864 | 0 | 3,864 | 4,644 |
| 2. Grants & Funding Received | | | | |
| Arnold Clark Community Fund | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 |
| SY CCG | 25,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 20,000 |
| Pears Funding (CO) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 25,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 21,000 |
| 3. Income from Fund Raising Activities | | | | |
| Christmas Cards | 64 | 0 | 64 | 82 |
| Copper Jar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23 |
| Giving Sites | 27 | 0 | 27 | 629 |
| Public Events | 0 | 0 | 0 | 99 |
| Public Events Gift Aided | 290 | 0 | 290 | 571 |
| Samarathon | 0 | 0 | 0 | 115 |
| Sams Collection Houses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sarah Millican Concert | 0 | 0 | 0 | 717 |
| Tax Reclaimed (Gift Aided Donations) | 1,328 | 0 | 1,328 | 0 |
| | 1,708 | 0 | 1,708 | 2,237 |
| 4. Refunds | | | | |
| RMBC Council Tax | 0 | 0 | 0 | 440 |
| General - Refund of Fob deposits | -20 | 0 | -20 | 0 |
| | -20 | 0 | -20 | 440 |

Rotherham Samaritans

Notes on the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024

| | | | | 2023-24 | | Total |
|--|--|--|--|--------------|------------|---------|
| | | | | Unrestricted | Restricted | 2022-23 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|---------------|--------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| 5. Direct Charitable Activity | | | | | | |
| Centre - Building | 6.1 | 7,335 | 952 | 8,287 | | 6,821 |
| Centre - Operation | 6.2 | 7,871 | 4,558 | 12,429 | | 8,797 |
| Centre - Telecommunications | 6.3 | 1,369 | 471 | 1,839 | | 2,165 |
| | | 16,575 | 5,981 | 22,556 | | 17,783 |

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--------------|------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| 5.1 Centre - Building | | | | | | |
| Self Employed Cleaner | | 1,255 | 239 | 1,494 | | 1,296 |
| Cleaning - Materials | | 53 | 0 | 53 | | 0 |
| Cleaning - Windows | | 120 | 0 | 120 | | 63 |
| Council Tax | | 494 | 0 | 494 | | 463 |
| Furniture & Fittings | | 1,236 | 0 | 1,236 | | 0 |
| Insurance | | 856 | 0 | 856 | | 819 |
| Kitchen Equipment | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Maintenance | | 1,742 | 339 | 2,081 | | 901 |
| Security | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 114 |
| Utilities - Electricity | | 573 | 176 | 750 | | 639 |
| Utilities - Gas | | 827 | 155 | 982 | | 2,168 |
| Utilities - Water | | 178 | 43 | 221 | | 166 |
| Waste Disposal | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 192 |
| | | 7,335 | 952 | 8,287 | | 6,821 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|--|--------------|
| 5.2 Centre - Operation | | | | | | |
| Advertising & Recruitment | | 85 | 593 | 678 | | 1,694 |
| Computer Consumables | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Computer Systems Software | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 116 |
| Computing Equipment | | 1,634 | 2,524 | 4,158 | | 0 |
| Courses Conferences & Training | | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | | 10 |
| Outreach & Awareness | | 1,526 | 863 | 2,389 | | 272 |
| Printing Stationery & Postage | | 672 | 254 | 926 | | 808 |
| Refreshments - Others | | 0 | 66 | 66 | | 125 |
| Refreshments - Volunteers | | 234 | 16 | 250 | | 382 |
| Support Material | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 143 |
| Trains / Taxis | | 266 | 103 | 369 | | 933 |
| Mileage - Volunteers | | 1,098 | 139 | 1,238 | | 4,009 |
| Mileage - Interim Director | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 40 |
| Volunteer Team Building/Recognition Events | | 356 | 0 | 356 | | 265 |
| | | 7,871 | 4,558 | 12,429 | | 8,797 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| 5.3 Centre - Telecommunications | | | | | | |
| Internet & Telephone - Percy Street | | 1,249 | 471 | 1,719 | | 1,992 |
| Phone - Director | | 120 | 0 | 120 | | 120 |
| Select Services | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 53 |
| | | 1,369 | 471 | 1,839 | | 2,165 |

Rotherham Samaritans

Notes on the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024

| | 2023-24 | | | Total |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | 2022-23 |
| 6. Centre - Refurbishment | | | | |
| Building Work | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fixtures & Fittings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,028 |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,028 |
| 7. Cost of Fund Raising | | | | |
| Christmas Cards | 64 | 0 | 64 | 87 |
| Rotherham Show | 266 | 0 | 266 | 0 |
| Equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1501 |
| Gambling Licence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| General Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120 |
| | 329 | 0 | 329 | 1,708 |
| 8. Governance Costs | | | | |
| Administration | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 |
| General Office Contribution | 10,120 | 0 | 10,120 | 8,313 |
| Gifts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 10,120 | 0 | 10,120 | 8,348 |

9. SYCCG Grant - FY2023

The SYCCG grant was originally split £14K Restricted and £6K Unrestricted. This recognises that the grant agreement document specifically emphasises the Pathway and the wider promotion of Rotherham Samaritans activities. At 1st April 2023 there was £5,981 of this grant remaining as restricted.

Costs associated with the building (overheads) should have had 40% allocated as Restricted.

Centre Operation costs overall should be allocated 40% Restricted concentrated on Printing, Postage & Stationary, Support Material and Travel. In the case of Travel it is argued that volunteers need to be at the branch to make Pathway calls therefore 40% is classified Restricted including taxi costs to/from the branch

Allocation of Telecommunication costs should be made on the basis that, line rental for the dedicated line and most outgoing calls result from the Pathway, are Restricted.

10. SYCCG Grant - FY2024

Renewal of the Grant has enabled full identification as an ordinary activity of the Trust

11. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have set a level equivalent to 18 months of operating costs as a desired level of reserve. This fund is a contingency designed to protect the future operation of Rotherham Samaritans in the event of:

- > a sudden reduction in income and/or
- > from the effects of any unforeseen variations in its income and expenditure

The trustees have also designated reserves where there are potential commitments that cannot be met by anticipated future income alone. These reserves are broken down into a number of funds that relate to:

- > a major building repair fund eg: Roof
- > an asset replacement fund to replace IT and furniture as required
- > a decorating fund in respect of the April painting of the building front exterior
- > potential to require increased expenditure not evidenced by the 18 months of historic costs
- > the possible requirement to refund volunteers fob deposits

The amounts of reserves are specified in a table as follows:

| Unrestricted Funds represented by: | Desired Reserves | Balance as at 31 st March 2024 | Description of Funds |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---|--|
| General purpose reserve fund | £50,000 | £61,330 | Funds to provide cashflow and meet unforeseen expenses. Based on approx. 18 months of expenditure. |
| Building Major Repair fund | £10,000 | £10,000 | Provision to fund a major repair to building eg Roof |
| Asset Replacement | £2,500 | £2,500 | Provision to replace IT and furniture as required |
| Building Decoration Fund | £1,000 | £1,000 | Provision for decoration of the building front exterior |
| NHS Pathway expansion to GP's | £1,000 | £1,000 | Funds to cover additional expenditure associated with roll-out of NHS pathway to GP Surgeries |
| Volunteers Fob Deposits | £500 | £500 | Provision to cover refund of Fob Deposits to Volunteers |
| Total | £65,000 | £76,330 | |