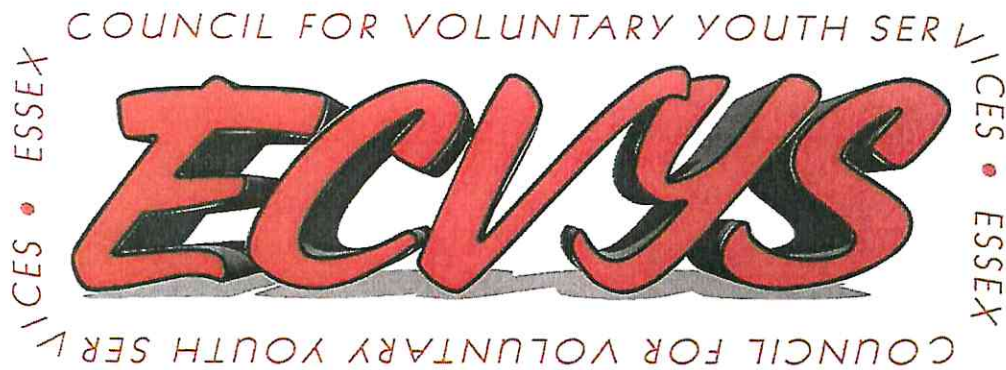


Charity Registration Number: 1178954



ESSEX COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY YOUTH SERVICES CIO

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

ECVYS has been an active, trusted and established voice of voluntary youth organisations in Essex for 50 years and we are proud that we have been a registered charity for Six years.

Objective: *To promote the youth voluntary sector for the benefit of the public in Essex, through advocacy and representation and promoting good practice within the sector*

"Voluntary sector" is defined as "charities and voluntary organisations"

Charities are organisations, which are established for exclusively charitable purposes in accordance with the law of England and Wales

Voluntary organisations are independent organisations which are established for purposes that add value to the community as a whole, or a significant section of the community, and which are not permitted by their constitution to make a profit for private distribution. Voluntary organisations do not include local government or other statutory organisations.

We will achieve this objective through:

a.) Advocacy and representation

ECVYS will engage and enable voluntary youth organisations so that they can be an active, relevant and independent voice at the forefront of local and national youth issues and policy making.

This voice will also allow us to facilitate conversations and partnerships that will strengthen and grow the voluntary youth sector, and thereby enhance the development of young people in Essex.

b.) Promoting good practice and a sense of 'togetherness' within the sector

ECVYS will help facilitate good practice and provision of youth work by voluntary youth organisations in Essex. We will do this through networking, training and sharing resources, updates, funding and any other information we see as being relevant to the sector and the development of young people.

Board of Trustees

Our board of trustees is made up from our member organisations; their role is important, making sure that ECVYS stays relevant and answerable to the voluntary organisations that it is set up to serve.

Essex Boys and Girls Clubs: Martin Solder (County Director)

The Children's Society: Kerry Clancy-Horner (Head of Youth Practice, Southern England)

Chelmsford Diocese: Bishop Roger Morris (The Bishop of Colchester)

GirlGuiding Essex South East: Canon Eileen French

Essex Scouts: Paul Stennett (Chairman)

Independent: Alistair McGarry

Independent: Peter Dilley

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

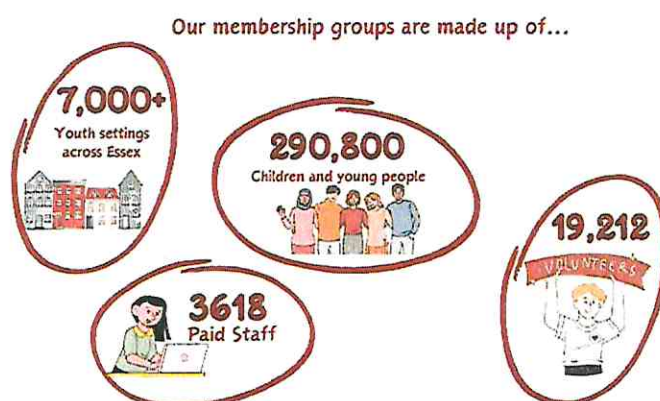
Overview:

Our work has gone from strength to strength and so has our team. We were excited this year to welcome Nicole Redgwell as our youth researcher to develop our very popular youth voices work. Nicole started in September and has already facilitated two brilliant projects that have together enabled around 2000 young people to have their voices heard.

There has been growth in our representation, networking and training and we are so proud of all that you will read in this report about the work.

Activities that we have been involved with:

This year our members told us that they support over 290,000 children and young people in Essex (Last year this figure was 245,000!) What a huge demand there is in Essex for voluntary sector children's and youth work!



Our members are large umbrella children's and youth Organisations, and small frontline groups, who have come to rely on ECVYS for representation, support, advice, training, grants, networking, and identifying needs in the sector so that their voices can be heard. Our advocacy work this year has helped much needed resources be released back into the sector, and has helped groups share their concerns and joys with statutory organisations. This is a much needed role for the sector and it is a privilege for us to be able to do this for our groups.

Through our youth voices work and work with the Violence and Vulnerability Unit we have increased our workload and reach this year, and have been building upon key partnerships to help see the voluntary youth sector thrive.

"ECVYS is a good source of support and information. It is reassuring to know there is a body we can go to for advice and training opportunities. They also provide funding for training which is always helpful, particularly in the current climate. It has been good to be linked with other organisations and helps you realise you are part of something bigger" -Brentwood Catholic Youth Service

ECVYS Cluster groups:

We regularly get between 40-50+ people at our online cluster meetings and they are always well received by our members (and many other organisations who also attend).

The meetings consist of updates from various organisations from the children's and youth world such as; The Children and Young People's Partnership Board, the ESCB, Essex Youth Services, Children's and Families Leads, the Violence and Vulnerability Unit and health.

As well as updates, funding, training and general support and networking we have also been listening to members around their needs and themed some of our meetings around what members were saying they wanted and needed.

The network is a bubbling hub of enthusiasm and passion for the sector and they very much appreciate these meetings and have told us they are invaluable in supporting them to do their frontline work.

This year we have run face to face Cluster meetings too, that has been greatly received and valued.

"Belonging to ECVYS brings about knowledge through information, networking, collaboration and opportunities to extend the reach of what we can do as an organisation, beyond our abilities to have done so ourselves" -Tiptree Youth Outreach Project

Representation: We represent our members at 24 various groups/subgroups-

- 1.) The Essex Safeguarding Children's Board Exec (and all of the stay safe meetings)
- 2.) The ESCB missing from education sub group
- 3.) The ESCB learning and development sub group (and task group)
- 4.) The Children's Partnership Board (Plus all of the quadrant meetings, and some sub groups)
- 5.) The Supporting Families strategic partnership board
- 6.) The Essex domestic abuse local partnership board
- 7.) Safer Essex
- 8.) The VVU Ops board (and The voice of communities group)
- 11.) The Eastern region youth participation group
- 12.) The East of England & East Midlands regional youth work unit
- 13.) The Violence against women and girls steering group

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

Representation for the voluntary youth sector at the meetings is vital for our groups and the children and young people in Essex, Southend and Thurrock. It is so important because it allows us to temperature check the work going on at grassroots level and allows them to share their views on issues that matter to them. It also means we can keep them abreast of any changes in policy, funding, safeguarding and training so that they can keep children and young people stable, resilient and safe. Representing the sector is part of our core offer in order to keep our groups well connected and an active part of the conversation around any new strategies, plans and ways of working for children's and young people's groups.

Often our groups know what is going on at grassroots level, but we have been able to be there for them and link them up with key policy makers so that we can help our children and young people to have positive futures. This in turn has enabled us to have a thriving voluntary youth sector in Essex with over **19,212 volunteers** in our membership alone.

“ECVYS help keep charities updated and connected, we need ECVYS to keep that joint working youth focus” -Teen Talk, Harwich

Mailshot:

We have 326 people signed up to receive our mailshot this year, from hundreds of voluntary and statutory services. The mailshot covers all our ECVYS work, any updates, funding pots, activities for young people, campaigns, vacancies, volunteering opportunities and much more. We also send out individual emails of noteworthy information/campaigns that we feel may benefit our groups. Our groups always tell us what a valuable resource our newsletter is. Someone in the statutory services even told us it was the only newsletter they bother reading! Our administrator sends these out fortnightly, and for those on the ground, our mailshot is an important link to everything that is going on and helps them to stay connected.

“Being a member of ECVYS has helped us access training, funding, cooperation and knowledge sharing, with other youth organisations. It has help us develop the confidence as an organisation to deliver new projects and support more young people in our community”
-Canvey Island Youth Project

Training and Training grants:

This year our MOU with Essex County Council helped over **7,000** children/youth groups in Essex to provide safe environments.

Our training enables groups and individuals to access important training that they need to make sure they are running their groups to the best of their ability and in the light of good practice.

Our training grants also help organisations with more specialist, or specific, training for their groups, or training that they may not usually be able to access as they are volunteers.

This year we directly helped to train up 178 people from the voluntary youth sector. The training that the staff/volunteers received would have had an impact on 106,664 children and young people from voluntary groups in Essex. 73 of these young people also received training through our training grant for members.
available or accessible to the sector.

We were able to offer some face- face training every term around specific needs that our members have highlighted such as; Gender identity and its impact on residential trips, Turning conversations about risky behaviours into positive ones, Having a restorative approach to youth work, young leaders training and leadership skills.

Online training; L2 Food Hygiene and Safety, Personal Safety for Lone Workers, Self-Harm, Suicidal Thoughts and GDPR.

Listening projects

This year we have run various funded listening projects-

1. The Essex Anchor network funded a project around careers support and opportunities in the NHS,
2. Essex County Council funded a project around healthy relationships in the home,
3. Anglia Ruskin University and the Internet Watch Foundation funded a project around young people sharing inappropriate images
4. The VVU funded us to run a project around youth violence and perceptions of safety

This work is so insightful for funders to hear clear and honest views from young people in their youth club setting. It also strengthens relationships for youth leaders and young people and helps bring in a small amount of funding to each of the groups who take part.

Work with the Violence and Vulnerability Unit

We have had another brilliant year working with the Violence and Vulnerability Unit (VUU) who fund us for the equivalent of one full time post, and one day a week of our youth researcher post.

Through this work we have facilitated our fifth year of listening projects with the VUU with over 1300 young people through youth clubs, detached works and schools with our member groups. We were also able to use social media to engage with a further 49 young people around issues of safety.

We continue to oversee the detached youth work project, and have been taking part in some evaluation for the project so that our partners may have some great evidence of the project once the funding comes to an end in 2025. A big thank you to Essex Boys & Girls Clubs, Bar'n'Bus, Red Balloon, Essex YMCA, Southend YMCA, North Avenue Youth Centre and Essex Youth Service for working with us on this.

ECVYS also lead on the Voice of communities work and organised, facilitated and evaluate the Community Grant fund for the VUU that helped over 7,139 children and young people engage in early intervention with 18 organisations. A special aspect to this work for us is that young peoples voices from our listening work is at the heart of the grants process and runs throughout, right from conception through to evaluation.

In October the VUU funded a youth voices listening conference where over 100 people got together to listen to young people share their views around issues that matter to them.

FUTURE PLANS

For our 50th year we have lots of exciting events planned including launching an interactive map to share all youth work across Essex, a funding pot to help with training staff and volunteers from the voluntary sector, Youth hubs in 7 areas of Essex to help resource and network the sector, plus more training, youth listening and possible conferences.

It's an exciting time for us at ECVYS, and as a team of staff and Trustees we are pleased to be a catalyst for such positive change and growth in the voluntary sector.....Bring on the next 50 years!

Thank you to all our members and funders this year for your support.

Rachel Brett (ECVYS CEO), and the ECVYS Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Report to the trustees of Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services (ECVYS) on accounts for the period ended 31st March 2024 set out on pages 9 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions give by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): ACA

Address: 10 Church End
Great Dunmow
Essex
CM6 2AF

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted to 31/03/2024 £	Restricted to 31/03/2024 £	Total to 31/03/2024 £	Total to 31/03/2023 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	0	0	0	103
Investment income	3	23,709	0	23,709	4,769
Charitable activities	4	39,735	359,622	399,357	298,264
Other Income		17,987	33,767	51,754	0
Total Income		81,431	393,389	474,820	303,136
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	58,920	343,293	402,213	271,368
Total resources expended		58,920	343,293	402,213	271,368
Net (expenditure)		22,511	50,096	72,607	31,768
Transfer between funds		0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		22,511	50,096	72,607	31,768
Funds at 01/04/2023		281,953	156,726	438,679	406,911
Funds at 31/03/2024		304,464	206,822	511,286	438,679

ESSEX COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY YOUTH SERVICES

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

		2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets		797	1,022
Investments		82,750	-
Total Fixed Assets		<u>83,547</u>	<u>1,022</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	1,074	2,426
Cash at bank and in hand		307,093	448,277
Investments		174,736	-
Total Current Assets		<u>482,903</u>	<u>450,703</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors, amounts falling due within one year	8	55,164	13,046
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>511,286</u>	<u>438,679</u>
Funds	9		
Unrestricted Funds - General		191,678	169,167
Unrestricted Funds - Designated CEO		94,786	94,786
Unrestricted Funds - Designated Operating		18,000	18,000
Restricted Funds		206,822	156,726
		<u>511,286</u>	<u>438,679</u>

The notes at pages 11 to 17 form part of these accounts.

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

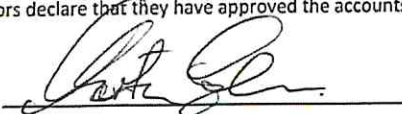
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to small companies regime.

The directors declare that they have approved the accounts above.

Signed



Date

24/4/2024

Martin Solder (Chairman)

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation of the accounts

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2015 and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular future projects or commitments.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- income from membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which give a member rights to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.
- receipts received during the year which are not to be expected until after the balance sheet date are not recognised as income for the year and are included in funded charitable income deferred.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Resources expended *(continued)*

- expenditure on raising funds includes the cost of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities.

- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by the charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

- where income on charitable funds has been recognised and the related expenditure is known and committed, the expenditure is recognised as a funded charitable activity accrual and is included in expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably, in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments.

Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amounts advanced by the charity. Subsequently they are measured at the cost or other consideration expected to be received.

Current asset investments

The charity has investments which it holds for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due.

They are valued at fair value except where they qualify as basic financial instruments.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2 Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Donations	-	-	-	103
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103</u>

3 Income from Investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Deposit account interest	5,607	-	5,607	4,769
Dividends from investments	3,366	-	3,366	-
Revaluation of investments	14,736	-	14,736	-
	<u>23,709</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,709</u>	<u>4,769</u>

All 2023 income received from investments was unrestricted.

4 Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Essex County Council	38,000	-	38,000	38,000
Anglia Ruskin University	-	1,000	1,000	-
Police, Fire Commissioner	-	358,089	358,089	257,000
Essex Anchor	0	-	-	981
Membership subscriptions	1,735	-	1,735	1,715
Online training sales	-	533	533	105
Consultancy	-	-	-	517
	<u>39,735</u>	<u>359,622</u>	<u>399,357</u>	<u>298,318</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Advertising and Promotion			-	450
Bank Charges	64	-	64	64
Computer Costs	1,491	-	1,491	295
Conference Costs	-	7,411	7,411	5,770
Depreciation	224	-	224	-
Employer NIC	4,481	-	4,481	2,335
Employer Pension	2,233	-	2,233	1,685
Grants Paid Out	-	278,948	278,948	181,184
Insurances	441	-	441	492
Meeting Expenses	474	-	474	637
Office/Admin Expenses	- 386	-	- 386	325
General Expenses	346	-	346	80
Professional Services	732	-	732	1,105
Phone Costs	386	163	549	368
Salaries	46,652	53,889	100,541	74,590
Subscriptions	52	-	52	52
Training Costs	103	1,522	1,625	245
Trustee Expenses	-	-	-	35
Travel and Accommodation	1,627	1,360	2,987	1,656
	<u>58,920</u>	<u>343,293</u>	<u>402,213</u>	<u>271,368</u>

6 Staff costs and emoluments

Total staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages & salaries	100,541	74,590
Social security costs	4,481	2,335
Pension	2,233	1,685
	<u>107,255</u>	<u>78,610</u>

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the period, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024	2023
Project co-ordination staff	1	1
Management staff	1.75	1.5
	<u>2.75</u>	<u>2.5</u>

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000. (2023: nil)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

ECVYS participates in the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST), which is a defined contribution workplace pension scheme, in order to fulfil the requirements under automatic enrolment regulations. Total employer contributions for the current period were £2233. Amounts outstanding at the year end were £461.

7 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Debtors	60	1,499
Other debtors and prepayments	1,014	1,014
	<u>1,074</u>	<u>2,513</u>

8 Creditors; amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Creditors	9,166	10,322
Deferred Income	42,500	-
Social Security	2,398	1,937
Pension Fund	83	472
Accruals / Other Creditors	1,017	315
	<u>55,164</u>	<u>13,046</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9 Funds	01/04/2023	Income	Expenses	Transfer	31/03/2024
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	169,167	81,431	(58,920)		191,678
Designated - CEO	94,786	0	0		94,786
Designated - Operating	18,000	0	0		18,000
Total Unrestricted	281,953	81,431	(58,920)	0	304,464
Restricted Funds					
Training	54,529	528	(2,347)		52,710
ASB Pilot	0	148,400	(146,581)		1,819
Detached Youth Work	32,382	178,860	(123,588)		87,654
ECC Listening Healthy Relations	0	1,800	(1,800)		0
Essex Anchor	831	0	(600)		231
Grassroots Grants	9,517	0	(3,529)		5,988
Project Staff Salaries	0	6,000	0		6,000
PFCC Bespoke Projects	28,000	0	0		28,000
Uni Listening Project		2,800	(1,800)		1,000
VVU Voice of Communities	616		0		616
VVU Listening	22,165	12,500	(19,303)		15,362
VVU Staff Costs	8,686	42,500	(43,745)		7,441
Total Restricted	156,726	393,388	(343,293)	0	206,822
Total	438,679	474,819	(402,213)	0	511,286

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Analysis of movement in funds - previous year

	01/04/2022	Income	Expenses	Transfer	31/03/2023
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	177,485	45,104	(55,632)	2,210	169,167
Designated - CEO	94,786	0	0	0	94,786
Designated - Operating	18,000	0	0	0	18,000
Total Unrestricted	290,271	45,104	(55,632)	2,210	281,953
Restricted Funds					
Training	55,436	138	(1,045)		54,529
Detached Youth Work	26,692	175,000	(169,310)		32,382
Essex Anchor		981	(150)		831
Grassroots Grants	14,577	0	(5060)		9,517
In Care Review	1,640	0	0	(1640)	0
PFCC / Police Voices	90	0	(90)		0
PFCC Bespoke Projects		28,000			28,000
VVU Voice of Communities	6,800		(6,184)		616
VVU Listening	10,835	17,000	(5,670)		22,165
VVU Staff Costs		37,000	(28,314)		8,686
Micro Youth Voices	570			(570)	0
Total Restricted	116,640	258,119	(215,823)	(2,210)	156,726
Total	406,911	303,223	(271,455)	0	438,679

10 Trustee remuneration, benefits and expenses

None of the Trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with ECVYS or a related entity.

Trustee expenses reimbursed nil (2023 - £35)

11 Related Party transactions

There were no related parties within the year.

12 Additional Disclosures

None