



**THE COWSHED**

# Annual Report and Accounts

For the period 2023 - 2024









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# Organisation Details

## STAFF

Sally Russell	Co- Founder/CEO
Rebecca Russell	Operations Manager
Rebecca Mole	Fundraising Manager
Audrey Knox	PT Craft Co-ordinator
Ruth Warms	PT Donations Supervisor
Liz Meadows	PT Donations Supervisor
Yvonne John	PT Donations Supervisor
Nikki Pond	Referrals Supervisor
Yuliia Aydar	Referrals Supervisor
Hannah Blay/ Rachel Litchfield	Referrals Administrator
Isabel Noone	PT referrals Co-ordinator
Claire Hewitt	PT referrals Co-ordinator
Katy Reay	PT referrals Co-ordinator

## TRUSTEES

Kester Russell	Co-Founder /Chair
Abbie Walker	Treasurer
Sharon Ketley	Secretary
Mervyn Simmonds	
Emma Wilkinson	
Susie Templeton	
Chelsea Hayes	
Nimisha Overton	
Sheila Mooney	

## CHARITY MENTOR

Steve Hedley

## DUTIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by The Charities Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

### Address –

**Rubra 2, Mulberry Business Park, Fishponds Road,  
Wokingham, RG41 2GY**

The Cowshed is a registered charity (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) In England and Wales (1181550) with the following objectives;



The relief of poverty  
of persons in need in  
particular but not  
exclusively by providing  
such persons with good  
quality free clothing.





# Who we are and what we do

The Cowshed charity started in September 2018 and officially launched in February 2019 to give practical support to people of all backgrounds in a time of personal crisis. Since we started we have supported over 30,000 people in need in Berkshire. The aim of The Cowshed is to lovingly provide excellent quality, cleaned and ironed clothes, underwear, bedding, curtains, toiletries, and other essential items free to anyone in need. The clothes are donated from the public as well as retailers and manufacturers. They are then sorted, washed, and ironed ready to be delivered by our drivers or collected by social services, other professionals or our clients. The idea is that our clients feel they are receiving a gift to assist them in a time of crisis rather than some old clothes that are over worn, marked or damaged.

The people in need are referred to us through social services, churches, schools, charities, doctors, and other professionals. We then provide the items that are requested free of charge. The Cowshed is staffed mostly by our amazing volunteers.

The Cowshed has a threefold impact: recycling used clothing, helping those most in need in our communities and creating a community craft group to support the main charity.

All the clothes that are donated to us are repurposed. The excellent quality clothes are washed and ironed ready for our clients, the slightly damaged clothing / bedding is repurposed by our arts and crafts group to make items for us to sell and tote bags for us to put our referrals in. Pre-loved Bras are sent to Against Breast Cancer and the plastic bags we receive donations in are given to the food banks locally or recycled. We also work with many other groups to recycle as much as we can. Anything left after this is sold to a recycling organisation to raise further funds to help sustain the charity.

We are extremely excited about having established a movement which directly impacts those most in need in the local community in a positive, loving, non-judgemental way, as well as helping the environment by reusing clothes and other items which would otherwise have ended up in landfill sites.



# Chair of Trustee's Report

## INTRODUCTION

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense gratitude and admiration for the resilience and dedication of everyone involved with The Cowshed. This year has demanded significant adaptation and consolidation, coupled with continued growth and meaningful community impact, as we navigated the ongoing challenges of a rapidly evolving environment.

## Operational Overview

2023/4 brought its own set of hurdles, including the continued pressures of the cost-of-living crisis. These challenges underscored the vital role The Cowshed plays in supporting our community. Despite these obstacles, our team's determination has shone through, enabling us to support over 7,500 individuals and families across Berkshire.

One of our notable achievements was the successful expansion of our services, including the launch of Home@TheCowshed. This initiative, generously supported by corporate partners, has already provided over 300 families and individuals with the essential items for starting a new home, ensuring comfort and dignity during difficult times.

## A Community Effort

The heart of The Cowshed lies in its community. Our volunteers—now nearly 300 strong—continue to inspire with their unwavering commitment in processing donations, delivering essentials, and helping at events. The success

of our Christmas project, which brightened the lives of over 2,000 children with thoughtfully curated gifts, is a testament to the generosity and hard work of our supporters.

## Looking Ahead

This year also marked significant developments in our infrastructure. Relocating to a unified premises has enhanced our operational efficiency, allowing our team to work collaboratively and better serve our clients. This milestone reflects our commitment to growth and sustainability as we strive to meet the increasing demand for our services.

## Thank You

None of this would be possible without the support of our donors, corporate partners, and grant-makers, who have believed in our mission and invested in our work. To our volunteers, staff, and trustees: your dedication is the cornerstone of our success. Together, we have created a safe space where the needs of those in crisis are met with compassion and dignity.

As we look to the future, The Cowshed remains steadfast in its mission to provide practical, heartfelt support to those in need. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey.



**Chair of Trustees,  
The Cowshed Charity**





# Chief Executive's Message

If I'm honest, I don't know where to begin. If someone had asked me five years ago where we would be today, I could never have imagined the incredible growth we've experienced since starting in 2018. While it's deeply saddening that there is such a significant need for our services, I am profoundly grateful that we are here to help and make a difference in people's lives.

This year has been another challenging one for the charity sector. Despite the obstacles, we've celebrated many successes while continuing to support local families in need.

Securing funding and finding a permanent home were significant struggles, but the love and support from the community were truly inspiring. People of all ages rallied behind us: children raised funds through cycling, baking, and unique initiatives like requesting underwear instead of birthday presents; schools put on performances; adults ran, swam, walked, and organized workplace collections; and many companies chose us as their charity of the year.

We have also built strong relationships with many other charities and the 270 organizations that refer into us, strengthening our shared commitment to making a difference. Additionally, the resilience and dedication of our staff amid significant team changes have been remarkable, ensuring we continued to help our community effectively.

One of the year's highlights was a community-led Eurovision party at the Madejski for 350 Ukrainian refugees. Funded by The National Lottery, this event showcased the compassion and generosity of the people of Berkshire toward displaced families from Ukraine.

As with many charities, finding affordable premises remains a major challenge. This year, we made the difficult decision to consolidate into one building. Thanks to the support of Wokingham Borough Council, we found our new home at Rubra Two in Wokingham. This move has saved significant costs, streamlined operations, and brought our team together under one roof. While this marks a major milestone, securing long-term stability remains a top priority.

Our Cowshed family continues to grow, with over 350 volunteers supporting our work. Walking through our organization and hearing stories from volunteers is often



deeply moving. One volunteer shared, "The Cowshed doesn't just support the people we help; it supports those of us who are helping, too."

We've built a community that radiates kindness and generosity, and I'm immensely proud to be part of this incredible organization. Thank you to every individual, volunteer, and donor who has contributed to our mission. Your support enables us to continue spreading love and hope across Berkshire, and we are forever grateful.

With heartfelt gratitude,

**Chief Executive,  
The Cowshed Charity**

# Referrals

In the previous fiscal year, The Cowshed had provided crucial support to over 8000 individuals across Berkshire. This included nearly 1200 Ukrainian refugees which have not been a significant factor this year. Despite this the charity has supported over 7500 individuals in 2023/2024.

This year posed unique challenges with staffing changes, the move to a new premises, and the ongoing cost-of-living crisis. These factors led to a slight drop in standard referrals compared to the previous year. Closures during the restructuring period, combined with fewer referrals for Ukrainian refugees than in 2022, contributed to this decrease.

Despite these challenges, we launched and expanded several impactful projects. Home@TheCowshed provided vital kitchen essentials for those moving into new homes, while Books@TheCowshed expanded free book libraries and provided books to local schools. We continued distributing toiletry and sanitary packs, as well as hospital bags, delivering vital items to those in need.

Our refugee and asylum seeker outreach program has supported over 500 individuals and hosted three large community events for over 450 asylum seekers. This initiative has been pivotal in offering tailored support, including school uniforms, which relieved financial strain on families during the back-to-school period.

Additionally, the Prom@TheCowshed service helped over 80 young people find prom outfits, and our sewing classes empowered nearly 300 individuals with practical skills.

Overall, we saw growth in partnerships, like our collaboration with Wokingham Borough Council and The Hygiene Bank Reading, to provide essential packs across the borough, addressing hygiene poverty. Our efforts, fuelled by community support, have reached over 7,547 individuals this year, helping them through difficult times.

In July 2023, The Cowshed successfully relocated to a new premises, facilitating a significant staffing restructure as part of the move. This transition has allowed all departments to operate within a single building, leading to substantial improvements in cohesion and efficiency across our operations. With everyone now working under





one roof, we have established a fully functioning staff team that can collaborate more effectively, share resources seamlessly, and enhance overall service delivery. This unified approach not only boosts morale among our staff and volunteers but also enhances our capacity to better serve the community, streamlining our efforts to address the needs of those we support.

## Home@TheCowshed

The Home@TheCowshed initiative (previously known as Noah) launched in January 2024 and represents an expansion of our support services. It has received generous financial support from Cotswold Fayre, AbbVie, Bentley, and Miles & Daughters Funeral Directors. This program provides wonderful starter boxes that contain all the kitchen essentials needed for a new home, ensuring families have access to basic items crucial for daily living. In this year alone, Home@TheCowshed has successfully supported over 300 individuals by delivering these essential kitchen items. By addressing the immediate needs of families, this initiative empowers them to create a comfortable and functional home environment, fostering a sense of dignity and belonging. The program exemplifies our commitment to supporting the community, particularly in the face of ongoing economic challenges.





# Volunteering and Community Engagement

At The Cowshed, we believe in the power of collaboration to enhance our community impact. In addition to partnering with over 250 local organisations and 1,500 professionals, we actively participate in the Reading University internship scheme, having taken on four interns over the past year. We are proud to support volunteers with additional needs from CLASP and Addingtons School, providing them with opportunities to develop their skills in a nurturing environment. Additionally, we engage volunteers from the Wokingham Youth Justice Team to offer support and guidance, fostering their personal development. Finally, we accommodate two Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) students at any given time, ensuring they gain valuable experience while contributing to our mission. Through these collaborative efforts, we not only strengthen our community ties but also empower individuals to grow and thrive.

This year, we experienced a remarkable increase in our volunteer base, now reaching nearly 300 dedicated individuals, including some of our service users who have stepped up to give back to the community. To ensure a smooth and welcoming experience for our new volunteers, we introduced Volunteer Induction Mornings, where participants are oriented with our mission, values, and the various roles available. These sessions not only foster a sense of belonging but also equip our volunteers with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively contribute to our initiatives. The commitment and enthusiasm of our volunteers has greatly enhanced our ability to serve those in need, making a significant difference in our community.





# Books@TheCowshed

In addition to the books we provide with all Children's referrals at The Cowshed, our commitment to literacy and learning has led to the expansion of our free book libraries, which are now located in all refugee hotels in Reading and Maidenhead, as well as outside Emmbrook Junior School. This initiative ensures that families and children have easy access to books, promoting literacy and education within the community. In addition, we actively reach out to local schools to offer support, providing books and toys that are surplus to our requirements. By sharing these resources, we aim to enrich the educational experience of local children and foster a love for reading, making a meaningful difference in their lives and promoting a sense of belonging in the community.



## Christmas Project

Our Christmas project was another resounding success this year, with 2,007 children who might not have otherwise received gifts benefiting from our initiative. We proudly distributed a total of 14,000 Christmas gifts, including 50 scooters, ensuring that each child felt special and valued during the festive season. In our commitment to personalisation, we considered every child's interest and request, allowing us to create a tailored experience for each recipient. To add a special touch, every child received a beautiful handmade sack filled with their gifts, embodying the spirit of giving and joy. This project not only brought smiles to countless faces but also reinforced our dedication to supporting families in need during the holiday season.

We also provided 300 Easter packs including seasonal crafts and chocolate eggs to local families.





# Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support

At the end of the year, we took a significant step in expanding our support for vulnerable communities by recruiting a Refugee and Asylum Seeker Outreach Worker for one year. Recognising the immense challenges faced by asylum seekers - many of whom have fled war, violence, and persecution - we felt it was crucial to have a dedicated staff member to provide focused assistance. Living in temporary accommodations with limited access to essential items such as clothing, toiletries, and books, these individuals and families often struggle to meet their basic needs. Our new outreach worker will start working in the next Financial Year to support asylum seekers across Berkshire, helping them navigate the complexities of resettlement and providing much-needed relief in their time of transition.

This year, we also provided 37 hospital bags to the Poppy team at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, ensuring asylum-seeking mothers have essential items during their hospital stay and for their babies in the first few weeks. The Poppy team, a small group of midwives, offers maternity care to women facing complex social factors, aiming to deliver women-centred, specialised care tailored to individual needs. Our bags help the midwives build trusting relationships with these women and families while alleviating their anxieties about having the correct items for labour. Each lovingly packed hold-all included a new nightdress, dressing gown, slippers, toiletries, towels, maternity pads, nappies, baby toiletries, and an outfit for the baby to wear home.

Together with Care4Calais Thames Valley, in August 2023 we also hosted two heart-warming BBQ events for 200 asylum-seeking families currently residing in local hotels. Many of these families, surviving on just £9 a week, rarely have the chance to leave their hotels or engage in community activities, making these events a much-needed escape. Our dedicated volunteers were joined by asylum seekers from another local hotel, who helped run the BBQ. Volunteers served a delicious meal, while





children enjoyed arts and crafts and free yoga sessions. These gatherings provided a moment of relaxation and well-being for the families amidst their challenging circumstances. The excitement continued with cricket matches organised by Emmbrook & Bearwood Cricket Club, and in the afternoon, ice creams and our sweet cart brought smiles to all. Before leaving, each family received a rucksack filled with goody bags, giving them a special memento of the day.

Additionally, over 250 Ukrainian families attended our Eurovision celebration in May 2023, offering a brief respite from the hardships caused by the ongoing war. The Reading FC Conference and Events Centre provided a stunning setting for this remarkable night of solidarity, with an amazing screen and AV setup that brought the Eurovision spirit to life.



## Welcome to the World



This year, we continued our "Welcome to the World" project, providing essential support to care leavers as they prepare for motherhood. Care leavers often face significant challenges, with little family support and few people to rely on beyond the leaving care team. The transition to becoming a parent can be an especially daunting time. To help ease this, we provided nine "Welcome to the World" hampers, each filled with beautiful and essential items that every new mum should have. These hampers offer care leavers a sense of being valued while helping them prepare for and celebrate the arrival of their child, with funding kindly provided by Cotswold Fayre and Berkshire Freemasons.



# Sewing Classes

Throughout the year, we have offered both adult and child sewing classes, successfully teaching 294 people the art of sewing. These classes not only provide valuable skills but also foster creativity and a sense of community among participants. By engaging individuals of all ages, we aim to empower them through the joy of crafting while promoting self-expression and collaboration in a welcoming environment. During the summer, we also provided free spots in our craft classes to ensure the activity was accessible to the clients we support.



# Hygiene Poverty

This year, we continued our efforts to combat hygiene poverty by providing essential toiletry packs through our partnership with The Hygiene Bank. These packs have been distributed to families in need across the community, particularly in local schools and libraries. We offer free period and hygiene products in all libraries across the Wokingham borough, ensuring that everyone has access to vital hygiene supplies. Additionally, we have delivered over 180 care packs to various schools and organisations across Berkshire, tailored to support those who may struggle to afford these basics. The positive impact of these packs has been evident, with numerous recipients expressing their gratitude for the support. We are proud to contribute to the well-being of our community and help uplift those facing challenging circumstances.



# Prom@TheCowshed

This year, Prom at The Cowshed supported 87 young people with low-cost outfit hire, including 37 who were referred to us for a free outfit. Our mission was to ensure that no student missed out on their prom due to financial constraints. We provided a range of stunning dresses, suits, shoes, and accessories, with our volunteers

assisting each student in finding the perfect outfit.

This initiative allowed us to help young people across Berkshire feel confident and valued for their special event, ensuring they could celebrate this important milestone in style.





# Deliveries

In April 2023, we were thrilled to receive a stunning new van, affectionately named Ermintrude, from CarComm Coachworks. This generous contribution arrived at a crucial moment for The Cowshed as we implemented a new referrals process aimed at enhancing our connections with clients. Ermintrude has significantly improved our capacity to provide tailored support, facilitating our outreach efforts and ensuring that we can efficiently support our clients. Every day, we now have two or three volunteer drivers delivering essential items across Berkshire to those in need.



# Donation Centre

The volunteers in the Donation Centre regularly process a staggering 3 tonnes of donations a week.

We are lucky to have an incredible team of 90 regular volunteers who with great dedication and enthusiasm spend their time sorting donations, laundering, ironing, shoe cleaning or checking and cleaning toys and baby equipment, to get them ready for the referrals department.

We also have regular volunteers from CLASP, Heathermount School, Luckley School, Youth Justice Service as well as local young people completing their

Duke of Edinburgh awards.

There is a sense of community amongst the volunteers, as they work together as a team and get to know one another at the same time.

Our volunteers are the backbone of our charity, and it's a testament to their dedication and work ethic that they consistently rise to the challenge.

Whether it's tackling a complex project, such as our move from Bennet Court to our lovely new home at Rubra2 in Wokingham; addressing a pressing issue or need for a client or providing support to those around them, our volunteers never falter. They are problem-solvers, thinkers and doers, who approach each challenge with a sense of determination.

We are dedicated to disposing of items responsibly - cardboard is recycled, fabric is used by our Cowshed Craft Group to make bags and other items, soft plastic is taken by volunteers to local recycling points, bras to the charity "Against Breast Cancer", unsuitable blankets to local dog rescue charities, and unusable items are carefully sorted and taken to the recycling centre. We even compost our tea bags!

In addition to our regular volunteers, we have a constant stream of Corporate Groups, who come to volunteer for a day, and many go on to support The Cowshed in other ways by running donation drives or supporting particular events where we need extra hands!

We have been pleased to share our abundant supply of donated toys and books with local schools and nurseries, and we also have a "help yourself" library outside Emmbrook Infant and Junior School which is regularly restocked and loved by local children.

At The Cowshed we also have a Book Tree, where any local child can come along with an adult and choose 5 books and take them away in one of our lovely, handcrafted tote bags to enjoy the pleasure of reading, and return to refill their bag.





# The Hygiene Bank

The reality of low income is that it restricts people's options, leaving them caught between being able to heat their homes, pay the rent, eat or be clean.

We are now entering our 3rd year since setting up the Reading Branch of The Hygiene Bank.

We have 6 donation points, (both public and private offices), and also receive some Brand Donations as well as support by donation drives by local companies or organisations.

The donations are distributed to The Cowshed as well as the Bracknell Food Bank and The Elizabeth Fry Charity.

## Craft Group

Let's begin by acknowledging our dedicated knitters and crocheters, who have been working tirelessly to raise funds by crafting a variety of unique and delightful items, including the ever-popular "Pigs in Blankets." These charming creations were such a hit that we soon followed them with the quirky Brussels Sprouts. Whether you love them or hate them, they flew off the shelves, and we could hardly keep up with demand! The group also made Reindeer Christmas decorations and, more recently, they produced metres and metres of bunting for the Ukraine Eurovision party.

Our wonderful crafting community continues to grow, producing referral bags by the hundreds. This group is truly special, fostering not only creativity but also friendship and support. As they sew, cut, iron, make tea, and share their lives, it's heartwarming to see the blossoming friendships and increasing confidence over the past year. New members are always warmly welcomed and quickly become part of the community, returning week after week.

In addition to creating referral and toiletry bags for our





# Craft Group (cont.)

clients, the group has crafted an array of high-quality items to sell at various fairs throughout the year. These include beautifully made sewing kits, double glasses cases, gift bag sets, bunting, bucket hats, cushions, bespoke handbags, Union Jack aprons, book bags for our free library, and drawstring bags for new mothers. The crowning achievement this year has been the creation of Santa sacks for our clients, crafted from festive material. Our talented crafters thrive on new projects and learning new skills, and it is a true privilege to witness their passion and dedication.

We are also fortunate to welcome corporate groups from time to time, offering them personalised sewing lessons. It's a joy to see complete beginners proudly display their large bags after just an hour or so of sewing. Their enthusiasm and sense of accomplishment are always evident in the smiles and photos that follow.

When the sewing group is not in session, we host adult and children's sewing classes. These are made possible thanks to the generosity of a few teachers who volunteer their time for the children's classes, and the support of Activate Learning, which provides teachers for the adult classes on a six-week rotation. Many participants from these classes go on to join our regular sewing group. The children's classes are always fully booked, with many of the same children returning each time.

Sustainability is at the heart of our charity's mission, and the sewing group is no exception. We work closely with another charity, Scrapstore, donating any fabric we cannot use. Additionally, we collect empty cotton reels, milk carton tops, cardboard inners, and other materials that Scrapstore's children's groups can repurpose into creative projects.

The fairs and markets play a vital role in our efforts, from producing the items for sale to volunteering weekends to run the stalls. Our "Pin the Tail on the Cow" game remains a favourite among children—and some adults—at these events, with every participant winning a prize. This beloved activity brings in a significant amount of money, and we are grateful for the community's continued support.

Our sewing group is a happy, welcoming, and positive community that many of our volunteers affectionately refer to as "Their Happy Place." We couldn't agree more.





# Fundraising Overview

The financial year from April 2023 to March 2024 has been truly remarkable for The Cowshed. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity, community spirit, and partnerships that have enabled us to continue supporting vulnerable individuals and families. Our heartfelt thanks go out to every donor, volunteer, and supporter for their unwavering commitment to our cause.

## Community and Corporate Support

This year, we've witnessed incredible support from businesses, schools, and individuals. Many hosted their own fundraising events, made donations, or contributed their time. The kindness shown by these groups has been inspiring, helping us to raise vital funds and increase awareness. Whether it was schools filling donation bins or companies like John Lewis and HPE hosting events, every contribution has made a real difference.

## The Cowshed's Own Fundraising and Community Events

In addition to the incredible external support, we organised a variety of fundraising and community-building events throughout the year. These activities not only raised vital funds but also strengthened our connections with the local community. Some of the highlights include:

- Jazz Event – Match-funded by Benevity
- Children's Sewing Workshops and Summer Craft Workshops
- Christmas Market and Wreath Making Events
- Little Black Dress (LBD) Sales
- Refugee Family Fun Days





# Fundraising Overview (cont.)

- Twilight Runway Challenge
- Various Craft Markets
- Extended Adult Sewing Classes, including evening sessions
- Ukraine Eurovision Event – Funded by lottery and local businesses
- Paid Corporate Days – Raising funds while engaging corporate groups in our work

These events not only generated essential funds but fostered a sense of belonging and community, drawing people together through shared creativity and purpose.

## Charity of the Year Partnerships

We were honoured to be selected as Charity of the Year by several organisations, which led to substantial donations that have been critical to our work:

- East Berkshire Golf Club (January 2023 – January 2024)
- Blandy & Blandy (June 2023 – June 2025)
- Caversham Bowling Club
- Syngenta (January 2023 – January 2024)
- Inner Wheel Club of Reading Maiden Erleigh (Summer 2023 – Summer 2024)

These partnerships have not only provided crucial funding but have also deepened the connections between our charity and the wider community.

## Grants and Pledges

In addition to these partnerships, we received several important grants and pledges that helped fund key projects, such as our “Welcome to the World” packs for new parents, and other initiatives that bring comfort and care to those in need.

## A Growing Network of Support

The relationships we’ve built with corporate partners have continued to blossom. These partnerships, such as those with HPE, Virgin Media, and Oracle, go beyond financial



support. They include invaluable contributions like volunteering and providing unique experiences for our clients.

## Christmas 2023

This year’s Christmas project saw unprecedented support, with over 80 companies, schools, and organisations participating in various ways, from donating gifts and monetary contributions to hosting Giving Trees and volunteering. The community’s enthusiasm and generosity were truly humbling.

## A Grateful Heart

At The Cowshed, we are endlessly grateful for the love, support, and dedication from everyone involved in our journey. Together, we have made a tangible difference in the lives of so many, and we look forward to continuing this important work in the year ahead. Thank you for being part of this incredible community.



# Feedback



I would like to thank the whole team for extending a helping hand to me and my children. I have recently separated from my husband and life as a single mum has become financially challenging. I work in the NHS and hold quite a high position in the hospital. No one would probably suspect that I am just making ends meet every payday. I am so embarrassed to ask for help as I feel that there are more people who are in a worse situation than me that are more entitled to the help. Panic started to set in when I realised that my son's going to secondary school in a couple of weeks' time, and I had not bought him anything yet as I am barely coping with the expenses. This is when I approached a local charity for help, and I was so grateful for them to direct me to Cowshed. Cowshed took my son's school needs. We were just shocked that a week after there was a knock on our door with all his brand-new school uniform and shoes. Tears were rolling down my cheeks as my son trialled his uniform and shoes — and seeing his face lit up with so much enthusiasm.

I could not thank Cowshed enough.  
Thank you for helping us.  
Thank you for not judging us.  
Thank you so much.”

*Client*



I wanted to email and say I am very thankful for the delivery you had given today was more than I had needed I was embarrassed to ask for help initially but with my undergarments being in pieces and one bra I couldn't bring myself to get these things for myself as I always needed to use the money for house utilities. And with my current issue of being in emergency accommodation in one box room my daughter was so happy to see puzzles and games and a teddy as all her things are in storage and has nothing to play with here. And she was so so happy with the wash set and lotions you have provided her, and she was over the moon about the books she loves to be read bedtime book but again because of circumstances I wasn't able. To be able to see joy on her face when she got these things plus the knickers and leggings it made me happy first time since we have been evicted, she had a genuine happiness and made me feel a less of a bad mum not being able to provide these basic things for her currently. So, I am very very thankful to you and cowshed it made me feel more of humane and with my health mentally and physically getting worse and slipping into a deep depression. This did make me feel better seeing happiness on my daughter's face.”

*Client*



# Feedback



Yesterday when I got home, my feet were wet from the broken soles of my old Chelsea boots. Then I found 3 massive bags of clothes and toiletries and new Chelsea boots! I very nearly cried. It was like Christmas. I am completely blown away by the amount of clothing and toiletries you've given to my son and I. Really the most amazing thing that's happened for us in ages. All the toys and extras that weren't on the list, I cannot express my gratitude enough! Thank you all again, you've made a real difference for us.

*Client*





# Feedback



Happy New Year to you all, I just wanted to say a massive thank you on behalf of Wheatfield School and our families. So many of our families were able to have a wonderful Christmas with the beautiful gifts that you provided some of our very vulnerable children. With the cost of living constantly rising and families struggling to make ends meet, the prospect of Christmas can be extremely daunting, especially when you have the added worry of providing gifts for children. Yet again you have all gone above and beyond in providing gifts that are age appropriate, wrapped and in beautiful handmade sacks. Our families were completely overwhelmed and so very grateful with your generosity. Many were very tearful at the wonderful gift of hope that you provided them with. So, on behalf of us all, a massive thank you for all of your generous and hardworking support. You really did make a huge difference to our families, and I am so thankful.

*Wheatfield School*



I just wanted to contact you to thank you SO much for your help and support and kindness that you've shown me and my family at this very difficult time.

My husband is in and out of hospital, and it's been a very difficult time for us all.

The Christmas hampers that you made for the children just amazed me, and they were ALL so happy with their gifts from Santa, I was so stressed out worrying about what I was going to do, I didn't want them to think they'd been naughty, and what you did for us was incredible. One day I hope I can repay you and help others the way you have helped us. Thank you so much for the bags you dropped off us, with much needed clothes and the toiletries that we desperately needed.

My husband has been in hospital, and came home yesterday, so I've had an evening of self-care for myself with all the wonderful haircare and skincare that you included for me, and I can't tell you how much I better I feel for it. Am trying not to cry again writing this email to you. God bless you all and the wonderful work that you do.

*Client*





Thank you for all your help with clothing and household items! This has been a great help for me as I have been struggling to make ends meet.

*Client*



I want to thank you for the huge and valuable stuff you delivered last week to me and my kids. My kids and me are very happy, they are enjoying playing with the toys and reading the books you gifted to them. All the clothes and the shoes fitted very well, we all loved them, they come in the right time. I want to thank you again and Steve who was very kind and patient. Thank you for the time you took to find for us the right stuff for the right people.

*Client*



I hope you are all doing well. This email is to give a feedback and to express my heart filled gratitude for the things (winter, beddings & Normal clothes, toiletries etc) sent to me and my children. They served us well and we so much appreciate this humanitarian gestures. We don't know how we could have coped. God bless you all that made this possible. Thank you and remain blessed.

*Client*



I just wanted to say thank you so much for the delivery we received today. It was far more than I expected and the thought that had been put into each bag was really touching. Even the extras like toys, books etc! I can't even explain the relief I feel knowing my boys will have warm enough clothes for winter.

*Client*

## Thank You

The Cowshed would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all those individuals, families, businesses and grant making bodies that have supported us this year. A special thank you to the Horseman Trust who have supported us since the beginning. Without the support they provide we would be unable to deliver the service we do.

We would also like to say a special thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who week after week support us sorting, washing and ironing donations as well as supporting our referral teams, driving our delivery vans and producing referral bags and many other items in our craft groups.



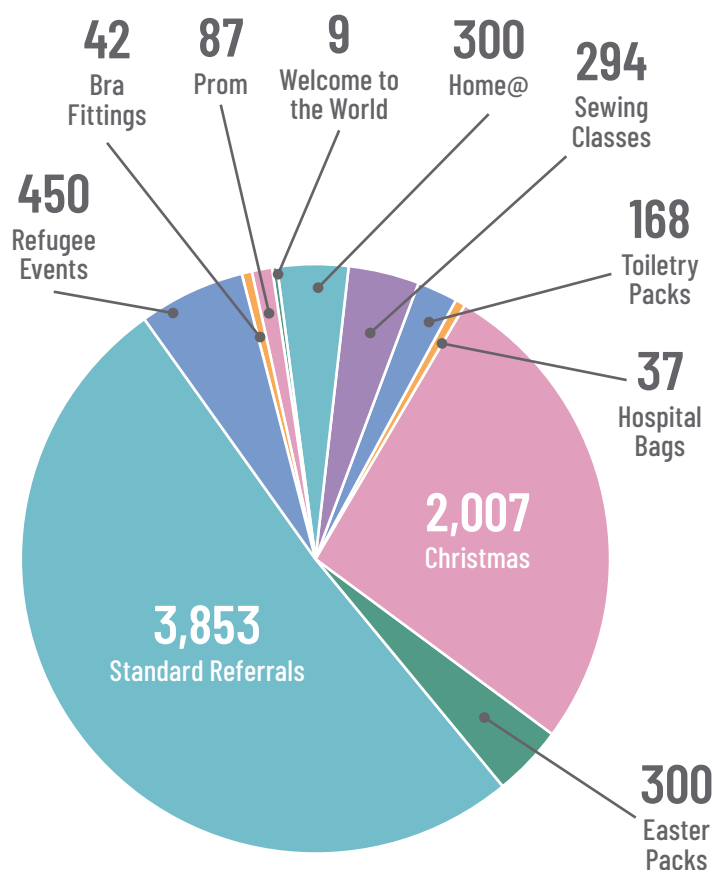






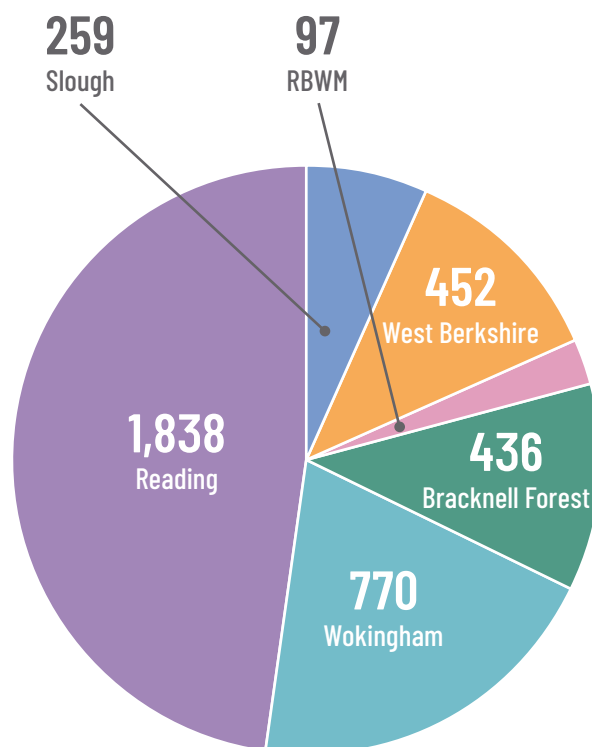
# Achievements and Performance

## PEOPLE HELPED BY PROJECT

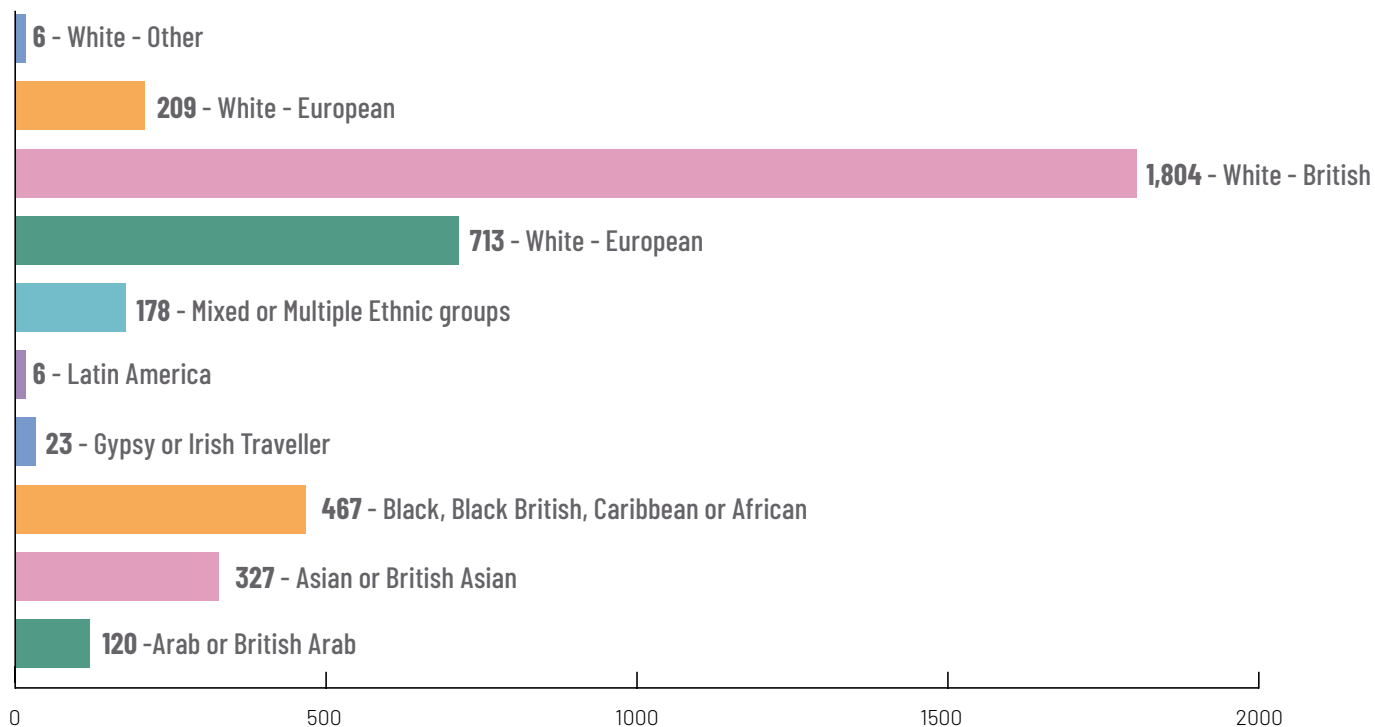


## REFERRALS BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

Number of Individuals by Unitary Authority



## MAIN REFERRALS BY ETHNICITY - NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS



# Financial Review – Independent Examiner’s Report

I report on the accounts of The Cowshed for the period from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 23 to 38.

## 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 year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- 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 given 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 you as 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 next statement.

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter 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 2011 Act and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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:



Name: Mrs Balvinder Kaur Dhillon

Date: 20th January 2025

Relevant professional qualification or body:

FCCA (Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants)

Address: 1 Harris Close, Woodley, Reading, RG5 4XH



# Accounts – Statement of Financial Activity 2023/24

Categories by Activity	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
<b>Incoming resources (Note 3)</b>	F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	250,768	326,726	-	577,494	418,838
Charitable activities	56,925	-	-	56,925	45,406
Other trading activities	58,001	-	-	58,001	61,182
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>365,694</b>	<b>326,726</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>692,420</b>	<b>525,426</b>

<b>Resources expended (Note 6)</b>					
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	30,656	-	-	30,656	25,761
Charitable activities	290,750	326,726	-	617,476	493,485
Separate material item of expense	850	-	-	850	1,775
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>322,256</b>	<b>326,726</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>648,982</b>	<b>521,021</b>

<b>Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)</b>	43,438	0	-	43,438	4,405
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	43,438	0	-	43,438	4,405
<b>Extraordinary items</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	43,438	0	-	43,438	4,405
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward	52,828	-	-	52,828	48,423
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>96,266</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>96,266</b>	<b>52,828</b>

# Accounts – Balance Sheet Financial Year 2023/24

Categories by Activity	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
<b>Fixed assets</b>	F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	47,482	-	-	47,482	51,415
Heritage assets	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>47,482</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,482</b>	<b>51,415</b>

Current assets					
Stocks (Note 18)	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	255	-	-	255	1,091
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	60,138	-	-	60,138	54,202
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>60,393</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,393</b>	<b>55,293</b>

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15,752	-	-	15,752	48,008
------------------------------------------------	--------	---	---	--------	--------

Net current assets/(liabilities)	44,641	-	-	44,641	7,285
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<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>92,123</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,123</b>	<b>58,700</b>
----------------------------------------------	---------------	----------	----------	---------------	---------------

Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	-	-	-

<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>	<b>92,123</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,123</b>	<b>58,700</b>
----------------------------------------	---------------	----------	----------	---------------	---------------

Funds of the Charity					
Endowment funds	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	-	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds	92,123	-	-	92,123	59,145
Revaluation reserve	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>92,123</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,123</b>	<b>59,145</b>



# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

### 1.1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting 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 2014
- and with the Charities Act 2011

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

### 1.2 GOING CONCERN

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

### 1.3 CHANGE OF ACCOUNTING POLICY

The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note [2].

### 1.4 CHANGES TO ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

### 1.5 MATERIAL PRIOR YEAR ERRORS

No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).



# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### 2.1 RECONCILIATION TO GAAP – Not Applicable

### 2.2 INCOME

*This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity except for those ticked "No" or "N/A". Where a different or additional policy has been adopted then this is detailed in the box below.*

#### Recognition of income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Yes No N/A

X		
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#### Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

Yes No N/A

X		
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#### Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP).

Yes No N/A

X		
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#### Government grants

The charity has received government grants in the reporting period

Yes No N/A

X		
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#### Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Yes No N/A

		X
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#### Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Yes No N/A

		X
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#### Support costs

The charity has incurred expenditure on support costs.

Yes No N/A

X		
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#### Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

## 2.3 EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

#### Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Yes No N/A

X		
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#### Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

Yes No N/A

X		
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## 2.4 ASSETS

#### Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least

£100

They are valued at cost.

The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 10.2.

Yes No N/A

X		
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# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 3. INCOME ANALYSIS

Analysis	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year £
<b>Donations and legacies:</b>					
Donations and gifts	66,499	37,363	-	103,862	44,828
Gift Aid	13,158	-	-	13,158	10,321
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
<b>General grants provided by government/ other charities</b>					
- General Activity	81,800			81,800	47,750
- Referrals Bedding		11,130		11,130	7,500
- Referrals Clothing		46,770		46,770	6,000
- Rent / Rates		40,697		40,697	18,727
- Salaries		102,167		102,167	84,534
- Utilities		22,833		22,833	5,467
- Xmas		3,000		3,000	19,244
- Other (including Ukraine)		55,366		55,366	91,260
Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	7,400	-	7,400	3,481
Donated goods, facilities and services		-	-	-	-
Fundraising Activities	86,311	-	-	86,311	79,725
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>250,678</b>	<b>326,726</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>577,494</b>	<b>418,838</b>

<b>Charitable activities:</b>					
Recycling	56,925	-	-	56,925	45,406
WUC Funding	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,925</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56,925</b>	<b>45,406</b>

# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 3. INCOME ANALYSIS CONT.

Analysis	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year £
<b>Other trading activities:</b>					
Craft Item Sales	37,315	-	-	37,315	35,037
Prom Sales	2,960	-	-	2,960	2,328
Courses	15,671	-	-	15,671	7,969
Help Us Grow Project	-	-	-	-	-
Other Revenue	2,055	-	-	2,055	15,748
Warm Winter Project	-	-	-	-	100
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,001</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,001</b>	<b>61,182</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>365,694</b>	<b>326,726</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>692,420</b>	<b>525,426</b>





# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 4. ANALYSIS OF RECEIPTS OF GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Description		This year £	Last year £
Government grant 1	Wokingham Borough Council Health and Activity Programme		1,000
Government grant 2	Wokingham Borough Council Winter Hardship Funding	3,000	-
Government grant 3	Bracknell Forest Council Hardship Funding	20,000	-
Government grant 4	Wokingham Borough Council - Ukraine Refugees		31,380
Government grant 5	Bracknell Forest Council - Ukraine Refugees	5,000	7,000
Government grant 6	Reading Council - Ukraine Refugees		10,000
Government grant 7	Reading Council - Cost of living support		10,000
Government grant 8	Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund - The National Lottery	70,000	
Government grant 9	West Berkshire Council Hardship Funding	8,000	-
Other		-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>106,000</b>	<b>59,380</b>

**Please provide details of any unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attaching to resources from donated goods and services not recognised in income.**

None

## 5. DONATED GOODS, FACILITIES AND SERVICES

**Please give details of other forms of other donated goods and services not recognised in the accounts, eg. contribution of unpaid volunteers.**

Unpaid volunteers contribute to the charity in a wide variety of roles which cannot be quantified.

The charity receives a significant amount of donations of goods which are donated free of charge as part of the core service. Due to the volume and variety of goods received and distributed, it is impractical to assess the value of these goods and therefore they are not included in these accounts.

# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 6. EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS

Analysis	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment Funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
<b>Expenditure on raising funds:</b>					
Incurred seeking donations	1,150	-	-	1,150	1,033
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants	-	-	-	-	-
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries	-	-	-	-	-
Staging fundraising events	21,166	-	-	21,166	16,725
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	-	-
Operating charity shops	-	-	-	-	-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	8,340	-	-	8,340	8,003
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future income	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs:	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditure on raising funds</b>	<b>30,656</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,656</b>	<b>25,761</b>



# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 6. EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS CONT.

Analysis	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endow-ment Funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities:</b>					
Salaries	92,564	102,167	-	194,731	156,871
Rent, Rates, Utilities	73,661	63,530	-	137,191	129,866
Purchases for referrals	8,367	84,325	-	92,962	24,106
Ukrainian refugees	5,387	8,000		13,387	49,000
Other refugee events	807	3,500		4,307	-
Set Up Costs	0	19,000	-	19,000	242
General Expenses	1,646	-	-	1,646	13,797
Other Costs	3,231	1,000	-	4,231	-
Arts and Craft Supplies	3,627		-	3,627	5,517
Children's Craft Project/classes	2,843	-	-	2,843	6,776
Christmas Sacks Project	33,331	34,689	-	68,020	67,749
Easter Hamper Project	3,876	-	-	3,876	-
Accountancy	3,994	-	-	3,994	5,801
Noah's Box Project (now called Home at the cowshed)	560	7,400	-	7,960	3,944
Building Materials and Maintenance	14,108		-	14,108	5,972
Vehicle Costs	4,631		-	4,631	3,855
Insurance Costs	5,450		-	5,450	6,554
IT Software, Subscriptions and Consumables	9,776	2,615	-	12,391	3,192
Staff Training	2,930	500	-	3,430	2,220
Depreciation Expense	19,690		-	19,690	7,840
Hygiene Bank	-		-	-	184
<b>Total expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>290,750</b>	<b>326,726</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>617,476</b>	<b>493,485</b>

Analysis	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endow-ment Funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
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<b>Separate material item of expense</b>					
Staff Welfare	850	-	-	850	1,775
<b>Total other expenditure</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>1,775</b>

<b>Other</b>					
-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total other expenditure</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>322,256</b>	<b>326,726</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>648,982</b>	<b>521,021</b>
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# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 10. FEES FOR EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS

	This year £	Last year £
Independent examiner's fees	0	0
Assurance services other than audit or independent examination	0	0
Tax advisory fees	0	0
Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	0	0

## 11. PAID EMPLOYEES

### 11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	212,353	170,969
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	2,378	1,902
Other employee benefits	-	-
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>214,731</b>	<b>172,871</b>

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Not applicable

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

True



# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

**Please provide the total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity**

40278

11.2. Average head count in the year

	This year number	Last year number
<b>Fundraising</b>	1	1
<b>Charitable Activities</b>	7	6
<b>Governance</b>	1	1
<b>Other</b>	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>

## 12. DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION SCHEME OR DEFINED BENEFIT SCHEME ACCOUNTED FOR AS A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

**Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense**

2377.80

**Please explain the basis for allocating the liability and expense of defined contribution pension scheme between activities and between restricted and unrestricted funds.**

The liability and expense of the defined contribution pension scheme is allocated to expenditure on charitable activities. Unrestricted funds are used except where a restricted fund was received for salary costs for a specific role.



# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

### 14.1. Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings £	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles £	Computer Equipment £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
At the beginning of the year	-	-	4,768	8,883	45,308	58,959
Additions	-	-	6,682	3,097	15,923	25,702
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-840	-513	-8,636	-9,989
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>At end of the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,610</b>	<b>11,467</b>	<b>52,594</b>	<b>74,671</b>

### 14.2 Depreciation and Impairments

<b>**Basis</b>	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL 5 Years	SL 3 Years	SL 10 Years	SL or RB
<b>** Rate</b>			5 Years	3 Years	10 Years	

*Straight Line ("SL") or Reducing Balance ("RB")*

At beginning of the year	-	-	2,216	3,840	7,993	14,048
Disposals	-	-	-504	-513	-5,532	-6,549
Depreciation	-	-	2,611	3,550	13,529	19,690
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>At end of the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,323</b>	<b>6,877</b>	<b>15,989</b>	<b>27,189</b>

### 14.3. Net Book Value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-	2,553	5,043	37,315	44,910
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-	6,287	4,590	36,605	47,482

## 19. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

19.1. Analysis of debtors	This year £	Last year £
<b>Trade debtors</b>	255.00	-
<b>Prepayments and accrued income</b>	-	1,090.90
<b>Other debtors</b>	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>255.00</b>	<b>1,090.90</b>



# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 20. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS

20.1. Analysis of creditors	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	2,658	1,861	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	5,000	38,114	-	-
Taxation and social security	4,273	3,504	-	-
Other creditors	3,821	4,528	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,752</b>	<b>48,008</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### 20.2 Deferred income

**Please explain the reasons why income is deferred.**

Income is deferred when we receive a grant in advance for expenditure over a specified period of time. The income is released when the expenditure has occurred.

Movement in deferred income account	This year £	Last year £
Balance at the start of the reporting period	38,114	-
Amounts added in current period	5,000	-
Amounts released to income from previous periods	-38,114	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>-</b>

## 24. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	This year £	Last year £
Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	-	-
Short term deposits	-	-
Cash at bank and on hand	54,647	23,794
Other	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,647</b>	<b>23,794</b>

# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 27. CHARITY FUNDS

27.1. Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

**Key:** PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendable endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EER or UR*	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expendi- ture £	Fund balances carried forward £
National Lottery Community Fund (carry over)	R	Rent and Rates		11,572	-11,572	-
	R	Salary		25,667	-25,667	-
	R	Utilities	-	1,833	-1,833	-
Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund - The National Lottery	R	Clothing for Referrals	-	6,000	-6,000	-
	R	Salary	-	31,000	-31,000	-
	R	Premises - rent/rates etc	-	16,500	-16,500	-
	R	Utilities	-	16,500	-16,500	-
Bracknell Forest Council	R	Ukraine Families	-	5,000	-5,000	-
Berkshire Community	R	Bedding for referrals	-	3,000	-3,000	-
Bracknell Forest Council	R	Bedding for referrals	-	6,630	-6,630	-
Cash for kids	R	Bedding for referrals	-	1,500	-1,500	-
Greenham Trust	R	Clothing for Referrals	-	2,000	-2,000	-
Berkshire Community	R	Clothing for Referrals	-	7,000	-7,000	-
Hedley Foundation	R	Refugees	-	3,500	-3,500	-
Postcode lottery	R	Clothing for Referrals	-	10,000	-10,000	-
Bracknell Forest Council	R	Clothing for Referrals	-	6,630	-6,630	-
National Lottery Main Grant	R	Rent and Rates	-	12,625	-12,625	-
	R	Salary	-	28,000	-28,000	-
	R	Utilities	-	2,000	-2,000	-
Bracknell Forest Council	R	Toiletries for referrals	-	3,000	-3,000	-
Anton Jurgen	R	Salary	-	2,500	-2,500	-
Postcode lottery	R	Salary	-	15,000	-15,000	-
Migrant Help	R	Utilities	-	2,500	-2,500	-
52 Lives Life	R	Xmas	-	1,000	-1,000	-
Wokingham United Charities	R	Xmas	-	2,000	-2,000	-
Cotswold Fayre	R	Home Boxes	-	1,800	-1,800	-
Abbie	R	Home Boxes	-	5,000	-5,000	-
Bracknell Forest Council	R	Home Boxes	-	600	-600	-
Cash for kids	R	School Uniform	-	3,250	-3,250	-
Bupa	R	School Uniform	-	5,000	-5,000	-
Bracknell Forest Council	R	School Uniform	-	2,950	-2,950	-
52 Lives Life	R	School Uniform	-	1,500	-1,500	-
St.James Place	R	CRM System	-	2,615	-2,615	-
Berkshire Masons	R	Maternity (welcome to world) packs	-	3,500	-3,500	-
Mobbs memorial trust	R	Irons	-	1,000	-1,000	-
Migrant Help	R	Bra Fitting training	-	500	-500	-
Migrant Help	R	Maternity bags	-	2,000	-2,000	-
The Clothwokers	R	Set up costs new building	-	19,000	-19,000	-



# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

West Berkshire Council	R	Prams/car seats	-	8,000	-8,000	
Englefield Trust	R	Referrals	-	1,000	-1,000	
Restricted Donations	R	Xmas	-	31,689	-31,689	
Restricted Donations	R	Other	-	5,674	-5,674	
Wokingham Town Council	R		-	1,000	-1,000	
<b>Other funds</b>	<b>UR</b>	<b>All other income and expenditure</b>	<b>59,145</b>	<b>365,694</b>	<b>-322,256</b>	<b>102,583</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>			<b>59,145</b>	<b>692,420</b>	<b>-648,982</b>	<b>102,583</b>

## CHARITY FUNDS PREVIOUS YEAR

27.2. Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

**Key:** PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendable endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EER or UR*	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expendi- ture £	Fund balances carried forward £
National Lottery Community Fund	R	Referrals Costs		49,730	-49,730	-
Ashley Family Foundation	R	Craft Coordinator		10,000	-10,000	-
BCF	R	Salary		10,000	-10,000	-
Wokingham Town Council	R	Salary		3,000	-3,000	-
52 Lives	R	Refugee Day		750	-750	-
Trinity Homeless Projects	R	Refugees		5,000	-5,000	-
St James Place	R			2,500	-2,500	-
WBC	R	Clothing for Ukraine		15,880	-15,880	-
Greenham Trust	R	Ukraine Packs		17,828	-17,828	-
Bracknell Forest	R	Ukraine Packs		7,000	-7,000	-
Reading	R	Ukraine Refugees		10,000	-10,000	-
Wokingham	R	HAF		1,000	-1,000	-
Reading	R	Rent and Rates		10,000	-10,000	-
Wokingham	R	Ukraine Families		15,500	-15,500	-
National Lottery	R	Eurovision Event		9,000	-9,000	-
52 Lives	R	Eurovision Event		1,000	-1,000	-
Winnersh PC	R	Clothing		500	-500	-
WUC	R	Bedding		5,000	-5,000	-
Greenham Trust	R	Bedding		2,500	-2,500	-
7 Stars Foundation	R	Clothing		1,000	-1,000	-
WUC	R	Clothing		5,000	-5,000	-
National Lottery Community Fund	R	Utilities		17,050	-17,050	-
Berkshire Community Foundation	R	Salary		10,000	-10,000	-
Berkshire Community Foundation	R	Utilities		2,500	-2,500	-
NFU	R	Xmas		2,244	-2,244	-
Prince Phillip Trust	R	Xmas		2,000	-2,000	-
WUC	R	Xmas		2,000	-2,000	-
Wokingham	R	Xmas		10,000	-10,000	-
Skipton Building Society	R	Xmas		3,000	-3,000	-
<b>Other funds</b>	<b>UR</b>	<b>All other income and expenditure</b>	<b>54,740</b>	<b>294,444</b>	<b>-290,039</b>	<b>59,145</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>			<b>54,740</b>	<b>525,426</b>	<b>-521,021</b>	<b>59,145</b>

# Notes to the Accounts Financial Year 2023/24

## 28. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

28.1 Trustee remuneration and benefits

**None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity (True or False)**

True

28.2 Trustees' expenses

**No trustee expenses have been incurred (True or False)**

True

28.3 Transaction(s) with related parties

**There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period (True or False)**

True

## Structure Governance and Management

The Cowshed is a Charitable Incorporated organisation and as such is governed in line with the Foundation Constitution. All trustees are voluntary and are appointed via a selection process and approval by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the constitution.

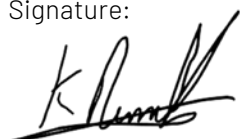
### DECLARATIONS

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Date: 15th January 2025

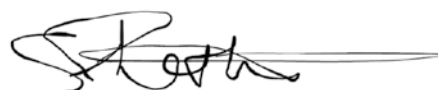
Signature:



Name: Kester John Russell

Position: Chair of Trustees

Signature:



Name: Sharon Ketley

Position: Trustee







**THE COWSHED**

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Visit our website and social media for more info on our other initiatives



Registered Charity No. 1181550