



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	01	08	2022		31	07	2023

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Escapeline

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1184475

Charity's principal address

PO Box 987

Taunton

Somerset

Postcode

TA1 9QB

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Lisa Morris	Chair		
2	Clare Stone	Treasurer		
3	Ann Shaw	Safeguarding Lead		
4	Kirsti Nelson	Education Lead		
5	Emma Lee	Partnerships Lead	Appointed 22/03/2023	
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20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	Albert Goodman LLP	Goodwood House, Blackbrook Park Avenue, Taunton, TA1 2PX
HR & Employment Law Consultant	Peninsula Business Services Ltd	The Peninsula, Victoria Place, Manchester, M4 4FB

## Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by agreement with CEO and Board of Trustees

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</li> <li>• the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;</li> <li>• relationship with any related parties;</li> <li>• trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</li> </ul>	<p>Escapeline has the following policies in place, reviewed annually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding Policy</li> <li>Code of Conduct</li> <li>Complaints Policy</li> <li>Confidentiality Policy</li> <li>Data Protection Policy</li> <li>GDPR Policy</li> <li>Lone Working Policy</li> <li>Safer Recruitment Policy</li> <li>Risk Register</li> <li>Social Networking Policy</li> <li>Whistleblowing Policy</li> <li>Health &amp; Safety Policy</li> <li>Volunteering Policy</li> <li>Anti-Bullying Policy</li> <li>Reserves Policy</li> <li>Environmental Policy</li> <li>Allegations Policy</li> <li>Cancellation Policy</li> <li>Driving with young person Policy</li> <li>Equality and Diversity Policy</li> <li>Mobile Phone Policy</li> </ul>
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## Section C Objectives and activities

**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

To promote for the benefit of the public in Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon and Cornwall, in partnership with the police, the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, criminal acts. 2. To relieve the needs of young people and children who have been exploited by criminal gangs in Somerset and the surrounding counties, in particularly but not exclusively, by the provision of counselling, education and pastoral support

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

Escapeline takes a holistic approach working not only with young people (10-18 years), but also their families and carers, professionals working with young people and the larger community, to increase awareness of county lines and teach protective strategies.

We offer the following services:

Escapeline provides education and support programmes to children and young people, aged 10-18 years, raising awareness of child exploitation and grooming, teaching them what to look out for and protective strategies.

Targeted support to vulnerable young people (small group or 1 to 1) identified as being groomed, or at risk of exploitation, by county line gangs, to assist them to break the cycle and move away from a path of crime and drugs. We also offer a follow on service, enabling young people to become peer mentors.

We provide training to professionals in education, health, social care and the police on child exploitation by county line gangs.

Escapeline offers parents awareness workshops and 1-1 support on county lines and child exploitation, and how to keep their own children safe.

We also strengthen community knowledge of, and responses to, child exploitation by running awareness-raising campaigns, working closely with services and providing online resources.

We have a 1-1 telephone advice support service and a face-to-face support group for parents of young people who find themselves at risk of exploitation. The service provides confidential, independent and non-judgmental support.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

Escapeline works closely with a number of volunteers who assist with our parent support programme, overseen by our CEO.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

Major achievements in our 4<sup>th</sup> year include:

- We held our first Child Exploitation Conference in Bournemouth in December 2022 focussing on awareness and education with real life stories. It was opened by the Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner and our guest speakers included professionals, and those with lived experience. It was attended by professionals from all over the UK and was a great success and we received really positive feedback.
- During the BBC Children in Need in appeal in 2022 our CEO and Youth Mentor were invited to take part in a BBC radio interview. They spoke about the services and support we provide to young people and how our funding from Children in Need has helped us to prevent child exploitation by increasing awareness and education as well as supporting those impacted by child exploitation in the South West.
- Escapeline was nominated for a national safeguarding award as a result of the research project we carried out in partnership with Bath University, highlighting the importance of education and peer mentoring.
- We put lived experience at the heart of what we do and were proud of our Youth Mentor being interviewed for BBC Radio 4 in which he shared his personal story.
- Our CEO is now a member of the Anti Slavery Board in Somerset and attends regular meetings with the police, local authority and other agencies.
- Our parent support services have continued to grow, including an in-person parent support group which has proved vital in helping parents who are impacted by child exploitation. We have received really positive feedback about how powerful this support has been to them.
- We were proud to have an article published in the British Social Work Journal in 2023, sharing young people's voices and details of the research project we completed with Bath University.
- We launched a new website in the Summer of 2023 with funding from SCF and supported and subsidised by local web-design company Dextrous Designs Ltd.
- One of our Social Worker staff members has now qualified as a counsellor and we have launched a new counselling service, predominantly for parents, and some young people, to support their recovery from the impact and trauma of child exploitation.
- Our Youth Mentor completed and passed his Counselling and Therapy techniques course.
- Our Youth Mentor completed the 3 peaks challenge, vlogging on TikTok during the three days, to increase awareness of County Lines and to educate the general public, as well as raising vital funds for Escapeline.

- We secured new multi-year funding to ensure our services can continue to be delivered and we have expanded our services into new areas of Dorset, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire, as well as continuing our work in Somerset and Dorset.

During the period 1/8/22 – 31/7/23, Escapeline provided the following:

- 16,784 children and young people received county lines awareness training including 1-1 support and small group work
- 570 parents/carers received support and advice
- 2,400 parents received our resource pack
- 1,278 professionals received training on county lines and child criminal exploitation
- 54 shops and businesses in our local communities received awareness training
- 10 local parks were visited where we engaged with and educated 64 parents and 45 young people

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The Board has considered the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the risks to the organisation and has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed should equate to six months of our fixed overhead expenditure.

On that basis, our reserves target at 31st July 2023 was £49,870

The actual level of unrestricted reserves at 31st July 2023 stood at £34,058

The Board aims to continue to build reserves through planned operating surpluses as activities allow, together with careful budgeting and promotion of fundraising activities. Where reserves held are greater than six months overhead expenditure, the charity will seek to use the difference as match funding for projects with which it is involved.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees to ensure it reflects any changing requirements of the charity.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit****Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our principal sources of funds are:

Fee income from training and workshops

Donations from the public

Fundraising events

Grants during the year from the following:

BBC Children In Need

Somerset Community Foundation

Tesco Community Grants via Groundwork UK

The Weavers Company Benevolent Fund

Somerset West and Taunton Council

Dorset Community Foundation

Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner

The High Sheriff of Somerset

The High Sheriff of Dorset

Nani Huyu Charitable Trust

Garfield Weston Foundation

National Lottery Community Fund

Forrester Family Trust

Hunts Food Group via SCF

Cooper Associates Foundation

Postcode Local Trust

Expenditure of these funds has enabled us to carry out our Education Programme, provide Parent Support Services, Training to Professionals and Detached Youth Work. This has increased the awareness of the risk of child exploitation by county line gangs in the South West. It has enabled professionals to identify children who are being groomed so that interventions can be made to support them in escaping potential exploitation. We have successfully engaged with young people who were being drawn in to county line gangs so that we can support them to move away from county line gangs and pursue their education. We have supported a number of parents and carers whose children were being groomed and exploited, and supported their local communities in working together to combat county line gangs.

A number of grants received during the year ended 31st July 2023 had not yet been spent but are fully allocated to be spent to meet specific costs in the subsequent financial year.

**Section F****Other optional information**

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**Section G****Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	C Stone	L Morris
Full name(s)	Clare Stone	Lisa Morris
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	Chair
Date	09/11/2023	



## **Escapeline**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees  
For the Year Ended 31 July 2023



### **Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Escapeline**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for Escapeline ("the charity") for the year ended 31 July 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not comply with these records

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

**Michelle Ferris BSc(Hons) FCA DChA**

Albert Goodman LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Goodwood House  
Blackbrook Park Avenue  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 2PX

Date: 13 November 2023



## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period  
from

01-Aug-22

To

31-Jul-23

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Conference and Events	3,103	-	-	3,103	
Donations Received	17,211	-	-	17,211	10,493
Fund Generation- Fund Raising	6,159	-	-	6,159	656
Gift Aid Received	620	-	-	620	80
Grants	15,000	116,534	-	131,534	86,240
Services	15,760	-	-	15,760	11,108
Donations Received- Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	320
Bank Interest Received	207	-	-	207	2
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>58,060</b>	<b>116,534</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174,594</b>	<b>108,899</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>58,060</b>	<b>116,534</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174,594</b>	<b>108,899</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Car Hire	-	-	-	-	285
Fund Raising Expenses	-	-	-	-	237
Electricity	-	-	-	-	81
Conference and Event costs	2,200	-	-	2,200	-
Fundraising Costs	1,779	-	-	1,779	-
Project Expenditure	237	2,704	-	2,941	1,104
Volunteers expenses	453	-	-	453	169
Wages Expense	5,632	74,279	-	79,911	62,614
Accountancy Fees	1,320	-	-	1,320	1,230
Bank Charges	172	-	-	172	109
Computer and Software	2,513	862	-	3,375	2,453
Employers NI	(292)	-	-	292	504
Employers Pensions	1,431	-	-	1,431	647
Funding administration, management & evaluation	4,841	4,248	-	9,089	-
Insurance	879	180	-	1,059	1,022
Mileage Claims	3,894	6,475	-	10,369	3,842
Office Stationery	76	-	-	76	137
Postage and Carriage	445	-	-	445	1,095
Professional Fees	4,586	3,055	-	1,532	1,705
Room Hire & Rent	132	-	-	132	1,283
Staff Training	584	2,024	-	2,608	1,460
Subsistence	500	-	-	500	635
Telephone and Internet	318	255	-	573	691
Travel & Accommodation	253	104	-	357	1,245
Website and filming costs	3,940	-	-	3,940	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>35,893</b>	<b>88,077</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>123,969</b>	<b>82,548</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>35,893</b>	<b>88,077</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>123,969</b>	<b>82,548</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>22,167</b>	<b>28,457</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,625</b>	<b>26,351</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>12,564</b>	<b>- 12,564</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>9,308</b>	<b>62,380</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>71,688</b>	<b>45,337</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>44,039</b>	<b>78,273</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>122,313</b>	<b>71,688</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current Account	44,039	78,273	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>44,039</b>	<b>78,273</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Debtors	450	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Accruals - website costs	Unrestricted	2500	
	PAYE Liability	Unrestricted	1046	
	Payroll Control Account	Unrestricted	388	
	Pension Fund	Unrestricted	340	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	L Morris	Lisa Morris	09/11/2023	
	C Stone	Clare Stone	09/11/2023	