

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Collective Voice CIO**

Grant Harrod Lerman Davis LLP
Chartered Accountants
Second Floor, Kirkland House
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HA1 2AX

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for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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Collective Voice CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Collective Voice's object as stated in our constitution is to advance, promote and influence effective care, public involvement and support for people affected by drug and alcohol misuse. To increase drug and alcohol treatment.

Our vision is of a thriving treatment and recovery field - and voluntary sector - enabling anyone in England to access evidence-based and person-centred support.

Public benefit

Problematic relationships with drugs and alcohol are a chronic health condition for huge numbers of people. Costs related to the harms of drug use in England are tens of billions of pounds, not to mention the enormous personal, social, and economic costs of addiction to individuals, families and communities. Drug related deaths are at an all-time high and addiction rooted as it is in poverty, trauma and social exclusion often occurs alongside other social issues such as unemployment, mental ill health, homelessness and contact with the criminal justice system.

Treatment and recovery hold transformative power for people with drug or alcohol problems - and their families and communities.

Collective Voice supports the treatment and recovery field by:

Advocating for evidence-based and person-centred treatment and recovery systems, influencing policy and championing the role of the voluntary sector.

Building the field by informing, connecting, and supporting innovation.

Strengthening the fields collective voice by renewing our governance, diversifying the work of the alliance, and leading through collaboration.

Collective Voice CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

2024-25 was the final year of our three-year strategy for 2022-25. We made the following progress towards our strategic goals:

Progress towards our strategic goals during 2024-25:

1. Advocate for evidence-based and person-centred treatment and recovery systems

- We continued to build our relationships with influencers and decision makers and facilitate conversations to ensure the knowledge and expertise of treatment and recovery charities was utilised in the development of policy and practice:
- We gave evidence to a series of Government, Parliamentary and Independent reviews and inquiries, including

- o HM Treasury consultation on Autumn 2024 Budget
- o Independent Sentencing Review
- o Consultation on the Government's 10-year Health Plan
- o Justice Select Committee Inquiry on Rehabilitation and resettlement: ending the cycle of reoffending - including oral evidence session in Parliament
- o Justice Select Committee Inquiry on Tackling drugs in prisons
- o Independent Review of Courts
- o HM Treasury consultation on Spending Review

- We published a specific set of proposals for the new Government to improve women's access to and experience of treatment.
- We participated in a roundtable on the future of the Drugs Strategy hosted by the Permanent Secretary of the Home Office.
- We hosted an event on the future of the drugs strategy at the Labour Party Conference, featuring leading decision-makers including Police and Crime Commissioners.
- We continued to facilitate extensive engagement between the Department of Health and Social Care (as well as other Government departments) and the field on the implementation of the Drugs Strategy.
- We worked closely with the Ministry of Justice, His Majesty's Prison & Probation Service, and the Department of Health and Social Care on the SDS-40 early release from prison scheme, to ensure people leaving prison were able to access timely support and medication on release.
- We have worked closely with the Home Office and retailers to reduce shoplifting by ensuring people are engaged in treatment, where substance use is a factor behind their offending.
- We highlighted specific challenges to relevant Ministers and officials, such as the timing of funding announcements, to reduce the risks late announcements pose to the sector and its workforce.
- We continued to comment on policy developments, such as the Darzi Review, increased employer National Insurance contributions, and emerging research and evidence, including the latest shocking statistics on deaths related to the use of alcohol and other drugs.
- We continued to contribute to the London Drug Forum, facilitated by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

We regularly used our communications channels including our newsletter, blog and social media, as well as the channels of others - including blogs and podcasts - to keep the field informed about policy developments and to champion and promote its work.

2. Build the field

Through the forums we convene and our collaborative projects, we supported the field to share practice, develop collective knowledge and benefit from peer support:

- We continued to develop the thematic groups attended by sponsor organisations into a more comprehensive, with the opportunity for the wider sector to attend and participate. More information about the forums can be found on our website: <https://www.collectivevoice.org.uk/our-work/forums/>
- We have established six-monthly forums between the Department of Health and Social Care and senior leaders in our member organisations to ensure the aims of the sector workforce strategy published by NHSE are effectively taken forward.

Collective Voice CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

- We supported the Addiction Healthcare Goals project, convening a workshop to discuss how to improve research careers in the addiction field.
- We participated in a workshop on managing emerging synthetic opioids, hosted by the Government's Synthetic Opioids Taskforce.
- Our Executive Director was a panellist in a webinar hosted by the Department of Health and Social Care on partnership working and commissioning: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dXSP6GIro>;
- We have continued to support the Anti-Stigma Network
- We joined Agenda Alliance, which brings together over 100 member organisations - from large, national bodies to smaller, specialist organisations - to influence public policy and practice to respond appropriately to women and girls with multiple, complex unmet needs.
- We supported the establishment of Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) as an independent charity, with our new Executive Director sitting on the Board of Trustees

3. Strengthen our collective voice

Our new strategy laid a solid foundation for strengthening our collective voice, and we have continued to work to improve our communication and coordination, for example being quoted in the Daily Mail in response to the latest statistics on smoking and substance use amongst children and young people.

We have welcomed more members to our forums, particularly across charities primarily operating in Wales, and those providing residential treatment.

We have worked closely with other relevant partner organisations where appropriate, for example sending joint letters alongside organisations including the Association of Directors of Public Health, National Council of Voluntary Organisations, English Substance Use Commissioners Group, NHS Addictions Provider Alliance.

Following the departure of our Chief Executive and the death of our Chair of Trustees, 2024-25 saw the appointment of a new Executive Director and Chair of Trustees, ensuring the organisation now has clear, stable and resilient leadership structures. We also welcomed a new policy and engagement officer, with the post having been vacant for over 12 months.

We have continued to develop and update our risk register to ensure that the board is able to discharge its governance duties by understanding the main risks to the charity and its risk appetite and making sure there are controls to manage these risks.

OUR WORK FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

This year has been one of transition, after our first independent Chair of Trustees, Lea Milligan, died suddenly in April 2024, and our chief executive officer left the organisation in the same month.

Thanks to the excellent leadership of Clare Ashton as Interim Chair, alongside Vicki Beere as interim Deputy Chair, the organisation was able to successfully navigate the period prior to the appointment of the new Executive Director, Will Haydock. The Board then worked together under Clare's leadership to recruit a new, permanent, Chair of Trustees, and we have been delighted to welcome Rosanna O'Connor, who brings with her a wealth of leadership experience across Government and the voluntary sector.

Over the course of 2025-26, we plan to develop a new, flexible strategy that will bring greater structure and clarity to our work, while allowing us to respond to emerging issues and opportunities. This will specifically include the recruitment of new trustees and refreshing our approach to how we embed the perspective of lived and living experience in our governance and ways of working.

Over the course of the year, there will inevitably be a focus on future funding for the sector, through the Spending Review and Autumn Budget, and so we will continue to advocate for a long-term funding settlement both nationally and at a local level. We will also look to concentrate our efforts on how we can continue to improve practice across the field, building connections and sharing promising practice.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

As a Charitably Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Collective Voice is bound by its governing document, its constitution.

Collective Voice CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

History

Collective Voice was founded in 2015 by treatment and recovery charities in England with a shared purpose to advocate for treatment and recovery at a time of austerity and a lack of political leadership.

In its first chapter as an unconstituted partnership we focused on a small set of priorities, guided by senior leaders of the founding organisations.

In its second, Collective Voice became constituted as a charity and those leaders were appointed as Trustees. In 2021, an Independent Chair was appointed.

Now in our third chapter, our founding organisations act as sponsors for us and we have appointed additional independent trustees. We continue to provide a voice for the field, to utilise its knowledge and expertise to critique and champion the drug and alcohol treatment and recovery system, and to support learning and collaboration across it.

Organisational structure

Collective Voice is governed by a board of trustees, who ensure our work is carried out in line with our charitable objects, as well as supporting the strategic direction of the organisation. Our board contains both leaders from our founding and sponsoring organisations, through whose collective leadership we were originally established and who continue to support the organisation financially, and independent trustees including our Chair.

The executive is composed of two staff members: one chief executive officer and one policy and engagement officer. The chief executive officer is responsible for the day-to-day leadership of the organisation, working with the board to develop our strategy and approach and leading activity to implement it. The policy and engagement officer supports the chief executive officer in the day-to-day work and writes policy and communications materials, manages good practice projects, and engages with the field through groups and forums.

Risk management

The Board includes a number of senior leaders from the drug and alcohol treatment and recovery field who are highly experienced in leadership, strategy, operational risk and navigating complex policy landscapes. We have a formally nominated Vice-Chair to deputise for the Chair and support the Chief Executive as appropriate. One Trustee in 2023-24 was a qualified accountant.

Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for identifying and managing the risks to which the charity is exposed. Quarterly reviews of the risk register ensure that the trustees are well informed to arrive at a set of parameters and decisions for the amount of risk they consider to be acceptable.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1184750

Principal address

27 Swinton Street
London
WC1X 9NW

Trustees

Ms C Ashton (Interim chair to March 2025)
Mrs Y Batiwala
P Townsley
L R Milligan (Deceased; Chair to April 2024)
Ms V Beere (Interim Vice-Chair to March 2025)
C Dixon
G Henderson
Ms N Adamson
Ms B Phipps
Ms R G O'Connor (appointed chair from March 2025) (appointed 3.3.2025)

Collective Voice CIO

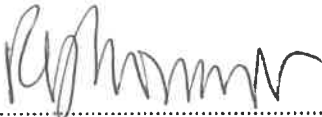
**Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Jeremy Harrod FCCA
Grant Harrod Lerman Davis LLP
Chartered Accountants
Second Floor, Kirkland House
11-15 Peterborough Road
Harrow
Middlesex
HA1 2AX

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 Nov 25 and signed on its behalf by:



Ms R G O'Connor - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Collective Voice CIO**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Collective Voice CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Collective Voice CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Jeremy Harrod FCCA

Grant Harrod Lerman Davis LLP
Chartered Accountants
Second Floor, Kirkland House
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Middlesex
HA1 2AX

Date:27/11/25.....

Collective Voice CIO

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

		2025 Unrestricted fund £	2024 Total funds £
	Notes		
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		143,900	118,000
Investment income	2	280	277
Total		<u>144,180</u>	<u>118,277</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities		<u>98,998</u>	<u>118,279</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		45,182	(2)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		80,744	80,746
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>125,926</u></u>	<u><u>80,744</u></u>


The notes form part of these financial statements

Collective Voice CIO

Balance Sheet 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted fund £	2024 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		131,694	127,812
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(5,768)	(47,068)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>125,926</u>	<u>80,744</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		125,926	80,744
NET ASSETS		<u>125,926</u>	<u>80,744</u>
FUNDS	6		
Unrestricted funds		<u>125,926</u>	<u>80,744</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>125,926</u>	<u>80,744</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22.10.25 and were signed on its behalf by:



R G O'Connor - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Collective Voice CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	280	277

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Collective Voice CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	118,000
Investment income	277
Total	<u>118,277</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Charitable activities	<u>118,279</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(2)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	80,746
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>80,744</u>

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Taxation and social security	2,510	1,852
Other creditors	3,258	45,216
	<u>5,768</u>	<u>47,068</u>

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	80,744	45,182	125,926
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>80,744</u>	<u>45,182</u>	<u>125,926</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	144,180	(98,998)	45,182
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>144,180</u>	<u>(98,998)</u>	<u>45,182</u>

Collective Voice CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 March 2025

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	80,746	(2)	80,744
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>80,746</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>80,744</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	118,277	(118,279)	(2)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>118,277</u>	<u>(118,279)</u>	<u>(2)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	80,746	45,180	125,926
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>80,746</u>	<u>45,180</u>	<u>125,926</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	262,457	(217,277)	45,180
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>262,457</u>	<u>(217,277)</u>	<u>45,180</u>

Collective Voice CIO

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

8. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS FEE

During the period, the independent examiners fee was £1,440.