

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1185078

## Details

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**Other names** AAFDA LTD

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [09527065](#)

**Registered** 2019-08-29

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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Swindon  
SN1 5NS

**Phone** 07887488464

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**Website** [www.aafda.org.uk](http://www.aafda.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS (OBJECTS) ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING:4.1 TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF PERSONS WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM BEREAVEMENT, TRAUMA OR LOSS, WHETHER ARISING FROM DOMESTIC ABUSE OR OTHERWISE, IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION, ADVICE, SUPPORT, BEFRIENDING AND ADVOCACY;4.2 TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE LIFE BY:4.2.1 ADVANCING EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC IN ISSUES RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE INCLUDING ITS NATURE, IMPACT, CAUSES, REMEDIES AND PREVENTION; AND4.2.2 ADVISING AND ASSISTING PERSONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOMICIDE REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES INTO VIOLENT AND UNEXPECTED FATALITIES AND SERIOUS INJURIES AND OTHER ABUSE.4.3 TO PROMOTE SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS THE DIRECTORS SHALL FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE.

**Activities:** Support & advocacy for families by provision of information & providing advocates throughout the criminal justice process & statutory reviews arising as a resulting of domestic abuseWorking with organisations to improve guidelines, processes & practises. Provides education & training in all aspects of

Domestic Homicide Reviews, preventing domestic abuse & working with those bereaved by homicide.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,137,477	£1,061,744	£598,593	25
2024-03-31	£976,763	£888,153	£522,860	22
2023-03-31	£967,973	£864,482	£434,250	21
2022-04-05	£706,425	£637,774	£201,899	13
2021-04-05	£0	£0	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>James David Neil O'Sullivan</b>	Chair	2016-10-05
Angelique Nicole Arnold		2025-04-14
Eleni Anastasiadou		2025-08-19
John Lenihan		2023-04-28
Rebecca Anne Perryman		2025-08-19
Rekha Chawala		2024-02-09

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185078

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# Accounts

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**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Charity Registration No 1185078**

**Company registration number 09527065**

**"YOU ARE THE VOICE OF THE DEAD PERSON, AND YOU HAVE A HUGE RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THEIR STORY IS RECORDED CORRECTLY. HOW CAN WE LEARN FROM THE PAST IF IT IS NOT REPRESENTED ACCURATELY?"**

**- FRANK MULLANE MBE, CEO AAFDA**

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

<b>Trustees</b>	Mr J O'Sullivan	
	Mr J Lenihan	
	Ms J Drown	(Resigned 23 May 2025)
	Mrs R Chawala	
	Ms R A Perryman	(Appointed 19 August 2025)
	Ms E Anastasiadou	(Appointed 19 August 2025)
	Ms R J Brooks	(Appointed 14 April 2025)
Ms A N Arnold	(Appointed 14 April 2025)	
<b>Senior management</b>	Mr Frank Mullane	CEO
	Mrs Nicola Norman	DCEO
<b>Country of incorporation</b>	United Kingdom (England and Wales)	09527065
<b>Charity registration</b>	England and Wales	1185078
<b>Registered office</b>	30 Commercial Road Swindon Wiltshire SN1 5NS	
<b>Auditor</b>	David Owen & Co 17 The Market Place Devizes Wiltshire SN10 1HT	

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

Including Directors' Report

To Year Ending 31 March 2025

## Foreword from the Chief Executive

2024/25 was another very busy year for AAFDA, where we saw an unprecedented demand for our Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) training, supported many more bereaved families, further built our network and increasingly addressed the issue of domestic abuse related suicide. AAFDA has also been working consistently to provide support across the academic, voluntary and statutory sectors to develop and improve responses to fatal domestic abuse.

As CEO, I started 24/25 by speaking at the Institute for Addressing Strangulation conference in April, where I shared learning from over 1200 Domestic Homicide Reviews. In May, for Mental Health Awareness week, we highlighted our work with families who had been bereaved by domestic abuse related suicide. We continued our awareness-raising work later in the year with '16 Days of Activism' in November and December challenging damaging myths and narratives about domestic homicide.

We have also spoken this year at some impactful events including the Open University Police Education one-day conference about the understanding of domestic abuse in the criminal justice system, and the Wearside Women in Need conference, '*Domestic Homicide Reviews: Exploring the role of friends, families and communities*'.

This year we have strengthened our role within the violence against women and girls' sector (VAWG) by becoming a part of the End Violence Against Women coalition, which we joined in June 2024. June was also the month we had to open a waiting list for our DHR training for 25/26, as the application process – which opened in April – was by then oversubscribed. We added a new course to our training portfolio, '*The Child's Voice in DHRs*', to ensure that children's voices are not sidelined or forgotten in the process. And, as CEO, I joined an international collaboration to improve support for children bereaved due to family violence.

When we look back at a year where domestic homicides were in every newspaper and on every news programme following the murders of Carol, Hannah and Louise Hunt, an important public conversation has been started. We hope this will alert more people to realise they have a role to play in reducing the prevalence of domestic abuse, domestic homicide and suicide related domestic abuse, and the importance of awareness-raising, and specialist training and education.

We are proud of the positive impact our work has had this year, and while there is much more to do, we would like to take this time to thank everyone who has worked with us and supported us during 24/25. A big thank you to the incredible AAFDA team, including our paid staff, volunteers and board members, and to our funders and supporters.

Frank Mullane MBE  
Chief Executive, AAFDA



## About AAFDA

### AAFDA's Vision

A future free of domestic violence.

### AAFDA's Mission

We advocate, educate and influence to ensure victims' voices are heard, driving change.

### About AAFDA

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA) was founded by Frank Mullane MBE in 2008, in memory of his sister and nephew, Julia and Will Pemberton, whose murders in 2003 prompted an inquiry exposing the difficulties families face in these circumstances. Known as the Pemberton Homicide Review, the inquiry was the first of its kind, exposing a deeply inadequate response to domestic abuse victims. The emotionally exhausting, arduous, and costly process gave Frank the resolve to ensure no-one else faced the same barriers to access justice. He then helped to establish Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), which became law in 2011. Frank was awarded an MBE in 2019 for his work supporting families bereaved by domestic homicide.

AAFDA is also a Centre of Excellence for reviews into domestic homicides, suicides and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse. We are particularly skilled in DHR methodology and best practice, having been closely involved in developing the model with the Home Office since 2008, three years before they became law. Using our specialist knowledge and collective insights, we provide for the needs of families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse and help agencies to refine their services for victims suffering domestic abuse and to review domestic abuse related deaths more effectively. We provide a unique national voice for the learning that each DHR generates. While no two cases are the same, we believe that each DHR is an opportunity to end domestic abuse.



CEO Frank Mullane with the Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands, Simon Foster



**Loukia Michael, Fundraising and Business Development Manager, with Minister Jess Phillips MP**

Support families after fatal domestic abuse, listening, informing, advising, guiding, enabling and advocating.

Advance education of the public as regards domestic abuse.

### Aims of AAFDA

Improve the standards and impact of reviews into fatal domestic abuse and serious injuries.

Other charitable purposes as the Trustees determine, for example helping agencies improve prevention services.



## Our work with families impacted by fatal domestic abuse

### Advocacy

AAFDA's specialist and expert advocates are at the heart of the charity. They have lived experience and understanding of the issues faced. Our advocates provide specialist and expert advocacy and peer support, working with the family to secure their right to an adequate investigation and equal treatment within the post-fatal domestic abuse process. They challenge disadvantage, raise the status of the victim in the case narrative, and ensure that the family is integral within post-homicide reviews. AAFDA's trauma-informed service, providing long-term advocacy, goes 'above and beyond' to restore dignity and relief for families. An example from this year is when our team supporting a family convinced a coroner to go from an inquest 'in writing' to a two-day inquest, which transformed the process for the family.

### Case study – the difference that AAFDA makes

*A client of AAFDA's was being subjected to ongoing post-separation abuse. We referred the client to MARAC in May 2024 following her disclosure of abuse. However, following this we continued to have significant concerns regarding the client's risk, which we felt was not being appropriately understood or addressed by agencies. We co-ordinated an urgent professionals' meeting involving senior police officers and the local domestic abuse service, to discuss the risks, co-ordinate an effective multiagency response to mitigating these risks, and promote wrap around support for the client. The professionals' meeting resulted in agreeing actions for agencies, including the police, to follow up particular concerns.*

AAFDA continues to be the **only** national provider of specialist and expert advocacy and peer support to people bereaved by suicide and unexplained death where there was a history of domestic abuse.

In 2024/25 we received 108 new referrals, 67 of which went on to become full cases, taking the total receiving active advocacy support to 332 family members impacted by fatal domestic abuse.

### AAFDA referrals in 2024/25

Case Types	Ongoing/existing	New referrals becoming full cases*	Total
Homicide	99	25	124
Suicide	124	31	155
Unexplained death	39	10	49
Parole	3	1	4
Total	265	67	332

\*Many more required a less intense response.

## Peer support

AAFDA's drop-in peer support sessions (facilitated online by AAFDA team members) continued throughout 2024/25 to provide a safe space to enable families impacted by fatal domestic abuse to connect and share ways to cope with their loss. These sessions also enable families who wish to remain in touch with AAFDA to do so once their advocacy support ends.

In June 2024, AAFDA held a residential weekend for families bereaved by domestic abuse. The event was held in Devon and hosted 10 families. The weekend included craft sessions and a collaborative art workshop on the Saturday afternoon, and a candle lighting and safe sharing space in the evening. Creative workshops continued on the Sunday, followed by live music in the afternoon.

## Children

Throughout 2024/25 AAFDA continued to develop its specialist children's service and raised awareness of children's voices in the DHR process. In January 2025, the CEO attended an international event in France to collaborate on improving support for children bereaved due to family violence. AAFDA is an ongoing partner in this enterprise.



## Working With Professionals

Alongside our direct advocacy with agencies and professionals to strengthen responses to individual cases, AAFDA delivers a wide range of training and professional development activities aimed at improving practice nationally. We also invest in continuous professional development for our own staff to ensure high-quality, trauma-informed support for families and professionals.

We collaborated with the research team behind "Learning Legacies: An Analysis of Domestic Homicide Reviews in Cases of Domestic Abuse Suicide". The team behind the report launched a series of practical resources to help professionals to better understand the link between domestic abuse and suicide, and to improve the response to suicide after domestic abuse.

With a range of partners and led by Wearside Women in Need, AAFDA continued to support the 'We Findaway' project, facilitating a reference group of family members who are experts by experience. The project has launched a critically needed support service for family and friends concerned that someone they care about may be experiencing domestic abuse.

## The Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Network

The DHR Network continued to grow during 2024/25, reaching over **250 members** from across the professional landscape, including Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), Independent Chairs, and those involved in commissioning, managing, or contributing to Domestic Homicide Reviews.

### Aims of the DHR Network

The network is designed to:

- Promote consistently high standards across Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- Provide tools, resources, and a supportive community for key professionals.
- Offer regular opportunities for learning, collaboration, and sharing best practice.

### Member Benefits

Members were able to access:

- Regular learning and networking sessions, featuring expert speakers and specialist topics.
- An online space for peer support and access to information
- DHR alerts to connect them with Community Safety Partnerships needing to commission a Chair.

Events covered a wide range of practice-enhancing topics, including:

- Scope of a DHR Panel to make recommendations
- Supporting children and young people following fatal domestic abuse
- Review of the Network and briefing on new training
- Revised statutory guidance consultation from the Home Office
- Update on the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office oversight mechanism pilots
- Introduction to the Safe and Together model
- Voice of the child – insights from a Child Safeguarding Practice Review
- Beyond the Streets: understanding survival sex
- Paloma – introducing a bespoke information management database for DHRs
- Consultation on the scope and limitations of the Register of Chairs
- Abuse in the military.

## Training and Professional Development

AAFDA delivered both bespoke training and CPD-accredited national courses, including:

- Being an Effective Panel Member
- Abuse in the Military
- Managing a Domestic Homicide Review
- Voice of the Child
- Newly launched courses: Writing an Effective Management Review and SMART Action Planning

## Reach and Impact

- 282 professionals received AAFDA's national accredited or bespoke training (including the persons referred to in the Home Office–Funded Chair Training section below).
- A further 185 delegates benefited from locally commissioned training tailored to local need.

## Home Office–Funded Chair Training

AAFDA was selected as the national provider for the Home Office-funded DHR Chair training programme. This enabled us to develop and deliver a new qualification: Certificate in Chairing a Domestic Homicide Review (Level 3). During the first year, 158 new and existing Chairs completed the training.

Feedback has been consistently positive, with some areas achieving 100% satisfaction rates.

A learner gave this feedback: *“The course has significantly deepened my understanding of the Domestic Homicide Review process and the complexities involved in identifying and responding to domestic abuse. I now feel better equipped to approach cases with a more trauma-informed and child-centred lens and to contribute more confidently to multi-agency discussions.”*

## Family Speakers

The involvement of families in training continues to be one of the most powerful and valued elements of our offer. Feedback shows that hearing from family speakers strengthens professional understanding, empathy, and commitment to best practice.

## Feedback

- *“To the family speakers, I was humbled at the strength, passion, and determination you have in making a difference... Sharing your loved one with us will be central to our approach to DHRs.”*
- *“Listening to [redacted name] and [redacted name] will stay with me forever... I will keep their experiences central to my role.”*
- *“You’ve shown how pain can be transformed into power and are making the world safer for us all.”*
- *“The voices of families were a critical reminder of the importance of integrity and values in the delivery of DHRs... They inspired me to be the best Chair I can be.”*



## Our national influence

AAFDA has continued to provide strong leadership in building the knowledge base about domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse, the needs of those impacted by it and best practice responses. Working closely with sector partners, AAFDA is a trusted expert voice and is proud to represent the voices of bereaved families at national level.

We are grateful for the unwavering support of Minister Jess Phillips MP, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Safeguarding and Violence Against Women and Girls, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales, Dame Nicole Jacobs, and the late Baroness Helen Newlove, Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales during 24/25, who sadly passed away during the writing of this report.

AAFDA has continued to support the Institute for Addressing Strangulation and SafeLives to deliver sessions and training to professionals on the Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS) offence which enable professionals to recognise when the offence has occurred and/or where the life or health of a victim of NFS may be at risk.

We have been in regular contact with the network of Police and Crime Commissioners and have attended conferences and events to increase the visibility of AAFDA to our key stakeholders.

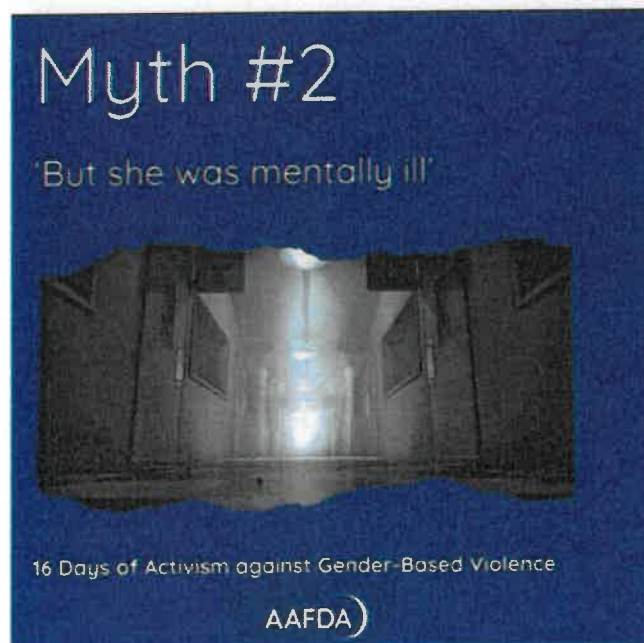
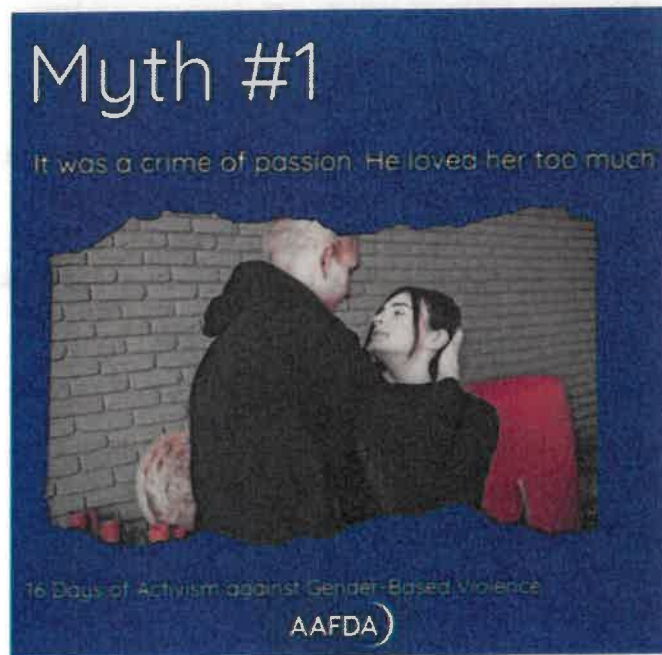


Frank Mullane and Emily Spurrell – Chair of the Association of PCCs (APCC)

We have also this year worked with the ITV programme Loose Women to raise the profile and understanding of domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse, by supporting their awareness campaign, Facing it Together. Several of our family spokespeople went on the programme to share their experiences as part of the campaign.



We have worked to raise awareness of key issues throughout the year, running the below Myths campaign during 16 Days of Activism to dispel harmful myths about domestic homicide:





## Our funders

In 2024–2025, we continued to strengthen and diversify our income streams, ensuring the sustainability of our specialist support for families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse. Alongside continued funding from the Home Office and Police & Crime Commissioners, we were grateful to receive generous grants from a range of charitable trusts and foundations, including:

- The Henry Smith Charity
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Clifford Chance Foundation
- The Masonic Charitable Foundation
- The Worshipful Company of Security Professionals Charitable Trust
- The Lawson Trust
- The Another Way Women's Foundation
- The Sir James Reckitt Charity
- John Ellerman Foundation
- Awards for All
- Yorkshire Building Society

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all these funders for their commitment to our mission and their belief in the importance of our work.

We are also deeply grateful to the many individual donors, businesses, churches, and community groups whose generosity enables us to reach and support more families each year. Every contribution—large or small—helps us continue to provide advocacy, peer support, and hope to those affected by fatal domestic abuse.

A special thank you goes to Chiyvonne Shennan, who raised an incredible £1,435 by running the Manchester Half Marathon in support of AAFDA.

AAFDA extends its heartfelt thanks to all the trusts, foundations, and supporters who have made our work in 2024–2025 possible.



Chiyvonne Shennan, who raised £1,435 by running the Manchester Half Marathon in support of our work at AAFDA.

AAFDA is extremely grateful to the following trusts and foundations for their support of our work in 2024/25:



WILTSHIRE FREEMASONS



John Ellerman  
Foundation



The  
Henry Smith  
Charity

founded in 1628



CLIFFORD  
CHANCE





## Good governance and management

During 2024/2025, our Board consisted of five trustees with a range of complementary expertise and experience.

Our Board meets, at minimum, on a quarterly basis. The Chair has regular and frequent contact with the CEO. During Board meetings the CEO and Deputy CEO report on the main aspects of the charity (work with beneficiaries, impact on victims, emerging issues, finance, strategic plan, operational performance, and risk).

The Board is very aware of its responsibilities to identify and manage risk. A risk management register is reviewed regularly by the CEO who highlights to the Board any increased or new risks identified.

The Board complies with statutory obligations to submit Full Year Accounts, a Trustees' Annual Report, and an Annual Return to the Charity Commission.

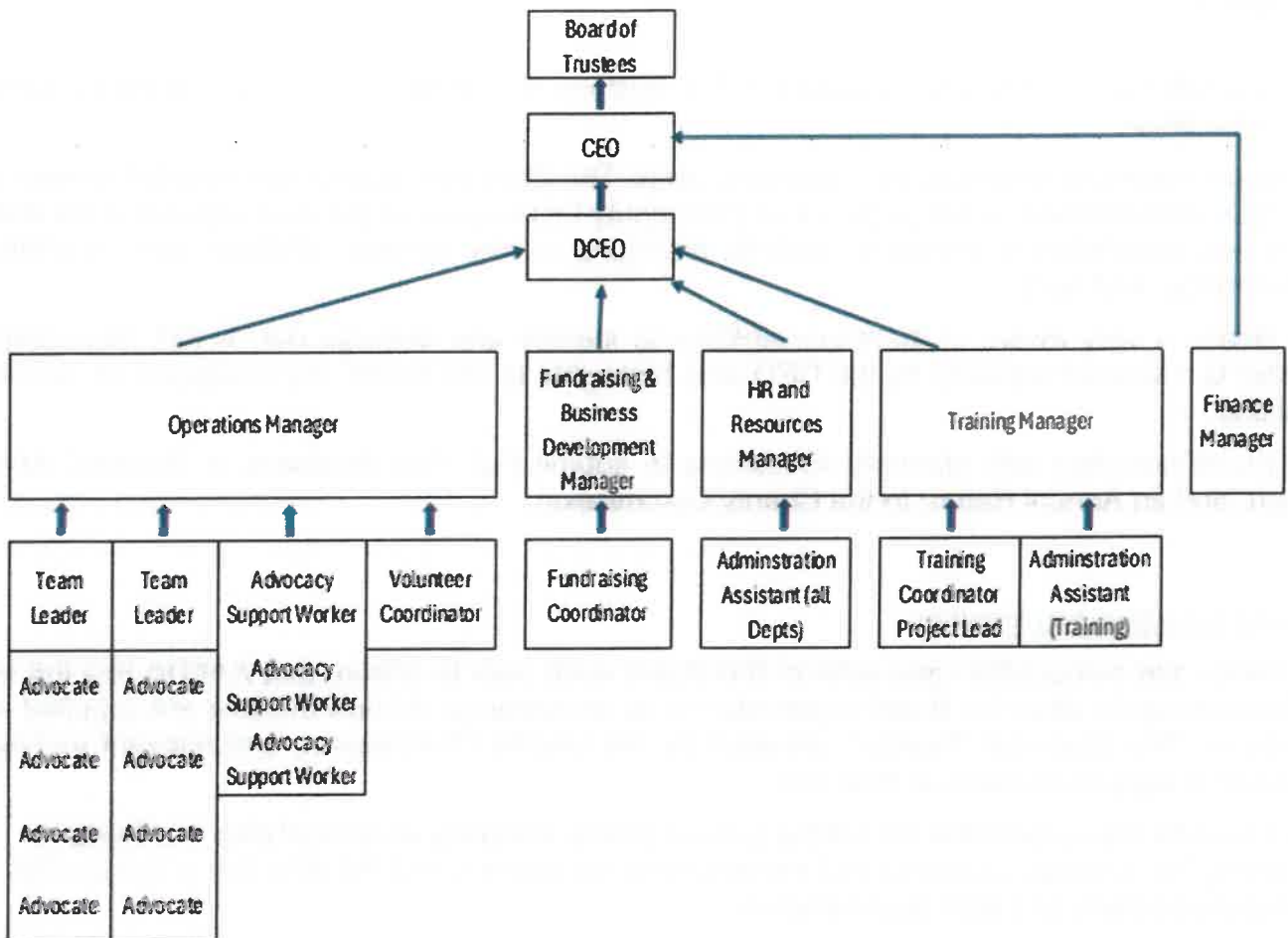
### Trustee induction and training:

We review the composition and skills of the Board each year to ensure that AAFDA has the skills and knowledge to allow the Board to provide robust governance. All new trustees are supplied with a copy of *"The Essential Trustee"*, provided by the Charity Commission, and relevant training is provided to support trustees in their role.

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, approving the statutory accounts and making major decisions about the direction of the charity, capital expenditure and staff appointments.

The Board of Trustees have devolved responsibility for the day-to-day management to the Chief Executive, who is supported by a management team.

AAFDA's team structure:



## Charitable objects

The charity's objects (objects) are specifically restricted to the following:

4.1 To relieve the needs of persons who are suffering from bereavement, trauma or loss, whether arising from domestic abuse or otherwise, in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of information, advice, support, befriending and advocacy;

4.2 To protect and preserve life by:

4.2.1 Advancing education and raising awareness of the public in issues

relating to domestic abuse including its nature, impact, causes, remedies and prevention; and

4.2.2 Advising and assisting persons in connection with the homicide reviews

and inquiries into violent and unexpected fatalities and serious injuries and

other abuse.

4.3 To promote such other charitable purposes as the directors shall from time to time determine.

## Aims

**We work to the following pillars which encompass our aims: Advocate, Educate and Influence –**

**ADVOCATE - We aim to offer specialist advocacy, practical and emotional help , and peer support for families, to help them cope and recover after fatal domestic abuse.**

**EDUCATE – We aim to train people to chair Domestic Homicide Reviews. We train professionals to review fatal domestic abuse with the objective of reducing fatal domestic abuse and domestic abuse.**

**INFLUENCE – We aim to challenge local and national policy and offer change to the law.**

**We measure the level of engagement we have, in terms of the number of people we educate and the numbers of bereaved families we support,**

**We identify areas within the law that are not working for bereaved families and offer expertise.**

**We develop trusted relationships with members of Parliament and commissioners so we are able to represent families when key decisions about policy and practice are made.**

**We risk assess our charity offer and record mitigations, which are regularly reviewed by the Board.**

**Our strategy is to offer support now while being an active part of building a future where fatal domestic abuse is understood and where professionals respond in an appropriate and trauma-informed way. We work to raise awareness and with domestic abuse sector partners with the ultimate long-term goal of achieving our vision, a future free of domestic violence. In summary, we do the vital direct work with families now while also investing in building a better future. We work to reach more families year-on-year.**

**As part of our work to reach more families, during 24/25, we identified a priority for the next financial year. This was to organise a conference focused on families bereaved by suicide following domestic abuse (or unexplained death). This was in response to our work on recognising the high levels of these deaths and providing support services for the bereaved families.**

## Achievements and performance

Throughout all strands of our work, we utilise a range of performance management and monitoring tools to ensure the proper management of our work, to understand the impact we are having, and with a view to continual improvement. We collect data on referrals received, qualitative and quantitative information on work undertaken with clients, and we undertake surveys with service users and professionals we support or train.

In 2024/25:

- We strengthened and diversified our income streams. We ended the year in surplus (see attached financial information). This enables us to strengthen reserves putting them at the higher end of the range, three to six months of operating costs, as specified by the Board.
- Our cashflow is sufficient to meet forecast monthly outgoings.
- Following our direct work supporting families, we identified a need to convene a conference for families affected by suicide following domestic abuse.
- We are building our social media presence and are going to be tracking performance from 2025 onwards, so we can monitor growth and identify opportunities to grow our audience.

## Future plans

The trustees will be working with the CEO on a new strategy in 25/26, that will be focused on sustainability of current work and steadily building the charity so that more families can be reached. The trustees are aware of the challenging funding environment the charity is operating in, which is affecting many charities, and are prioritising stability for a service that is relied upon by so many bereaved families.

## Fundraising Standards and Compliance Statement

The Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that AAFDA meets the highest standards of ethical, legal and professional fundraising practice. We are committed to raising funds in a way that reflects our values, protects the families we support, and maintains public trust in our charity.

## Ethical Fundraising Commitment

AAFDA exists to achieve its charitable purposes and to deliver our mission: providing specialist, trauma-informed advocacy and support to families bereaved through fatal domestic abuse. Fundraising is essential to sustaining this work, and we undertake it with integrity, transparency and care.

We are voluntarily registered with the **Fundraising Regulator** and fully uphold its **Fundraising Promise**, committing to fundraising that is legal, open, honest and respectful. Our internal **Fundraising Policy** sets out the ethical and professional standards expected of all staff, volunteers and Trustees, who each share responsibility for understanding and implementing these standards.

AAFDA respects the rights of all supporters. We provide clear, accurate information about our work and how donations are used, and we handle all personal data responsibly and securely. We do not engage in cold-calling by telephone or door-to-door fundraising, and we do not share personal data with third parties for marketing or fundraising purposes. We never pressurise anyone to donate and take particular care not to seek donations from people who may be vulnerable.

AAFDA will not solicit or accept financial support from individuals or organisations whose activities could undermine our mission, values or reputation, or cause detriment to our beneficiaries.

### Regulatory Compliance

AAFDA is registered with and committed to the standards set by the Fundraising Regulator. We follow the **Code of Fundraising Practice**, which outlines the legal and ethical responsibilities for all fundraising carried out in the UK.

During the financial year, the Board confirms that AAFDA:

- **Complied with the Code of Fundraising Practice**, including requirements relating to transparency, solicitation statements, data protection, and responsible fundraising methods.
- **Ensured that all fundraising communications were open, honest and respectful**, in line with the Fundraising Regulator's expectations.
- **Protected supporter privacy and personal data** in accordance with the UK GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018, and AAFDA's data-handling policies.
- **Treated vulnerable people with care, dignity and sensitivity**, in alignment with the Fundraising Regulator's guidance on supporting people in vulnerable circumstances.
- **Maintained a clear and accessible complaints process**. During the year, we received no fundraising-related complaints; any concerns raised were handled promptly and in accordance with our complaints policy.
- **Provided Trustees, staff and volunteers with relevant training**, including updates on regulation, safeguarding, ethical fundraising practice and sector guidance.

### Trustee Assurance

The Board is satisfied that AAFDA's fundraising activities are responsible, transparent and fully compliant with all relevant regulation. We remain committed to continuous improvement and will continue to review our policies, oversight mechanisms and training to ensure that our fundraising supports our mission and upholds the trust placed in us by families, partners and supporters.

### Finance:

AAFDA has seen its income for 2024/25 significantly increase to £1,137,477. The major reasons for this increase have been the result of an increased grant from the Home Office and the award of the Home Office contract for the training of Domestic Homicide Review Chairs. This revenue has enabled us to ensure a period of stability for our employees and to invest, in line with the restricted nature of the grants, in more support for families.

In addition, the Charity has seen an uplift in costs consistent with an organisation growing in size. Inbetween appointing a new Finance Manager and the previous one leaving, there was a need for short term Finance Manager help from an agency. This explains the increase in Legal and Professional costs year on year. More funds have been expended in developing the Charity's infrastructure and systems, increasing our efficiency and sustainability whilst ensuring our staff are supported to case manage in psychologically safe environments.

As AAFDA grows, the Trustees are allocating more resources to ensure good governance, improved internal controls and compliance with regulations.

### Reserves Policy:

To ensure the long-term success and sustainability of AAFDA amidst a very uncertain funding and operating environment, the Trustees aim to maintain free reserves (which exclude restricted grants) equivalent to between three to six months of budgeted operating costs. These free reserves include designated funds which are set aside for specific projects decided by the Board. Free reserves of £459,843, at the year-end were just over five months of that year's operating costs and four and a half months of forecast operating costs for 2025/26.

### Public Benefit Statement:

The Trustees understand it is their duty in exercising their powers to meet the obligations as outlined by the Charity Commission. For example, these responsibilities include being clear that the activities undertaken by AAFDA are for the public benefit and meet the objectives outlined in the Charity's Articles of Association.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 18 December 2025.



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**James O'Sullivan**  
Chair

# **ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025***

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The trustees, who are also the directors of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

#### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detection irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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- The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities, and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks.
- We enquired of the trustees, reviewed correspondence and reviewed trustees meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the trustees have in place to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- We critically reviewed judgements and provisions included within the financial statements and examined the associated cut-off issues.
- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and tested to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



David Owen & Co, Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants  
17 The Market Place  
Devizes  
Wiltshire  
SN10 1HT  
22 December 2025

David Owen & Co is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general		Unrestricted funds Designated		Restricted funds		Unrestricted funds general		Unrestricted funds Designated		Restricted funds		Total	
		2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2024	£	2024	£	2024	£
<b>Income from:</b>															
Donations and legacies	3	10,278		-		899,655		909,933		62,020		803,702		865,722	
Charitable activities	4	210,768		-		-		210,768		99,791		-		99,791	
Investments	5	16,776		-		-		16,776		11,250		-		11,250	
<b>Total income</b>		<b>237,822</b>		<b>-</b>		<b>899,655</b>		<b>1,137,477</b>		<b>173,061</b>		<b>803,702</b>		<b>976,763</b>	
<b>Expenditure on:</b>															
Raising funds	6	96,094		-		-		96,094		48,533		-		48,533	
Charitable activities	7	79,745		-		885,905		965,650		35,918		803,702		839,620	
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>175,839</b>		<b>-</b>		<b>885,905</b>		<b>1,061,744</b>		<b>84,451</b>		<b>803,702</b>		<b>888,153</b>	
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<b>61,983</b>		<b>-</b>		<b>13,750</b>		<b>75,733</b>		<b>88,610</b>		<b>-</b>		<b>88,610</b>	
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>															
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		347,860		50,000		125,000		522,860		259,250		50,000		434,250	
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2025</b>		<b>409,843</b>		<b>50,000</b>		<b>138,750</b>		<b>598,593</b>		<b>347,860</b>		<b>50,000</b>		<b>522,860</b>	

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		3,033		7,912
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	247,578		124,585	
Cash at bank and in hand		486,955		449,812	
		<u>734,533</u>		<u>574,397</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<u>(138,973)</u>		<u>(59,449)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>595,560</u>		<u>514,948</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>598,593</u>		<u>522,860</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	17		138,750		125,000
Unrestricted funds - general	19		409,843		347,860
Unrestricted funds - Designated	18		50,000		50,000
			<u>598,593</u>		<u>522,860</u>

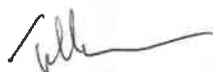
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 18 December 2025



Mr J O'Sullivan  
Trustee

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	22		20,367		(9,567)
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Investment income received		16,776		11,250	
<b>Net cash generated from investing activities</b>			16,776		11,250
<b>Net cash generated from financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			37,143		1,683
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			449,812		448,129
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			486,955		449,812

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 30 Commercial Road, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 5NS.

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computers	3 years straight line
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The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	6,878	-	6,878	7,020	-	7,020
Grants receivable for core activities	3,400	899,655	903,055	55,000	803,702	858,702
	<u>10,278</u>	<u>899,655</u>	<u>909,933</u>	<u>62,020</u>	<u>803,702</u>	<u>865,722</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Grants receivable for core activities</b>						
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	223,571	223,571	-	225,882	225,882
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	170,250	170,250	-	151,417	151,417
Wearside Women in Need	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	-	-	55,000	-	55,000
Home Office Perpetrator	-	-	-	-	32,626	32,626
Home Office	-	350,000	350,000	-	250,000	250,000
John Ellerman Foundation	-	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	40,000
Henry Smith	-	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	60,000
Masonic Charitable Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Other	3,400	25,834	29,234	-	33,777	33,777
	<u>3,400</u>	<u>899,655</u>	<u>903,055</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>803,702</u>	<u>858,702</u>

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
<b>Training and Influencing</b>		
Speaking, consultancy and training fees	210,768	99,791
	<u>210,768</u>	<u>99,791</u>

### 5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Bank Interest	16,776	11,250
	<u>16,776</u>	<u>11,250</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### 6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	19,422	3,825
Staff costs	76,672	44,708
	<u>96,094</u>	<u>48,533</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Advocacy Training and and peer influencing support		Total	Advocacy Training and and peer influencing support		Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Direct costs</b>						
Staff costs	623,649	49,270	672,919	552,754	38,367	591,121
Travel expenses	25,349	994	26,343	18,718	1,146	19,864
Domestic homicide review network	-	-	-	-	15,575	15,575
Project partner costs	-	696	696	-	2,960	2,960
Support materials	-	-	-	1,096	-	1,096
Equipment renewal	17,079	-	17,079	16,167	-	16,167
Peer support workshops & events	16,590	-	16,590	-	-	-
Supervision and staff welfare	13,929	1,591	15,520	16,415	-	16,415
Training and recruitment	2,628	-	2,628	2,286	-	2,286
Monitoring and evaluation (includes staff costs of £16,793)	3,000	-	3,000	20,268	-	20,268
Strategic review and capacity development	-	5,650	5,650	-	1,022	1,022
External training and event costs	-	51,909	51,909	-	26,312	26,312
Annual conference	736	-	736	-	-	-
Other charitable expenditure	14,228	-	14,228	5,338	-	5,338
	<u>717,188</u>	<u>110,110</u>	<u>827,298</u>	<u>633,042</u>	<u>85,382</u>	<u>718,424</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)</b>						
Support	112,301	8,854	121,155	97,019	7,302	104,321
Governance	15,463	1,734	17,197	15,694	1,181	16,875
	<u>844,952</u>	<u>120,698</u>	<u>965,650</u>	<u>745,755</u>	<u>93,865</u>	<u>839,620</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>						
Unrestricted funds - general	-	79,745	79,745	-	35,918	35,918
Restricted funds	844,952	40,953	885,905	745,755	57,947	803,702
	<u>844,952</u>	<u>120,698</u>	<u>965,650</u>	<u>745,755</u>	<u>93,865</u>	<u>839,620</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Support costs allocated to activities	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	47,116	53,847
Depreciation	4,879	4,879
Travel costs	1,134	1,055
IT systems and website	7,619	6,270
Telephone and postage	5,389	5,781
Security	1,698	1,871
Office supplies and utilities	4,546	2,374
Insurance	6,834	5,634
HR Services	5,959	8,347
Legal and professional	25,778	2,673
Supervision and staff welfare	2,415	870
Training and recruitment	1,165	4,108
Other costs	6,623	6,612
Governance costs	17,197	16,875
	<u>138,352</u>	<u>121,196</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Advocacy and peer support	127,764	112,713
Training and influencing	10,588	8,483
	<u>138,352</u>	<u>121,196</u>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Governance costs comprise:</b>		
Audit fees	6,800	-
Accountancy	8,524	8,840
Board Governance	1,873	8,035
	<u>17,197</u>	<u>16,875</u>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>9 Net movement in funds</b>		
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,800	-
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	4,879	4,879
	<u>6,800</u>	<u>4,879</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 10 Trustees

During the year, the charity did not reimburse any expenses incurred by the trustees (2024: one of the trustees was reimbursed £321).

During the year to 31 March 2024, the charity purchased services from one of the trustees totalling £4,800, in adherence to the rules of the Charity Commission.

#### 11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Fundraising	2	2
Charitable activities	18	19
Administration	5	1
Total	<u>25</u>	<u>22</u>

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	697,114	615,064
Social security costs	60,176	53,435
Other pension costs	21,621	18,926
	<u>778,911</u>	<u>687,425</u>

In addition termination payments totalling £17,796 (2024; £19,444 ) were made in the reporting period. The termination payments were payable when employment was terminated before the normal retirement date or end of employment contract due to re-structuring.

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£60,001 to £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

#### Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate compensation	<u>108,444</u>	<u>123,893</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Computers £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2024	14,638
At 31 March 2025	14,638
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>	
At 1 April 2024	6,726
Depreciation charged in the year	4,879
At 31 March 2025	11,605
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2025	3,033
At 31 March 2024	7,912

#### 14 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	181,632	80,298
Prepayments and accrued income	65,946	44,287
	247,578	124,585

#### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Notes		
Other taxation and social security	-	12,967
Deferred income	50,033	14,878
Trade creditors	20,354	530
Other creditors	-	4,226
Accruals	68,586	26,848
	138,973	59,449

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 16 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>Defined contribution schemes</b>		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	21,621	18,926

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

#### 17 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	223,571	(223,571)	-
The National Lottery	125,000	163,583	(163,583)	125,000
Home Office	-	350,000	(350,000)	-
Wearside Women in Need	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	6,667	(6,667)	-
Henry Smith	-	60,000	(60,000)	-
John Ellerman	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Masonic Charitable Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Clifford Chance	-	5,834	(5,834)	-
Another Way Women's Foundation	-	10,000	(5,416)	4,584
Sir J Reckitt	-	5,000	(417)	4,583
The Lawson trust	-	5,000	(417)	4,583
	<u>125,000</u>	<u>899,655</u>	<u>(885,905)</u>	<u>138,750</u>

#### Previous year:

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	225,882	(225,882)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	125,000	151,417	(151,417)	125,000
Wearside Women in Need	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Home Office Perpetrator	-	32,626	(32,626)	-
Home Office	-	250,000	(250,000)	-
Henry Smith	-	60,000	(60,000)	-
John Ellerman	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Clifford Chance	-	5,387	(5,387)	-
Other grants	-	28,390	(28,390)	-
	<u>125,000</u>	<u>803,702</u>	<u>(803,702)</u>	<u>125,000</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 17 Restricted funds

(Continued)

The aims of the restricted funds were as follows:

Police and Crime Commissioners – towards the provision of specialist and expert advocacy for families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse

The National Lottery Community Fund – towards the 'Specialist Support for Bereaved Families' and 'Peer Support' programmes

Wearside Women in Need – To fund the costs of senior management time providing advice to the 'findaway' project helping families of those suffering domestic abuse. The grant also covers the costs of paying bereaved families to attend meetings at which they give advice.

Home Office - to deliver the grant purpose of providing specialist advocacy and support for families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse.

Henry Smith – towards practical and emotional support to families bereaved by domestic homicide across England and Wales.

John Ellerman Foundation- towards work focussing on advocating for victims of fatal domestic abuse and their families and friends.

Masonic Charitable foundation - specialist children's support and advocacy.

Clifford Chance - give access to education to those needing support and advocacy.

Another Way Women's Foundation - The funding is towards costs of one full time advocate who would support 25-30 clients over the course of a year.

Sir J Reckitt - provide specialist advocacy and support.

The Lawson Trust - Support for families who have been bereaved by fatal domestic abuse.

### 18 Unrestricted funds - Designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 April 2024 £	At 31 March 2025 £
Designated fund	50,000	50,000
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2023 £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024 £</b>
Designated fund	50,000	50,000
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>

The Charity maintains a designated fund to facilitate its capacity building projects.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 19 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	347,860	237,822	(175,839)	409,843
	<u>347,860</u>	<u>237,822</u>	<u>(175,839)</u>	<u>409,843</u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2023 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024 £</b>
General funds	259,250	173,061	(84,451)	347,860
	<u>259,250</u>	<u>173,061</u>	<u>(84,451)</u>	<u>347,860</u>

#### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Unrestricted funds Designated 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
<b>At 31 March 2025:</b>				
Tangible assets	3,033	-	-	3,033
Current assets/(liabilities)	406,810	50,000	138,750	595,560
	<u>409,843</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>138,750</u>	<u>598,593</u>
	<u>409,843</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>138,750</u>	<u>598,593</u>
	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds Designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
<b>At 31 March 2024:</b>				
Tangible assets	7,912	-	-	7,912
Current assets/(liabilities)	339,948	50,000	125,000	514,948
	<u>347,860</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>522,860</u>
	<u>347,860</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>522,860</u>

#### 21 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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22 Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus for the year	75,733	88,610
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(16,776)	(11,250)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	4,879	4,879
<b>Movements in working capital:</b>		
(Increase) in debtors	(122,993)	(19,209)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	44,369	(41,175)
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	35,155	(31,422)
<b>Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations</b>	<u>20,367</u>	<u>(9,567)</u>

### 23 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185078

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# Accounts

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Company registration number 09527065 (England and Wales )

Charity Registration No 1185078



**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL**  
**STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 March 2024**

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	Mr J O'Sullivan Mr J Lenihan Ms J Drown Mrs R Chawala	(Appointed 18 April 2023) (Appointed 1 February 2024) (Appointed 9 February 2024)
<b>Senior management</b>	Mr Frank Mullane	CEO
<b>Charity number</b>	1185078	
<b>Company number</b>	09527065	
<b>Registered office</b>	30 Commercial Road Swindon Wiltshire SN1 5NS	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	David Owen & Co 17 The Market Place Devizes Wiltshire SN10 1BA	

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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Statement of cash flows	16
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# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

To Year Ending 31 March 2024

## Foreword by AAFDA's CEO

2023/24 was another extremely busy year with continued growth in demand for our services. We saw further increases in the rate of suicide and unexplained death related referrals, and in requests for AAFDA's support across the academic, voluntary and statutory sectors to develop and improve responses to fatal domestic abuse.

Our direct work with families highlights the need for consistency of quality through the DHR process. After many years of providing training to those involved in DHRs, we were delighted to secure the opportunity to develop and deliver a mandatory qualification for DHRs. This will make a significant difference to the quality of DHRs and, consequently, the prevention of domestic abuse related deaths.

In December 2023 I wrote a guest blog for the Domestic Abuse Commissioner as part of the #16DaysOfActivism campaign. Within this I reflected that DHRs reveal the horrific and compromised lives of so many (usually) women and they act as pressure loops feeding back into agencies to ensure continuous improvement to prevent further abuse. So, while there is much work to do to ensure the DHR process is as good as it can be, we must not veer from their critical purpose, to shine a bright light on the antecedents, giving us all a chance to make the future safer.

At AAFDA, we raise the status of families in their interactions with agencies after fatal domestic abuse. We help them to assist the review and help protect them from secondary trauma. As one family member told us, *"After the death, it's almost like you're on another traumatic journey. There is no respite from it. And people just sit on the outside, they go, well it's nearly two years now. They just don't get it. They don't realise what comes next."*

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the impressive skill, tenacity and hard work of the amazing AAFDA team, incorporating our paid staff, volunteers and board members, to whom I am immensely grateful. I further extend my thanks to our funders and supporters who continue to make this critical work possible.

Frank Mullane MBE





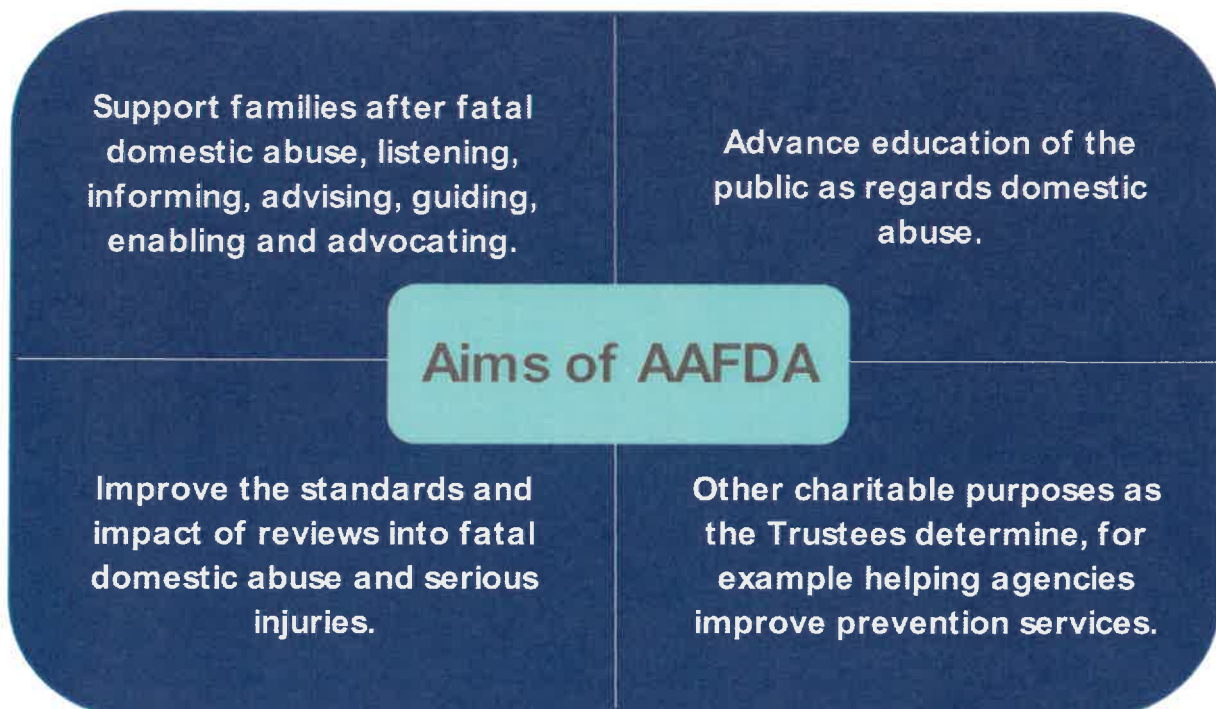
## About AAFDA

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA) was founded by Frank Mullane MBE in 2008, in memory of his sister and nephew, Julia and Will Pemberton, whose murders in 2003 prompted an inquiry exposing the difficulties families face in these circumstances. Known as the Pemberton Homicide Review, the inquiry was the first of its kind, exposing a deeply inadequate response to domestic abuse victims. The emotionally exhausting, arduous, and costly process gave Frank the resolve to ensure no-one else faced the same barriers to access justice. He then helped to establish Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), which became law in 2011. Frank was awarded an MBE in 2019 for his work supporting families bereaved by domestic homicide.

AAFDA is also a Centre of Excellence for reviews into domestic homicides, suicides and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse. We are particularly skilled in DHR methodology and best practice, having been closely involved in developing the model with the Home Office since 2008, three years before they became law. Using our specialist knowledge and collective insights, we provide for the needs of families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse and help agencies to refine their services for victims suffering domestic abuse and to review domestic abuse related deaths more effectively. We provide a unique national voice for the learning that each DHR generates. While no two cases are the same, we believe that each DHR is an opportunity to end domestic abuse.

### **AAFDA's Vision: A future free of domestic violence**

**AAFDA's Mission:** We advocate, educate and influence to ensure victims' voices are heard, driving change.



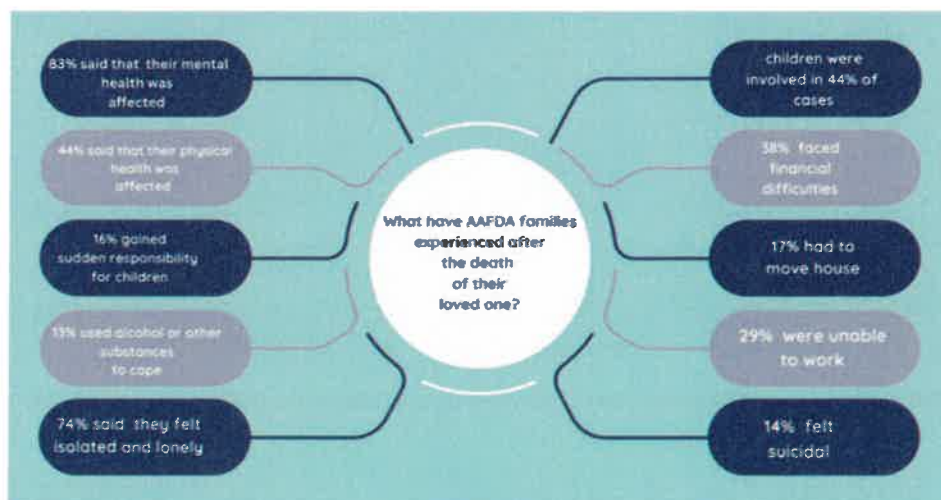


## Our work with families impacted by fatal domestic abuse

### Advocacy:

AAFDA's specialist and expert advocates are at the heart of the charity. They have lived experience and understanding of the issues faced. Our advocates provide specialist and expert advocacy and peer support, working with the family to secure their right to an adequate investigation and

equal treatment within the post-fatal domestic abuse process. They challenge disadvantage, raise the status of the victim in the case narrative, and ensure that the family is integral (not just involved) within post-homicide reviews. AAFDA's trauma-informed service, providing long-term advocacy, goes 'above and beyond' to restore dignity and relief for families.



Some highlights of the advocacy support provided in 2023/24 include:

- Securing several DHRs where it was not the intention of the commissioning authorities to undertake one. This includes for a victim who worked in the sex industry and for whom the authorities were reluctant to commission a DHR.
- Successfully influencing the police in multiple areas to reopen two criminal investigations and improving interaction between bereaved families and the police and/or the coroner.
- Ensuring rich detail in DHRs, one of which allowed a Coroner to make the first ever link between suicide and domestic abuse.

AAFDA continues to be the only national provider of specialist and expert advocacy and peer support to people bereaved by suicide and unexplained death where there was a history of domestic abuse. In 2023/24 we received 113 new referrals, 78 of which went on to become cases, taking the total receiving active advocacy support to 255 family members impacted by fatal domestic abuse.

2023-2024	Ongoing/existing support	New cases adopted	Total
Homicide	72	27	99
Suicide	76	41	117
Unexplained/sudden death	27	8	35
Other/not known	0	2	2
Parole	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>255</b>

## Support for Children and Young People:

Whilst the Home Office Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews (2016) acknowledges that children should have the opportunity to participate in reviews, this rarely happens, with professionals involved in DHRs lacking the knowledge and tools to facilitate this. And there has been no specialist support available to assist children impacted by fatal domestic abuse. In response to these identified needs, in 2022/23 AAFDA established a dedicated support service for children bereaved by fatal domestic abuse delivered by specialist and expert Children and Young People's Advocates.

This year we have worked to raise awareness of our children and young people's advocacy service and provided advice and support to many professionals and chairs considering a referral for children and young people. We have also continued to develop ways of identifying how many children have been bereaved and providing, where possible and safe to do so, direct or indirect support to ensure those children (linked to families we are currently supporting) benefit from or are aware of specialist support via assisting with referrals and/or signposting.

AAFDA now has two staff members who are accredited Healing Together facilitators, supporting children impacted by fatal domestic abuse.

## Giving families a platform to influence change:

AAFDA has always held in high regard the personal testimonies of the families and friends who use our services and their importance in influencing improvements to policy and practice. Further, we recognise that, for some family members, telling the story of their lost loved one and ensuring that lessons are learned is critical to their recovery process. Family members have been integral to the delivery of our training events. Virtually all courses have had a family speaker joining us, with an opportunity to take questions from the audience.

In March 2024 AAFDA facilitated another learning day, bringing together nine family members bereaved by suicides or unexplained deaths following domestic abuse and the Metropolitan Police Service Assistant Commissioner, National Police Chief's Council lead for domestic abuse, police colleagues, Home Office, Domestic Abuse Commissioner's office and VKPP<sup>1</sup> project representatives. The purpose of the day was to seek feedback from family members and to foster continual learning about what needs to improve regarding police responses to suicides/unexplained deaths within the context of domestic abuse.



*"I think it's great that the police and research team want to meet us. I believe it gives them a far better understanding rather than just a number of statistics on a screen and the ripple effect that domestic abuse has on the wider family left behind."  
(Family member)*

<sup>1</sup> National Policing Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme.

With a range of partners and led by Wearside Women in Need, AAFDA has continued to support the development of the 'We Findaway' project, and our reference group of family members who are experts by experience has provided critical input to ensure that the support service for family and friends concerned that someone they care about may be experiencing domestic abuse is as good as it can be. The Findaway project and the family members involved in it were featured on Comic Relief's Red Nose Day in March 2024.

We welcomed Volunteer Week from 1st-7th June 2023 with an online celebration to thank AAFDA volunteers for their time, dedication and work. We gifted them with a card and a cuppa on us! The volunteers also enjoyed the start of their training programme and celebrated our first Peer Support session co-facilitated by a volunteer.



### **Peer support:**

AAFDA's drop-in peer support sessions (facilitated online by an AAFDA team member) are an established safe space to enable families impacted by fatal domestic abuse to connect and share ways to cope with their loss. These sessions also enable families who wish to remain in touch with AAFDA to do so once their advocacy support ends. 201 individuals have attended peer support sessions.

May 2023 saw the launch of our new Peer Support model that we hope benefits all family members. This included more sessions per week, the introduction of fortnightly day sessions, specific group sessions, activities and guest speakers. Our first guest speaker was Nicole Jacobs (Domestic Abuse Commissioner) who enjoyed meeting our family members. Nicole provided an update on her current work and answered questions from families that joined us.

We also introduced Peer Support music sessions, led by Catherine Razzell. Family members worked with Catherine, putting their feelings into words. The feedback was great for this uplifting and creative session.

### **Positive outcomes for family members surveyed:**

- ✓ 93% felt informed about the DHR and/or other review process
- ✓ 89% felt supported on how to engage in the review or other inquiry process
- ✓ 82% were actively engaged in the review process
- ✓ 85% felt satisfied that they know the facts of the case
- ✓ 80% felt better able to cope with the practical and emotional challenges after the homicide/Domestic Abuse related death
- ✓ 66% felt that their wellbeing has improved
- ✓ 79% felt helped to move on positively with their lives



## Our work with professionals

In addition to the direct work our advocates undertake with agencies and professionals to improve their responses to individual cases, AAFDA provides wide-ranging training and professional development, with the aim of improving practice.

The report undertaken in partnership with Warwick University that AAFDA published in March 2023 - Learning Legacies: An Analysis of Domestic Homicide Reviews in Cases of Domestic Abuse Suicide<sup>2</sup> - has been utilised through our training and influencing work to highlight ways in which DHRs might develop our understanding of the experiences of those who take their own lives and identify pathways to improved suicide prevention in the context of domestic abuse.

### The DHR Network:

The DHR Network has continued to grow its membership to include over 250 members representing professionals involved in DHRs, including CSPs and Independent Chairs. The main aim of the DHR Network is to create a consistently high standard of DHRs and offer resources and support for the key professionals involved in them. Benefits for members during 2023/24 included:

- An online discussion forum, with 31 new discussion topics active during the year
- 63 DHR alerts circulated, connecting Chairs with CSPs undertaking a DHR
- A repository of research, articles and resources
- Short monthly learning and connecting events
- Longer quarterly learning events with expert speakers.

Amongst other topics and open networking sessions, events this year included learning sessions on:

- Understanding Autism and related good practice in conducting DHRs
- Developing your Overview Report – a discussion on different approaches
- An update from the Home Office on DHR reform
- The scope of a Panel to make recommendations
- The voices of South Asian women in DHR's
- Learning Legacies: An Analysis of Domestic Homicide Reviews in Cases of Domestic Abuse Suicide.<sup>2</sup>
- 'Illuminating the past to make the future safer?' Exploring the potential and peril of domestic homicide reviews as a mechanism for change.<sup>3</sup>

*"Network is great. Full of info and resources and the variety and frequency of learning events is really impressive. Great support for those who are new to DHR's, like myself." (DHR Network member)*

The DHR Network Steering Group continued to meet, drawing on intelligence provided by the DHR Network membership and enabling national work on DHR reform to be connected. This includes from a survey in May 2023 of our DHR Network members to gain a snapshot of key issues

<sup>2</sup> [999368 law domestic violence main research report final final pre-print.pdf](#)

<sup>3</sup> ['Illuminating the past to make the future safer?' Exploring the potential and peril of domestic homicide reviews as a mechanism for change](#)

impacting on DHR related work, and to form a picture of the landscape and of who the professionals involved in DHRs are.

### Training:

AAFDA delivered both bespoke and CPD accredited national training on “Being an Effective DHR Panel Member”, “Reviewing Suicide and Unexplained Deaths” and “Managing a Domestic Homicide Review”, as well as many other topic related training events. A total of 246 professionals have received training by AAFDA in these topics. A further 100 delegates have benefitted from locally commissioned bespoke training to meet the area’s need.



Given the importance of DHRs in driving improvement in domestic abuse services, a primary focus for AAFDA is the professional development of DHR Chairs. This year we facilitated four deliveries of our accredited national DHR Chair training with 37 participants. In February 2024, following an open procurement exercise, AAFDA was selected as the provider for the Home Office Funded national DHR Chair training. This provided an opportunity to expand our current offer and create a bespoke qualification – the Certificate in Chairing a Domestic Homicide Review (level 3). The development work on this qualification prepared us to begin delivery in the spring of 2024.

Feedback on our courses has been extremely positive with some areas of monitoring achieving 100% satisfaction rates consistently.

*“Excellent training. I came away far more informed about DHRs and confident in ensuring the victim and their family’s voice is heard. Thank you very much.” (Training participant)*



### Our national influence

AAFDA, along with sector partners, has continued to provide strong leadership in building the knowledge base about domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse, the needs of those impacted by it and best practice responses.

AAFDA responded to the government’s consultation on DHR legislation launched in July 2023. There was a consensus around adding the statutory definition of domestic abuse into DHR legislation, and overwhelming support to rename DHRs to better reflect the range of deaths which fall in scope of a review.

Continuing our influencing work from 2022/23, we monitored the definition of victim in the Victims and Prisoners Bill as it passed through parliament: a previous iteration risked narrowing the definition of victim which may have led to a reduction in access to victims' rights for some. The bill was considered by a public bill committee over 14 sittings between 20 June 2023 and 11 July

2023, to which AAFDA provided information through expert witnesses and members. During the bill's progress through the 2023/24 Government session, we are particularly grateful for the support of Jess Phillips MP, who highlighted our concerns relating to support for those who are bereaved by suicide where the cause is domestic abuse during a number of committee meetings. We are also grateful for the unwavering support of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, Nicole Jacobs, and the previous and current Victims Commissioners, Vera Baird KC, and Baroness Newlove, during the progress of the Victim and Prisoners Bill through Parliament.

AAFDA has continued to support the Institute for Addressing Strangulation and SafeLives to deliver sessions and training to professionals on the Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS) offence which enable professionals to recognise when the offence has occurred and/or where the life or health of a victim of NFS may be at risk.

In July 2023 AAFDA launched our first newsletter enabling recipients to keep up-to-date with AAFDA and other sector news.

### **Raising the profile and understanding of domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse:**

The CEO and Executive Team spoke at 11 conferences and events throughout the year, using these platforms to heighten awareness of the impacts of and responses to fatal domestic abuse and the needs of bereaved family members.

Additionally, AAFDA has issued press releases on relevant topics and our CEO was regularly approached to provide comment in national and local media.

In December 2023 AAFDA's CEO wrote a guest blog for the Domestic Abuse Commissioner as part of the #16DaysOfActivism campaign.

The website [www.aafda.org.uk](http://www.aafda.org.uk) continues to be a key source of information for both families impacted by fatal domestic abuse and professionals. We have further built upon our online presence throughout 2023/24.

With our followers on LinkedIn increasing from 528 to 1595 in the past year, we have increased our reach within professional communities. Facebook and X/Twitter (with over 6,000 followers) have also provided platforms for AAFDA to raise awareness and share learning across a broad spectrum of followers.

AAFDA has continued to be a member of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel, contributing to the discussions of this panel in relation to 156 DHRs and CSP decisions not to undertake DHRs.



Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abu...  
@AAFDA6

Home Office confirms steep rise in suicide related DHRs. [bit.ly/3E7Gdbg](https://bit.ly/3E7Gdbg).  
Quoted in this article is Frank Mullane, CEO of AAFDA. AAFDA support families going through the DHR process, including those that are suicide related.  
[aafda.org.uk](http://aafda.org.uk) @FMullaneAAFDA



Home Office confirms steep rise in suicide related dome...

From tortoisemedia.com

12:41 · 24/08/2023 · 1K Views



## Our funders

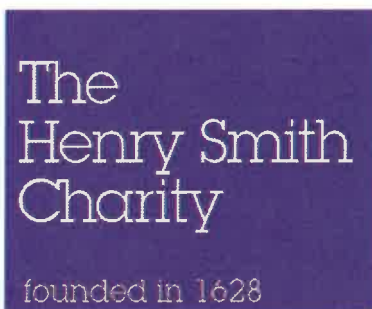
We have continued to diversify our income streams; grants from the Home Office and Police & Crime Commissioners were complemented by awards from The Henry Smith Charity, John Ellerman Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Clifford Chance Foundation, The Masonic Charitable Foundation and The Worshipful Company of Security Professionals Charitable Trust, Wearside Women in Need.

We would like to express our gratitude to our funders and also to the many generous individuals, business, churches and community groups who continue to support our work and enable us to do so much more. These include:

- Mike Couzens who raised £375 taking part in the Great South Run.
- Dr Anna Hopkins held a unique shoe exhibition. 16 pairs of shoes were exhibited, with 8 pairs painted red to remember those killed by domestic abuse and 8 pairs blue to remember those who took their own lives as a result of the domestic abuse they had experienced. Anna then ran 5km every day during the 16 days of Activism dedicating each run to one of the women's stories told in the shoe exhibition raising £1,771 to support AAFDA.



AAFDA is extremely grateful to the following organisations for their support of our work in 2023/24.



John Ellerman  
Foundation



WILTSHIRE FREEMASONS



## Structure, good governance and management

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee.

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statement were:

Mr J O'Sullivan

Ms E Jones (Resigned 31 December 2023)

Mr J Lenihan (Appointed 18 April 2023)

Ms J Drown (Appointed 1 February 2024)

Mrs R Chawala (Appointed 9 February 2024)

Ms B Seaborne (Resigned 31 January 2024)

Ms H Wilson (Resigned 31 January 2024)

Mr D Ford (Resigned 7 September 2023)

During 2023/2024, our Board consisted of trustees with a range of complementary expertise and experience.

Our Board meets, at minimum, on a quarterly basis. The Chair and Treasurer had regular and frequent contact with the CEO. During Board meetings the CEO and Deputy CEO report on the main aspects of the charity (work with beneficiaries, impact on victims, emerging issues, finance, strategic plan, operational performance, and risk).

The Board is very aware of its responsibilities to identify and manage risk. A risk management register is reviewed regularly by the CEO who highlights to the Board any increased or new risks identified.

The Board complies with statutory obligations to submit Full Year Accounts, a Trustees' Annual Report, and an Annual Return to the Charity Commission.

### **Trustee recruitment, induction and training:**

We review the composition and skills of the Board each year to ensure that AAFDA has trustees with the right range of skills and knowledge to provide robust governance. One approach to identifying potential trustees is via the extensive networks of current Board members and staff. On occasion, this is supplemented by advertisement in appropriate media. Applicants for the role of trustee undergo a vigorous recruitment process, including meeting the Board and operational staff. All new trustees are supplied with a copy of *"The Essential Trustee"*, provided by the Charity Commission, and relevant training is provided to support trustees in their role.

**Finance:**

AAFDA has seen its income for 2023/24 increase marginally to £977K. AAFDA has maintained excellent cost control and investment in fundraising to ensure financial resilience. In addition, further improving efficiencies helped materially reduce the percentage of total costs which were support costs. Our referrals have been growing significantly, hence more fundraising resource as part of total costs of £888K. The fundraising environment remains very challenging, but AAFDA has continued to invest, in line with the restricted nature of the grants, in more support for families. In addition, costs have continued consistent with an organisation growing in size, leading to further developing the Charity's infrastructure and systems. This increases our efficiency and sustainability whilst ensuring our staff are supported to work with bereaved families in psychologically safe environments.

As AAFDA continues to grow, it has been necessary to ensure excellent internal controls, excellent governance and maintain financial sustainability.

**Reserves Policy:**

To ensure the long-term success and sustainability of AAFDA amidst a very uncertain funding and operating environment, the Trustees aim to maintain free reserves (which exclude restricted grants) equivalent to between three to six months of budgeted operating costs. These free reserves include designated funds which are set aside for specific projects decided by the Board.

**Public Benefit Statement:**

The Trustees understand it is their duty in exercising their powers to meet the obligations as outlined by the Charity Commission. For example, these responsibilities include being clear that the activities undertaken by AAFDA are for the public benefit and meet the objectives outlined in the Charity's Articles of Association.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 17 December 2024.



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James O'Sullivan  
Chair

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.



**Mr Julian Pocock FCA CTA**

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 The Market Place  
Devizes  
Wiltshire  
SN10 1BA

Dated: 19/12/2024

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Designated	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Designated	Restricted funds	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023	2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	62,020	-	803,702	865,722	16,978	-	809,878	826,856
Charitable activities	4	99,791	-	-	99,791	139,616	-	-	139,616
Investments	5	11,250	-	-	11,250	1,501	-	-	1,501
<b>Total income</b>		<b>173,061</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>803,702</b>	<b>976,763</b>	<b>158,095</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>809,878</b>	<b>967,973</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>									
Raising funds	6	48,533	-	-	48,533	29,547	-	-	29,547
Charitable activities	7	35,918	-	803,702	839,620	150,057	-	684,878	834,935
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>84,451</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>803,702</b>	<b>888,153</b>	<b>179,604</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>684,878</b>	<b>864,482</b>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<b>88,610</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>88,610</b>	<b>(21,509)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>103,491</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		259,250	50,000	125,000	434,250	280,759	50,000	-	330,759
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2024</b>		<b>347,860</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>522,860</b>	<b>259,250</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>434,250</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		7,912		12,791
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	124,585		105,376	
Cash at bank and in hand		449,812		448,129	
		574,397		553,505	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	(59,449)		(132,046)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			514,948		421,459
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			522,860		434,250
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	17	125,000		125,000	
Unrestricted funds - general	19	347,860		259,250	
Unrestricted funds - Designated	18	50,000		50,000	
		522,860		434,250	

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17 December 2024



Mr J O'Sullivan  
Trustee

Company registration number 09527065 (England and Wales)

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	22		(9,567)		13,441
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(14,639)	
Investment income received		11,250		1,501	
<b>Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities</b>			11,250		(13,138)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			1,683		303
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			448,129		447,826
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			<u>449,812</u>		<u>448,129</u>

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Charity information

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 30 Commercial Road, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 5NS.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

##### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computers	3 years straight line
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The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

##### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

##### 1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

##### 1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

##### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	7,020	-	7,020	16,978	-	16,978
Grants receivable for core activities	55,000	803,702	858,702	-	809,878	809,878
	<u>62,020</u>	<u>803,702</u>	<u>865,722</u>	<u>16,978</u>	<u>809,878</u>	<u>826,856</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 3 Income from donations and legacies

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Grants receivable for core activities</b>						
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	225,882	225,882	-	206,105	206,105
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	151,417	151,417	-	150,142	150,142
Wearside Women in Need	-	10,000	10,000	-	20,000	20,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	55,000	-	55,000	-	73,000	73,000
Home Office Perpetrator	-	32,626	32,626	-	70,631	70,631
Home Office	-	250,000	250,000	-	250,000	250,000
John Ellerman Foundation	-	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	40,000
Henry Smith	-	60,000	60,000	-	-	-
Other	-	33,777	33,777	-	-	-
	<u>55,000</u>	<u>803,702</u>	<u>858,702</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>809,878</u>	<u>809,878</u>

#### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
<b>Training and Influencing</b>		
Speaking, consultancy and training fees	99,791	139,616
	<u>99,791</u>	<u>139,616</u>

#### 5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Bank Interest	11,250	1,501
	<u>11,250</u>	<u>1,501</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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### 6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	3,825	29,547
Staff costs	44,708	-
	<u>48,533</u>	<u>29,547</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Advocacy Training and and peer influencing support		Total	Advocacy Training and and peer influencing support		Total
	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £
<b>Direct costs</b>						
Staff costs	552,754	38,367	591,121	456,126	36,302	492,428
Depreciation and impairment	-	-	-	130	-	130
Travel expenses	18,718	1,146	19,864	29,187	4,812	33,999
Domestic homicide review network	-	15,575	15,575	-	15,445	15,445
Project partner costs	-	2,960	2,960	-	5,841	5,841
Support materials	1,096	-	1,096	1,511	-	1,511
Equipment renewal	16,167	-	16,167	1,552	-	1,552
Trauma therapy	-	-	-	-	(8,315)	(8,315)
Peer support (Residential)	-	-	-	22,899	-	22,899
Supervision and staff welfare	16,415	-	16,415	12,691	378	13,069
Training and recruitment	2,286	-	2,286	11,206	40	11,246
Monitoring and evaluation (includes staff costs of £16,793)	20,268	-	20,268	15,090	-	15,090
Strategic review and capacity development	-	1,022	1,022	-	5,800	5,800
External training and event costs	-	26,312	26,312	-	31,320	31,320
Temporary external staff costs	-	-	-	9,139	-	9,139
Annual conference	-	-	-	-	36,642	36,642
Other charitable expenditure	5,338	-	5,338	1,864	-	1,864
	<u>633,042</u>	<u>85,382</u>	<u>718,424</u>	<u>561,395</u>	<u>128,265</u>	<u>689,660</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)</b>						
Support	97,019	7,302	104,321	95,894	16,923	112,817
Governance	15,694	1,181	16,875	27,589	4,869	32,458
	<u>745,755</u>	<u>93,865</u>	<u>839,620</u>	<u>684,878</u>	<u>150,057</u>	<u>834,935</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>						
Unrestricted funds - general	-	35,918	35,918	-	150,057	150,057
Restricted funds	745,755	57,947	803,702	684,878	-	684,878
	<u>745,755</u>	<u>93,865</u>	<u>839,620</u>	<u>684,878</u>	<u>150,057</u>	<u>834,935</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8 Support costs allocated to activities	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	53,847	50,554
Depreciation	4,879	1,717
Travel costs	1,055	1,193
IT systems and website	6,270	443
Telephone and postage	5,781	4,660
Security	1,871	1,665
Office supplies and utilities	2,374	3,184
Insurance	5,634	2,299
HR Services	8,347	6,176
Legal and professional	2,673	12,857
Supervision and staff welfare	870	1,826
Training and recruitment	4,108	19,983
Other costs	6,612	6,260
Governance costs	16,875	32,458
	<u>121,196</u>	<u>145,275</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Advocacy and peer support	112,713	123,483
Training and influencing	8,483	21,792
	<u>121,196</u>	<u>145,275</u>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Governance costs comprise:</b>		
Accountancy	8,840	25,314
Board Governance	8,035	7,144
	<u>16,875</u>	<u>32,458</u>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>9 Net movement in funds</b>		
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination and preparation of the charity's financial statements	8,000	15,840
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	4,879	1,847
	<u>12,879</u>	<u>17,687</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 10 Trustees

During the year, the charity reimbursed expenses incurred by one of the trustees, totalling £321 (2023 £1,156).

During the year, the charity purchased services from one of the trustees , totalling £4,800 ( 2023: £4,800), in adherence to the rules of the Charity Commission.

### 11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Fundraising	2	1
Charitable activities	19	19
Administration	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	22	21
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

#### Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	615,064	490,202
Social security costs	53,435	39,795
Other pension costs	18,926	12,985
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	687,425	542,982
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

In addition termination payments totalling £19,444 were made in the reporting period. The termination payments were payable when employment was terminated before the normal retirement date or end of employment contract due to re-structuring.

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£60,001 to £70,000	1	1
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

<b>13 Tangible fixed assets</b>		<b>Computers</b>
		<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2023		14,638
At 31 March 2024		<u>14,638</u>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>		
At 1 April 2023		1,847
Depreciation charged in the year		4,879
At 31 March 2024		<u>6,726</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>		
At 31 March 2024		<u>7,912</u>
At 31 March 2023		<u>12,791</u>
<b>14 Debtors</b>		
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	80,298	78,352
Prepayments and accrued income	44,287	27,024
	<u>124,585</u>	<u>105,376</u>
<b>15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Notes</b>	
Other taxation and social security	12,967	31,004
Deferred income	14,878	46,300
Trade creditors	530	-
Other creditors	4,226	5,197
Accruals	26,848	49,545
	<u>59,449</u>	<u>132,046</u>
<b>16 Retirement benefit schemes</b>		
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Defined contribution schemes</b>		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	18,926	12,985
	<u>18,926</u>	<u>12,985</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 17 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	225,882	(225,882)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	125,000	151,417	(151,417)	125,000
Wearside Women in Need	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Home Office Perpetrator	-	32,626	(32,626)	-
Home Office	-	250,000	(250,000)	-
Henry Smith	-	60,000	(60,000)	-
Other grants	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Other grants	-	33,777	(33,777)	-
	<u>125,000</u>	<u>803,702</u>	<u>(803,702)</u>	<u>125,000</u>
	<u><u>125,000</u></u>	<u><u>803,702</u></u>	<u><u>(803,702)</u></u>	<u><u>125,000</u></u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2022 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2023 £</b>
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	201,105	(201,105)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	150,142	(25,142)	125,000
Wearside Women in Need	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Esmee Faitbairn Foundation	-	73,000	(73,000)	-
Home Office Perpetrator	-	70,631	(70,631)	-
Home Office	-	250,000	(250,000)	-
John Ellerman Foundation	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Other grants	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>809,878</u>	<u>684,878</u>	<u>125,000</u>
	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>809,878</u></u>	<u><u>684,878</u></u>	<u><u>125,000</u></u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 18 Unrestricted funds - Designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 April 2023 £	At 31 March 2024 £
Designated fund	50,000	50,000
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2022 £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2023 £</b>
Designated fund	50,000	50,000

The Charity maintains a designated fund to facilitate its capacity building projects.

#### 19 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	259,250	173,061	(84,451)	347,860
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2022 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2023 £</b>
General funds	280,759	158,095	(179,604)	259,250

#### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds Designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
<b>At 31 March 2024:</b>				
Tangible assets	7,912	-	-	7,912
Current assets/(liabilities)	339,948	50,000	125,000	514,948
	347,860	50,000	125,000	522,860

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds Designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<b>At 31 March 2023:</b>				
Tangible assets	10,563	-	2,228	12,791
Current assets/(liabilities)	248,687	50,000	122,772	421,459
	<u>259,250</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>434,250</u>

### 21 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

### 22 Cash generated from operations

	2024 £	2023 £
Surplus for the year	88,610	103,491
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(11,250)	(1,501)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	4,879	1,848
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(19,209)	(103,396)
(Decrease) in creditors	(41,175)	(33,301)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(31,422)	46,300
<b>Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations</b>	<u>(9,567)</u>	<u>13,441</u>

### 23 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185078

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# Accounts

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Charity Registration No. 1185078

Company Registration No. 09527065 (England and Wales)

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	Ms E Jones Mr J O'Sullivan Mr J Lenihan Ms B Seaborne Ms H Wilson	(Appointed 28 April 2023)
<b>Charity number</b>	1185078	
<b>Company number</b>	09527065	
<b>Registered office</b>	30 Commercial Road Swindon SN1 5NS	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Shaw Gibbs Limited 264 Banbury Road Oxford OX2 7DY	

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

For The Year Ending 31 March 2023

### Foreword by AAFDA's CEO

The demand on AAFDA's services continues to grow. As the only organisation providing specialist advocacy support to families bereaved by suicide or unexplained deaths in the context of domestic abuse, and due to our work to highlight the need for Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) after these deaths, we received more than double the amount of suicide and unexplained death related referrals than homicide related in 2022/23. Responding, with limited resources, to the needs of family members is challenging, as is supporting the learning of the other agencies and professionals that families come into contact with, to make sure that they also understand the families' needs. AAFDA's expertise has been drawn upon across the academic, voluntary and statutory sectors and we have assisted with DHR related research, the development of community initiatives for families concerned about a loved one, changes in police practice as regards investigating suicides and work to reform the DHR process. We look forward to working with stakeholders to further develop the revised statutory guidance for DHRs.



With the Board of Trustees, we have, this year, worked on developing a renewed strategy for AAFDA, utilising a theory of change approach and drawing on our learning from bereaved families and the policy environment. Critical to this is ensuring that all of our efforts and resources are rightly focused on achieving our ultimate aim of a future free of domestic abuse.

2022/23 concluded with AAFDA's hugely impactful conference, hosting 282 delegates. Reflective of everything that AAFDA stands and advocates for, bereaved family members were integral to the delivery of this, and their strong presence (almost equalling the number of professionals) meant their voices were heard and their stories were able to positively influence practice.

AAFDA has achieved a lot, for many, with very little, and could not have achieved this without the hard work and commitment of our team, to whom I am immensely grateful. I also extend my gratitude to the Board of Trustees, our supporters and our funders, all of whom enable us to do what we do best – supporting families following the trauma of fatal domestic abuse and illuminating the past to make the future safer.

Frank Mullane MBE



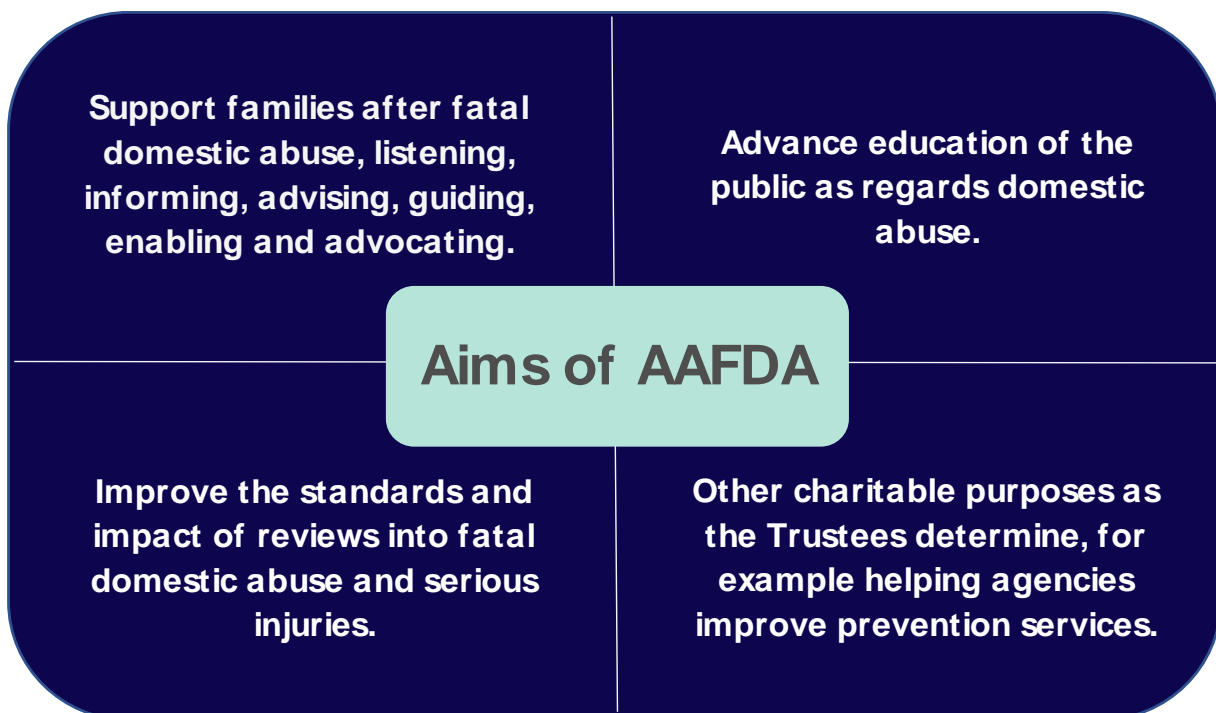
## About AAFDA

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA) was founded by Frank Mullane MBE in 2008, in memory of his sister and nephew, Julia and Will Pemberton, whose murders in 2003 prompted an inquiry exposing the difficulties families face in these circumstances. Known as the Pemberton Homicide Review, the inquiry was the first of its kind, exposing a deeply inadequate response to domestic abuse victims. The emotionally exhausting, arduous, and costly process gave Frank the resolve to ensure no one else faced the same barriers to access justice. He then helped to establish Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), which became law in 2011.

AAFDA is also a centre of excellence for reviews into domestic homicides, suicides and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse. We are particularly skilled in DHR methodology and best practice, having been closely involved in developing the model with the Home Office since 2008, three years before they became law. Using our specialist knowledge and collective insights, we provide for the needs of families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse and help agencies to refine their services for victims suffering domestic abuse and to review domestic abuse related deaths more effectively. We provide a unique national voice for the learning that each DHR generates. While no two cases are the same, we believe that each DHR is an opportunity to end domestic abuse.

### AAFDA's Vision: A future free of domestic abuse

AAFDA's Mission: We advocate, educate and influence to ensure victims' voices are heard, driving change.





## Our work with families impacted by fatal domestic abuse

### Advocacy:

AAFDA's specialist and expert advocates are at the heart of the charity. They have lived experience and understanding of the issues faced. Our advocates provide specialist and expert advocacy and peer support, working with the family to secure their right to an adequate investigation and equal treatment within the post-fatal domestic abuse process. They challenge disadvantage, raise the status of the victim in the case narrative, and ensure that the family is integral (not just involved) within post-homicide reviews. AAFDA's trauma-informed service, providing long-term advocacy, goes 'above and beyond' to restore dignity and bring relief to families.



*The Blanket of Everlasting Love was borne out of AAFDA's peer support sessions. The squares were knitted by and for particular families and have been marked with an inscribed heart attached. Families were invited to add a heart representing their lost loved one at AAFDA's 2023 conference.*

**Some highlights of the advocacy support provided in 2022/23 include:**

- Securing seven DHRs where it was not the intention of the commissioning authorities to undertake one. We also began the process of securing a further four DHRs.
- Successfully influencing the police in multiple areas to reopen two criminal investigations and improving interaction between bereaved families and the police and/or the coroner.
- Increasing the number of statutory agencies providing support to families: 40 Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), 55 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and 22 other agencies, including Children’s Social Care.

AAFDA continues to be the only national provider of specialist and expert advocacy and peer support to people bereaved by suicide and unexplained death where there was a history of domestic abuse.

In 2022/23 we received 97 new referrals, taking the total receiving active advocacy support, in that year, to 255 family members impacted by fatal domestic abuse.

2022-2023	Ongoing/existing support	New referrals	Total
Homicide	69	27	96
Suicide	65	50	115
Unexplained/sudden death	18	10	28
Ongoing abuse	0	5	5
Other/not known	2	4	6
Parole	4	1	5
Total	158	97	255

**Support for children and young people:**

Whilst the Home Office Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews (2016) acknowledges that children should have the opportunity to participate in reviews, this rarely happens, with professionals involved in DHRs lacking the knowledge and tools to facilitate this. And there has been no specialist support available to assist children impacted by fatal domestic abuse. In response to these identified needs, in 2022/23 AAFDA has:



- Established a dedicated support service for children bereaved by fatal domestic abuse delivered by Specialist and Expert Children and Young People’s Advocates.
- Worked with a very experienced DHR Chair and a local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to finalise the first Child Appropriate DHR.
- Built on our collaboration with AVA (Against Violence and Abuse) and continued to raise awareness of our guidance for professionals, carers and children and young people to help support children affected by DHRs.

## **Giving families a platform to influence change:**

AAFDA has always held in high regard the personal testimonies of the families and friends who use our services and the importance of these in influencing improvements to policy and practice. Further, we recognise that, for some family members, telling the story of their lost loved one and ensuring that lessons are learned is critical to their recovery process. AAFDA invites contributions from family members to all of our training and significant events.

We supported systems change in both England and Wales – drawing out key learnings from families' cases where agencies could have intervened, improving understanding of domestic abuse and how to respond more effectively. This included bringing together the National Police Chief Council Domestic Abuse and VAWG leads, civil servants from the Home Office and families as part of the development of the Domestic Abuse Act guidance and updated DHR Guidance.

In 2022/23, 12 family members contributed to training or other events held by AAFDA and 22 family members were involved in consultation workshops.

*“AAFDA has given me strength to find and use my voice, to have my sister understood as a person in what is a professional landscape, they need to understand who she was and what she was like to understand her experience, I am her voice now” (Family member)*

In February 2023, AAFDA facilitated another learning day, bringing together 10 family members bereaved by suicides or unexplained deaths following domestic abuse and the Metropolitan Police Service Assistant Commissioner, National Police Chief's Council lead for domestic abuse, police colleagues, Home Office and VKPP<sup>1</sup> project representatives. The purpose of the day was to present the findings of the Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides 2021-2022 Year 2 Report, seek feedback from family members and to foster continual learning about what needs to improve regarding police responses to suicides/unexplained deaths within the context of domestic abuse.

With a range of partners and led by Wearside Women in Need, AAFDA has supported the development of the 'We Findaway' project, bringing together a reference group of family members who are experts by experience. The project has launched a critically-needed support service for family and friends concerned that someone they care about may be experiencing domestic abuse.

## **Peer support:**

AAFDA's drop-in peer support sessions (facilitated online at least once a week by an AAFDA team member) are an established safe space to enable families impacted by fatal domestic abuse to connect and share ways to cope with their loss. These sessions also enable families who wish to remain in touch with AAFDA to do so once their advocacy support ends. 72 individuals attended peer support sessions.

*“I quite simply would not have survived without AAFDA, the staff, peer support and advocates changed my life” (Family member)*

<sup>1</sup> National Policing Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme



## Our work with professionals

In addition to the direct work our advocates undertake with agencies and professionals to improve their responses to individual cases, AAFDA has a wide-ranging training and professional development offer, with the aim of improving practice. We examine ways to help them, particularly in the reviews that follow fatal domestic abuse.

In March 2023, AAFDA published ‘Learning Legacies: An Analysis of Domestic Homicide Reviews in Cases of Domestic Abuse Suicide’, research which was undertaken in partnership with Warwick University. This highlights ways in which DHRs might develop our understanding of the experiences of those who take their own lives and identify pathways to improved suicide prevention in the context of domestic abuse. The research was launched in the Houses of Parliament.

### The DHR Network:

The DHR Network has continued to grow its membership to include almost 250 members representing professionals involved in DHRs, including CSPs and Independent Chairs. The main aim of the DHR Network is to create a consistently high standard of DHRs and offer resources and support for the key professionals involved in them. Benefits for members during 2022/23 included:

- An online discussion forum, with 31 new discussion topics active during the year
- 60 DHR alerts circulated, connecting Chairs with CSPs undertaking a DHR
- A repository of research, articles and resources that is regularly updated
- Short monthly learning and connecting events
- Longer quarterly learning events with expert speakers.

Amongst other topics, events this year included learning sessions on involving children and young people in DHRs, DHRs and inquests, the challenges of being a new Chair, DHRs involving sex workers, and understanding autism and good practice in DHRs. Feedback on these events has been overwhelmingly positive.

*“Being a member of the DHR Network has been really useful. The zoom sessions provided lots of useful information and perspectives from both members of DHR panels, survivors of domestic abuse and family members” (DHR Network member)*

The DHR Network Steering Group has continued to meet, drawing on intelligence provided by the DHR Network membership and enabling national work on DHR reform to be connected.

## Training:

Given the importance of DHRs in driving improvement in domestic abuse services, a primary focus for AAFDA is the professional development of DHR Chairs. This year we facilitated five deliveries of our accredited national DHR Chair training with 51 participants. These sessions incorporated presentations from several external speakers, including family members who have previously undertaken the DHR process and Professors from Oxford University and Gloucestershire University. In addition, we delivered two refresher courses for more experienced Chairs.



AAFDA delivered both bespoke and CPD accredited national training on “Being an Effective DHR Panel Member”, “Reviewing Suicide and Unexplained Deaths” and “Managing a Domestic Homicide Review”, as well as many other topic related training events. A total of 273 professionals received training by AAFDA in the year. That does not include the hundreds of professionals in audiences that our CEO addressed.

*“It gave me confidence to challenge when I think decisions are being made that are not in line with the statutory guidance. I really liked the emphasis on no blame and I think I need to remember that.” (Training participant)*



## Our national influence

AAFDA has continued to support leadership in the public policy arena, exerting strategic influence, representing the needs of those affected by fatal domestic abuse and the professionals involved in this work. To this end, we successfully challenged a weakened definition of victim in the Victims Bill, which reflected wording in the Victims Code. Our concern was that if the narrower definition was used as the foundation for drafting the proposed Victims' Law, there may have been a reduction in access to victims' rights for some. We brought this to the attention of the Justice Secretary at the time (Dominic Raab) and the Victims Commissioner at the time (Dame Vera Baird KC), who supported our concerns.



The current draft Bill reflects the definition per previous statute which AAFDA sought to protect, as it recognises victims of crime/criminal conduct where criminality has not been established.

To support the embedding of the Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS) offence, we supported the Institute for Addressing Strangulation and SafeLives to develop and deliver sessions and training which enable professionals to recognise when the offence has occurred and/or the life or health of a victim of NFS may be at risk.



In March 2023, we held our national conference, bringing together 139 bereaved family members with 143 professionals, providing opportunities for peer support and learning. Four bereaved family members gave moving accounts of their experience of loss as a result of fatal domestic abuse, which provided impactful learning for professionals. After the event, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, Nicole Jacobs wrote the following on Twitter:

*“I was honoured to chair @AAFDA6 conference this week - the biggest gathering of bereaved families. It was humbling to hear so many moving + painful stories. Testaments of resilience, bravery + courage @AAFDA6 advocates and @FMullaneAAFDA have a powerful impact on so many lives. There were so many strong + inspirational voices in the room working to drive change – academics; campaigners; families. Every day the families I met will be in my mind as my team + I work hard to make changes. Next time we meet I hope I can share significant progress.”*

### **Raising the profile and understanding of domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse:**

AAFDA, along with sector partners, has continued to provide strong leadership in building the knowledge base about domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse, the needs of those impacted by it and best practice responses. This includes heightened awareness of and improving responses to suicide and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse and the Government’s commitment to reform the DHR process.

We also supported the national Support After Suicide Partnership’s annual conference, raising awareness of the postvention support needs of families impacted by domestic abuse related suicides to the 253 colleagues who attended this remote event.

During the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2022, AAFDA hosted a series of webinars to shine a spotlight on some of the different players with a role in responding to domestic abuse. This included health, social care, criminal justice, financial institutions, specialist support, communities and prevention through learning reviews, as well as a national policy overview.

Our CEO, Frank Mullane, was invited to address multiple audiences as keynote speaker or presenter, including for example, events in Northern Ireland and others held by Probation, and agencies from Hertfordshire, Devon and Cornwall.

Additionally, AAFDA has issued press releases on relevant topics and Frank was regularly approached to provide comment in national and local media.

The website [www.aafda.org.uk](http://www.aafda.org.uk) continues to be a key source of information for both families impacted by fatal domestic abuse and professionals. We have further built upon our online presence throughout 2022/23 and our dedicated peer-support mailing group enables us to share information about third party research and support available for families to the 204 families who are members of this group.



AAFDA has continued to be a member of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel, jointly assessing 229 DHRs and multiple CSP decisions not to undertake DHRs.

*“Moreover, the work of the charity Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse has been pivotal in getting us here today. I have huge respect for the chief executive Frank Mullane, who works tirelessly to help support traumatised families and ensures that professional training is given towards understanding domestic homicide reviews.” (Baroness Newlove)*



## Good governance and management

During 2022/2023, our Board consisted of five Trustees. New Trustee David Ford joined as our Treasurer and, with his lived experience as a bereaved family member, complemented the diversity of our Trustees which include a local authority strategic Violence Against Women and Girls lead and expert in the criminal justice sector, a restorative justice practitioner, a safeguarding lead for a Clinical Commissioning Group and senior health advisor and a business and finance specialist.

Our Board meets, at minimum, on a quarterly basis. The Chair and Treasurer have regular and frequent contact with the CEO. During Board meetings the CEO and Deputy CEO report on the main aspects of the charity (work with beneficiaries, impact on victims, emerging issues, finance, strategic plan, operational performance, and risk).

The Board is very aware of its responsibilities to identify and manage risk. A risk management register is reviewed regularly by the CEO who highlights to the Board any increased or new risks identified.

The Board complies with statutory obligations to submit Full Year Accounts, a Trustees' Annual Report, and an Annual Return to the Charity Commission.

### **Trustee induction and training:**

We review the composition and skills of the Board each year to ensure that AAFDA has the skills and knowledge to allow the Board to provide robust governance. All new trustees are supplied with a copy of “*The Essential Trustee*”, provided by the Charity Commission, and relevant training is provided to support trustees in their role.

### **Finance:**

#### ***Commentary on 2022/23:***

AAFDA has seen its income for 2022/23 increase to £968K. This was mainly due to new grants from PCCs and the Home Office. Combined, this revenue has enabled us to ensure a period of stability for our employees and to invest, in line with the restricted nature of the grants, in more support for families. In addition, the Charity has seen an uplift in costs consistent with an organisation growing in size. More funds have been expended in developing the Charity's infrastructure and systems, increasing our efficiency and sustainability whilst ensuring our staff are supported to case manage in psychologically safe environments.

As AAFDA grows, the Trustees are allocating more resources to continue to maintain and improve good governance, excellent internal controls and compliance with regulations.


### **Reserves Policy:**

To ensure the long-term success and sustainability of AAFDA amidst a very uncertain funding and operating environment, the Trustees aim to maintain free reserves (which exclude restricted grants) equivalent to between three to six months of budgeted operating costs. These free reserves include designated funds which are set aside for specific projects decided by the Board.

### **Public Benefit Statement:**

The Trustees understand it is their duty in exercising their powers to meet the obligations as outlined by the Charity Commission. For example, these responsibilities include being clear that the activities undertaken by AAFDA are for the public benefit and meet the objectives outlined in the Charity's Articles of Association.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 Jan 2024

 \_\_\_\_\_

James O'Sullivan  
Chair

The  
Henry Smith  
Charity

founded in 1628



Esmée  
Fairbairn  
FOUNDATION

John Ellerman  
Foundation



THE DULVERTON TRUST

C L I F F O R D  
C H A N C E

*“ANYWAY, LISTENING ISN'T ENOUGH”*

*(FAMILY MEMBER)*

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

---

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd (the Charity) for the period ended 31 March 2023.

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

As the Trustees of the Charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). 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**

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

*Samantha Daniels*

Samantha Daniels FCA  
For and on behalf of  
Shaw Gibbs Limited  
264 Banbury Road  
Oxford  
OX2 7DY

Dated: .30 Jan 2024..

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 as restated £	Unrestricted funds designated 2022 as restated £	Restricted funds 2022 as restated £	Total 2022 as restated £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	16,978	-	809,878	826,856	4,289	-	502,067	506,356
Charitable activities	4	139,616	-	-	139,616	73,350	-	-	73,350
Other income	5	1,501	-	-	1,501	-	-	-	-
<b>Total income</b>		158,095	-	809,878	967,973	77,639	-	502,067	579,706
<b>Expenditure on:</b>									
Raising funds	6	29,547	-	-	29,547	24,842	-	-	24,842
Charitable activities	7	150,057	-	684,878	834,935	110,865	-	502,067	612,932
Total expenditure		179,604	-	684,878	864,482	135,707	-	502,067	637,774
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		(21,509)	-	125,000	103,491	(58,068)	-	-	(58,068)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	(35,000)	35,000	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(21,509)	-	125,000	103,491	(93,068)	35,000	-	(58,068)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Transferred from previous charity						373,827	15,000	-	388,827
Fund balances at 6 April 2022		280,759	50,000	-	330,759				
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023</b>		259,250	50,000	125,000	434,250	280,759	50,000	-	330,759

# **ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

## **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

***FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023***

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The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

		2023		2022 as restated	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		12,791		-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	13	105,376		1,980	
Cash at bank and in hand		448,129		447,826	
		553,505		449,806	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	132,046		119,047	
Net current assets			421,459		330,759
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			434,250		330,759
<b>The funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	15	125,000			-
Unrestricted funds - general		259,250		280,759	
Unrestricted funds - designated	16	50,000		50,000	
		434,250		330,759	

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the period ended 31 March 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 30 Jan 2024



Mr J O'Sullivan  
Trustee

Company registration number 09527065 (England and Wales)

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from operations	20		14,942		314,578
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(14,639)		-	
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>			(14,639)		-
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			303		314,578
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period			447,826		133,248
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>			448,129		447,826

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Charity information

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 30 Commercial Road, Swindon, SN1 5NS.

##### 1.1 Reporting period

The Trustees have elected to change the current reporting date to 31 March 2023. As a result the current period is shorter than a full year from 6 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 which is not directly comparable with the comparative 12 months ended 5 April 2022.

##### 1.2 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

##### 1.3 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

##### 1.4 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

##### 1.5 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computers	3 years straight line
-----------	-----------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022	Restricted funds as restated 2022	Total as restated 2022
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	16,978	-	16,978	4,289	-	4,289
Grants received	-	809,878	809,878	-	502,067	502,067
	<u>16,978</u>	<u>809,878</u>	<u>826,856</u>	<u>4,289</u>	<u>502,067</u>	<u>506,356</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 3 Income from donations and legacies (Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022	Restricted funds as restated 2022	Total as restated 2022
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Grants receivable for core activities</b>						
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	206,105	206,105	-	114,095	114,095
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	150,142	150,142	-	11,267	11,267
Wearside Women in Need	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	73,000	73,000	-	-	-
Home Office Perpetrator Home Office	-	70,631	70,631	-	5,000	5,000
John Ellerman Foundation	-	250,000	250,000	-	304,148	304,148
The Henry Smith Charity	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	60,000	60,000
	-	-	-	-	7,557	7,557
	-	809,878	809,878	-	502,067	502,067

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022
	£	£
<b>Training and influencing</b>		
Speaking, consultancy and training fees	139,616	73,350

### 5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022
	£	£
Other income	1,501	-

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	29,547	24,842

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Advocacy Training and and peer influencing support		Total	Total
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	as restated 2022 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Staff costs	456,126	36,302	492,428	311,097
Depreciation and impairment	130	-	130	-
Travel expenses	29,187	4,812	33,999	12,258
Domestic homicide review network	-	15,445	15,445	31,849
Project partner costs	-	5,841	5,841	17,058
Support materials	1,511	-	1,511	7,140
Equipment renewal	1,552	-	1,552	10,667
Trauma therapy	(8,315)	-	(8,315)	13,500
Peer support	22,899	-	22,899	21,479
Supervision and staff welfare	12,691	378	13,069	7,962
Training and recruitment	11,206	40	11,246	7,408
Monitoring and evaluation	15,090	-	15,090	25,739
Strategic review and capacity development	-	5,800	5,800	26,342
Advocacy awareness cost adjustment	-	-	-	(5,511)
External training and event costs	-	31,320	31,320	28,197
Temporary external staff costs	9,139	-	9,139	-
Annual conference	-	36,642	36,642	-
Other charitable expenditure	1,864	-	1,864	4,294
	<u>553,080</u>	<u>136,580</u>	<u>689,660</u>	<u>519,479</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)</b>				
Support	95,894	16,923	112,817	88,549
Governance	27,589	4,869	32,458	4,904
	<u>676,563</u>	<u>158,372</u>	<u>834,935</u>	<u>612,932</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>				
Unrestricted funds - general	(8,315)	158,372	150,057	110,865
Restricted funds	684,878	-	684,878	502,067
	<u>676,563</u>	<u>158,372</u>	<u>834,935</u>	<u>612,932</u>

Amounts totalling £60,000 accrued in previous periods have been released in the current period. Of these approximately £15,000 related to expenditure which was expected to be incurred but which was not subsequently charged. This has resulted in the above expenses being lower than actually incurred in the current year

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2023	2022
	£	as restated £
Staff costs	50,554	36,578
Depreciation	1,718	-
Travel costs	1,193	139
IT systems and website	443	14,556
Telephone and postage	4,660	3,312
Security	1,665	3,836
Office supplies and utilities	3,184	5,652
Insurance	2,299	4,303
HR services	6,176	5,940
Legal and professional	12,857	12,209
Supervision and staff welfare	1,826	1,113
Training and recruitment	19,983	911
Other costs	6,259	-
Governance costs (see below)	32,458	4,904
	<u>145,275</u>	<u>93,453</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Advocacy and peer support	123,483	93,453
Training and influencing	21,792	-
	<u>145,275</u>	<u>93,453</u>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Governance costs comprise:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accountancy	25,314	2,794
Board governance	7,144	2,110
	<u>32,458</u>	<u>4,904</u>

In the prior year, training and influencing costs have been included within the advocacy and peer support charitable activity.

### 9 Trustees

During the year, the charity reimbursed expenses incurred by one of the trustees, totalling £1,156 (2022: £NIL).

During the year, the charity purchased services from one of the trustees, totalling £4,800 (2022: £NIL).

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the period was:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable activities	20	12
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total	21	13
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### Employment costs

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	490,202	316,390
Social security costs	39,795	22,618
Other pension costs	12,985	8,667
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	542,982	347,675
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
£60,001 to £70,000	1	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

### 12 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Computers</b>
	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
Additions	14,638
	<u>          </u>
At 31 March 2023	14,638
	<u>          </u>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>	
Depreciation charged in the period	1,847
	<u>          </u>
At 31 March 2023	1,847
	<u>          </u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2023	12,791
	<u>          </u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 13 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Other debtors	78,352	-
Prepayments and accrued income	27,024	1,980
	<u>105,376</u>	<u>1,980</u>

### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Other taxation and social security		31,004	-
Deferred income		46,300	-
Other creditors		5,197	-
Accruals and deferred income		49,545	119,047
		<u>132,046</u>	<u>119,047</u>

### 15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 6 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	201,105	(201,105)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	150,142	(25,142)	125,000
Wearside Women in Need	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	73,000	(73,000)	-
Home Office Perpetrator	-	70,631	(70,631)	-
Home Office	-	250,000	(250,000)	-
John Ellerman Foundation	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Other grants	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>809,878</u>	<u>(684,878)</u>	<u>125,000</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 15 Restricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 6 April 2021 as restated £	Incoming resources as restated £	Resources expended as restated £	At 5 April 2022 as restated £
Major trusts and foundations	-	173,719	(173,719)	-
Government grants	-	182,429	(182,429)	-
Sundry grants	-	145,919	(145,919)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>502,067</u>	<u>(502,067)</u>	<u>-</u>

### 16 Unrestricted funds - designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the Charity's activities.

	At 6 April 2022 £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Designated fund	50,000	-	50,000
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Previous year:	At 6 April 2021 £	Transfers £	At 5 April 2022 £
Designated fund	15,000	35,000	50,000
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>

The Charity maintains a designated fund to facilitate its capacity building projects.

### 17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 6 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	280,759	158,095	(179,604)	-	259,250
	<u>280,759</u>	<u>158,095</u>	<u>(179,604)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>259,250</u>
Previous year:	At 6 April 2021 as restated £	Incoming resources as restated £	Resources expended as restated £	Transfers as restated £	At 5 April 2022 as restated £
General funds	373,827	77,639	(135,707)	(35,000)	280,759
	<u>373,827</u>	<u>77,639</u>	<u>(135,707)</u>	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>280,759</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible assets	10,563	-	2,228	12,791
Current assets/(liabilities)	248,687	50,000	122,772	421,459
	<u>259,250</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>434,250</u>

	Unrestricted funds general as restated 2022 £	Unrestricted funds designated as restated 2022 £	Restricted funds as restated 2022 £	Total as restated 2022 £
<b>Fund balances at 5 April 2022 are represented by:</b>				
Current assets/(liabilities)	280,759	50,000	-	330,759
	<u>280,759</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>330,759</u>

### 19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the period (2022 - none).

### 20 Cash generated from operations

	2023 £	2022 as restated £
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	103,491	(58,068)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,848	-
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(103,396)	(1,980)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(33,301)	129,673
Increase in deferred income	46,300	244,953
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<u>14,942</u>	<u>314,578</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 21 Prior period adjustment

	6 April 2021 £	5 April 2022 £
<b>Adjustments to prior period</b>		
Release accrual	10,625	-
Release deferred income	244,954	118,235
Unrestricted funds as previously reported	118,248	151,899
	<u>373,827</u>	<u>280,759</u>
<b>Analysis of the effect upon reserves</b>		
Unrestricted fund	255,579	118,235
	<u>255,579</u>	<u>118,235</u>
<b>Reconciliation of changes in for the previous financial period</b>		
	2021 £	2022 £
Total adjustments	-	(126,720)
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources as previously reported	(2,416)	68,652
	<u>(2,416)</u>	<u>68,652</u>
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources as previously reported as adjusted	<u>(2,416)</u>	<u>(58,068)</u>

In the prior year, there have been reallocations between direct costs and support costs to ensure the accounts are comparable with the current year. There is no impact on the overall funds.



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### Parties involved with this document

Document processed	Party + Fingerprint
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### Audit history log

Date	Action
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Tue, 30th Jan 2024 16:48:16 UTC	James O'Sullivan signed the envelope (31.24.107.81)
Tue, 30th Jan 2024 16:45:00 UTC	James O'Sullivan viewed the envelope (31.24.107.81)
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Tue, 30th Jan 2024 15:29:45 UTC	Sent the envelope to James O'Sullivan (James.OSullivan@bsa.org.uk) for signing (89.197.20.206)
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**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185078

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# Accounts

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Charity Registration No 1185078



ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 5 April 2022

*“AAFDA UNDERSTAND AND KNOWS THE WAY WE FEEL EVEN IN OUR  
TIMES OF DARKNESS AND ALWAYS PUTS THEIR FAMILIES AT THE  
HEART OF EVERYTHING THEY DO FOR OUR WELLBEING.”  
(FAMILY MEMBER)*

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## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees/Directors	James O'Sullivan (Chair) Heather Wilson Elizabeth Jones Becci Seaborne Jessica Stewart (resigned 30 September 2021) David Ford (appointed 22 March 2022)
Treasurer	David Ford
Charity Number	1185078
Company Number	9527065
Registered Office	30 Commercial Road Swindon Wiltshire SN1 5NS
Independent Examiner	Abacus Accountancy 30 Commercial Road Swindon Wiltshire SN1 5NS

# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

To Year Ending 5 April 2022

## Foreword by AAFDA's CEO

I am incredibly proud of the work AAFDA's team has undertaken this year to raise the status of families left behind after fatal domestic abuse. This has helped the families to cope and recover and to be able to meaningfully contribute and influence statutory reviews and inquiries. The specialism, independence and lived experience that the team brings, means AAFDA is a unique organisation representing bereaved families. Thank you to the AAFDA team. Thank you to our Board of Trustees who provide a sounding board, advice and great assistance. Thank you to our Patrons who fly the flag and to our Ambassador Hattie Webb who does so much to support AAFDA. Thank you, all funders.

The need for our work is increasing year on year - particularly as identification of suicide or unexplained death as a result of, or following domestic abuse, increases – the VKPP research<sup>1</sup> project counted 15 domestic abuse related deaths between 23 March 2020 and 31 March 2021, 18% of which were suspected suicides. AAFDA is the only organisation providing specialist advocacy support to families bereaved by suicide or unexplained deaths in the context of domestic abuse and demand for our services is growing – we saw a 100% increase in referral rates this year in one period, compared to the same period last year. We have worked hard to ensure that this client group is able to access the reviews and justice they deserve, both on an individual and systemic basis, influencing key stakeholders and providing an evidence base for the need for better responses.

I am proud too that we have been continually helping to improve the standard of reviews after fatal domestic abuse, mostly in Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). The launch of the DHR Network this year has been critical to achieving this. I am determined to ensure that reviews after fatal domestic abuse are exercises focusing on making the future safer. The process must not only respect all parties to the review, it must also free up individuals to be honest and vulnerable, a position from which most learning comes. There is a big responsibility on leaders to enable their teams to contribute in this way.

The respect that we have gained as experts at AAFDA, means we have been able to establish strong strategic relationships including with government leads, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, the Victims' Commissioner, the National Police Chiefs Council and other key stakeholders. Working in partnership across the VAWG sector, we have helped to conceive some hugely important developments in the policy arena. For example, AAFDA successfully led, with partners, the campaign to make non-fatal strangulation a crime. And we will continue to exert our influence, and to ensure that the needs and experiences of families impacted by fatal domestic abuse inform the direction of travel. We are looking forward to supporting the DHR reform process that the Government's Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan commits to, and to ensuring that this works for domestic abuse victims and their families to illuminate the past to make the future safer.



Frank Mullane MBE

<sup>1</sup> Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme (VKPP); Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides During the Covid-19 Pandemic 2020-2021; Lis Bates, Katharine Hoeger, Melanie-Jane Stoneman and Angela Whitaker

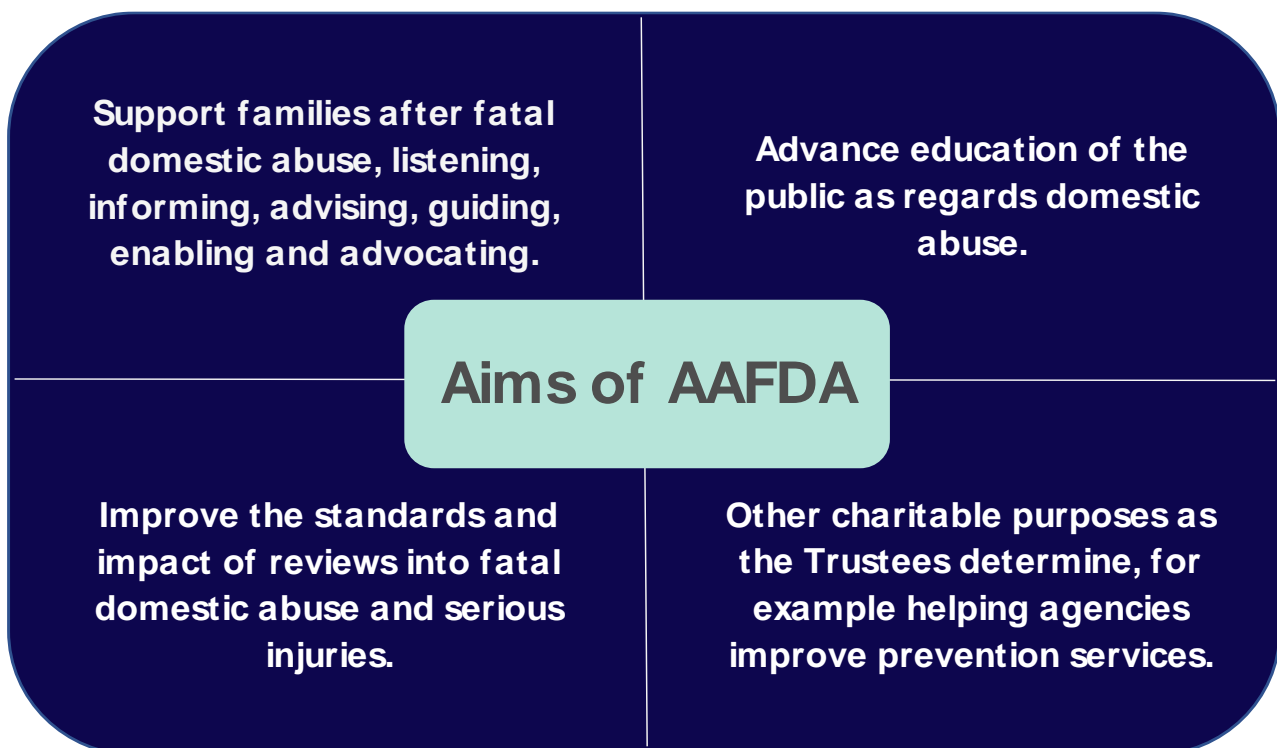


Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA) was founded by Frank Mullane MBE in 2008, in memory of his sister and nephew, Julia and Will Pemberton, whose murders in 2003 prompted an inquiry exposing the difficulties families face in these circumstances. Known as the Pemberton Homicide Review, the inquiry was the first of its kind, exposing a deeply inadequate response to domestic abuse victims. The emotionally exhausting, arduous, and costly process gave Frank the resolve to ensure no-one else faced the same barriers to access justice. He then helped to establish Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), which became law in 2011.

AAFDA is also a centre of excellence for reviews into domestic homicides, suicides and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse. We are particularly skilled in DHR methodology and best practice, having been closely involved in developing the model with the Home Office since 2008, three years before they became law. Using our specialist knowledge and collective insights, we provide for the needs of families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse, and help agencies to refine their services for victims suffering domestic abuse and to review domestic abuse related deaths more effectively. We provide a unique national voice for the learning that each DHR generates. While no two cases are the same, we believe that each DHR is an opportunity to end domestic abuse.

AAFDA's Vision: A future free of domestic violence.

AAFDA's Mission: We advocate, educate and influence to ensure victims' voices are heard, driving change.





## Our work with families impacted by fatal domestic abuse

### Advocacy

AAFDA's specialist and expert advocates are at the heart of the charity. They have lived experience and understanding of the issues faced. Our advocates provide specialist and expert advocacy and peer support, working with the family to secure their right to an adequate investigation and equal treatment within the post-fatal domestic abuse process. They challenge disadvantage, raise the status of the victim in the case narrative, and ensure that the family is integral (not just involved) within post-homicide reviews. AAFDA's trauma-informed service, providing long-term advocacy, goes 'above and beyond' to restore dignity and relief for families.

Some highlights of the advocacy support provided in 2021/22 include:

- Securing 15 DHRs where it was not the intention of the commissioning authorities to undertake one.
- Successfully influencing the police in multiple areas to reopen several criminal investigations and improving interaction between bereaved families and the police and/or the coroner.
- Securing pro-bono legal representation for families at inquests, providing the families with strong support before the coroner. This support helps ensure coroners write regulation 28, 'Preventing Future Deaths' reports.
- Eight families impacted by suicide have benefitted from at least six sessions of specialist trauma therapy – this is a gap in provision for this client group and AAFDA is the only service facilitating this, funding this from income earned through delivering training.



The number of family members impacted by suicide or unexplained death following domestic abuse that AAFDA has supported has grown significantly and reflects growing national awareness of the connection between suicide or unexplained death and domestic abuse. AAFDA is the only provider of specialist and expert advocacy and peer support to people bereaved by suicide and unexplained death where there was a history of domestic abuse.

### Peer support

Initially set up in response to the difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, our drop-in peer support sessions (facilitated online at least once a week by an AAFDA team member) have now become an established safe space to enable families impacted by fatal domestic abuse to connect and share ways to cope with their loss. These sessions also enable families who wish to remain in touch with AAFDA to do so once their advocacy support ends.

Each month we have facilitated sessions with guest speakers, as requested by the family members, covering topics such as:

- Self-care following bereavement.
- Biological responses to bereavement.
- What to expect from, and the benefits of, psychotherapy.
- Trauma responses and mindfulness/grounding techniques.
- Commemorative sessions at Christmas and in October (to coincide with All Souls Day).

We have also provided live music from internationally established artists. Additionally, a number of sessions have enabled us to connect with families who wanted, in a workshop environment, to explore the impact of losing a sibling or a parent and we have provided male only peer support.

## Support for children and young people

Whilst the Home Office Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews (2016) acknowledges that children should have the opportunity to participate in reviews, this rarely happens, with professionals involved in DHRs lacking the knowledge and tools to facilitate this. And there has been no specialist support available to assist children impacted by fatal domestic abuse. In response to these identified needs, in 2021/22 AAFDA has:

- Launched a dedicated support service for children bereaved by fatal domestic abuse with Specialist and Expert Children and Young People’s Advocates joining the team.
- Worked with a very experienced DHR Chair and a local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to produce the first Child Friendly DHR.
- In collaboration with AVA (Against Violence and Abuse), produced guidance for professionals, carers and children and young people to help support children effected by DHRs.



## Residential peer support event

In March 2022, AAFDA facilitated a unique three-day residential peer support event for families bereaved by suicide and unexplained death to help them cope and find ways to continue to recover from their loss. The event included trauma counselling sessions and professionally led workshops for people to connect, share ways to cope with their loss, as well as tools and strategies (including physical resources) for families to strengthen their mental and physical health, resilience, and their own family relationships.

The family members took away with them a variety of tools and strategies to help them to cope better with the impact of their loss, including:

- Writing notebooks that they had started at the event.
- Strategies that gave them the permission and inclination to think positive thoughts.
- An introduction to mindfulness. Families thought this would enable them to recreate this sanctuary whenever they needed it.
- Individual painting canvases to take home, plus a group painted canvas being held by AAFDA.
- An understanding of how being in nature enables recharging and connecting with oneself.

- The ability to have a new community with others who have shared experience and shared trauma.



Families enjoying a day at the beach at the residential peer support event.

### **Giving families a platform to influence change**

AAFDA has always held in high regard the personal testimonies of the families and friends who use our services and the importance of these in influencing improvements to policy and practice. Further, we recognise that, for some family members, telling the story of their lost loved one and ensuring that lessons are learned is critical to their recovery process. AAFDA invites contributions from family members to all of our training and significant events.

In January 2022, on behalf of the Ministry of Justice, AAFDA facilitated two workshops – one with adults bereaved by fatal domestic abuse and one with young people bereaved as children – to ensure that their unique experiences and views were represented in the Ministry of Justice consultation ‘Delivering justice for victims: A consultation on improving victims’ experiences of the justice system’.

In March 2022, AAFDA facilitated a learning day, bringing together 10 family members bereaved by suicides or unexplained deaths following domestic abuse and the Metropolitan Police Service Assistant Commissioner, National Police Chief’s Council lead for domestic abuse, police colleagues, and VKPP project representatives. The purpose of the day was to give families a platform to share their experiences of police responses and to facilitate better understanding of what needs to improve regarding police responses to suicides or unexplained deaths that occur following domestic abuse.



## Our impact:

In 2021/22 AAFDA provided active advocacy support to 181 family members impacted by fatal domestic abuse. Of these, 121 were impacted by domestic homicide and 60 by suicide or unexplained death following domestic abuse.

As a result of AAFDA's support:

- 89% of families felt better able to cope with the emotional and/or practical challenges they faced.
- 84% felt less isolated.
- 79% felt their well-being had improved.
- 74% felt better connected to other people.
- 72% felt helped to move on positively with their lives.

*"Before I contacted AAFDA I was dreading 2022 and the prospect of having to return to work, burdened with so much frustration and anxiety, due to the anxiety about coping and I am returning to work part-time next week." (Family member)*

*"I also just wanted to pass on my sincere thanks to the children who were involved in this process, it was humbling to hear their views. I will ensure that I always listen and put into practice what we have talked about today." (Professional)*

In 2021/22 AAFDA facilitated 87 peer support sessions which were attended by between six to 11 families per session.

*"Initially my confidence had gone to zero. I didn't want to go out but after joining AAFDA I felt I was not alone and was able to talk." (Family member)*

The three-day residential peer support event was attended by 17 family members affected by fatal domestic abuse. Of these, as a result of the event:

- 88% reported that they are better able to cope with the emotional and practical challenges after fatal domestic abuse.
- 88% reported improved well-being and being helped to move on positively with their lives.
- 100% reported feeling reduced isolation and more social interaction.

*"My mind was clear for the first time. Not worrying about anything else except living in the present. I worry about meeting people and suffer from PTSD. This was the first time I didn't feel as many symptoms over a period of days. I only had one episode of each trigger, anxiety and one bad dream which to me is extremely positive and this was all due the service we had received, the attention to detail of the whole planned event that helps us. AAFDA understand and knows the way we feel even in our times of darkness and always puts their families at the heart of everything they do for our wellbeing." (Family member – residential event attendee)*

In 2021/22 eight family members contributed to training or other events held by AAFDA and 22 family members were involved in consultation workshops.

*“I can’t bring back (my sister) but if I can change the way things are done, teach other agencies what signs to look out for... then that’s something.” (Family member)*



## Our work with professionals

In addition to the direct work our advocates undertake with agencies and professionals to improve their responses to individual cases, AAFDA has a wide-ranging training and professional development offer, with the aim of improving practice. We examine ways to increase their status, particularly in the reviews that follow fatal domestic abuse.

### Training

Given the importance of DHRs in driving improvement in domestic abuse services, a primary focus for AAFDA is the professional development of DHR Chairs. This year we facilitated five deliveries of our accredited national DHR Chair training with 66 participants. These sessions incorporated presentations from several external speakers, including family members who have previously undertaken the DHR process and Professors from Oxford University and Gloucestershire University. In addition, we delivered two refresher courses for more experienced Chairs.



Additionally, AAFDA delivered accredited national training on “Being an Effective DHR Panel Member”, “Reviewing Suicide and Unexplained Deaths” and “Managing a Domestic Homicide Review”, as well as many other topic related training events.

Funded by Northumbria PCC, between July 2021 and March 2022 AAFDA delivered 10 one-day training sessions to 237 staff in the Northumbria PCC area (six Local Authorities) to inform professionals on the benefits of including children in the DHR process. We also developed an online resource pack for use after the training, which contains a range of further reading in a variety of mediums, including videos, slides, PDFs and website links.

### The DHR Network

This year AAFDA created the DHR Network. It is primarily for professionals involved in DHRs, including CSPs and Independent Chairs. Its chief goal is to create a consistently high standard of DHRs and offer resources and support for the key professionals involved, and since its launch in the Spring of 2021, we have been busy developing resources and providing learning and connecting opportunities. This includes:

- An online DHR Network Discussion Forum.
- Quarterly e-bulletins with news and updates.

- A Directory of Independent Chairs and DHR alerts, to connect Chairs with CSPs undertaking a DHR.
- Short monthly learning and connecting events, as well as quarterly events with expert speakers.
- A repository of research, articles and resources for our members.



## Our impact

In 2021/22:

- AAFDA advocates have supported 119 statutory agencies to meet the needs of bereaved families.
- A total of 642 professionals have received training by AAFDA.
- The DHR Network grew to more than 200 members and 86% of DHR Network event attendees thought that the Network was doing 'very well' or 'quite well' at improving the standard of DHRs.

*“Will share the learning with colleagues, it has changed my perception of retraumatising the child when actually they want to be heard and kept fully informed.” (Training participant)*

*“So beneficial to have open discussions with experienced chairs and authors for advice.” (Training participant)*



## Our national influence

### Leadership in the public policy agenda

The Domestic Abuse Bill was signed into law in 2021/22, the launch of the government's Violence against Women and Girls Strategy, the launch of the government's Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan, and consultation on the proposed Victims' Bill, "Delivering Justice for Victims". AAFDA has continued to exert strategic influence, representing the needs of those affected by fatal domestic abuse and the professionals involved in this work. To this end:

- We initiated a meeting with the National Police Chiefs Council, the Victims' Commissioner and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's office to agree actions to improve police response to suicides when there was a history of domestic abuse. This included updating the Suicide Authorised Professional Practice (APP) to include signs of domestic abuse and the risk of suicide in cases of domestic abuse.
- Informed by consultation with family members, we submitted a written response to The Ministry of Justice's 'Delivering justice for victims: A consultation on improving victims' experiences of the justice system'.
- We wrote to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner and the Victims' Commissioner in February to share our concerns in relation to the narrowed definition of "victim" in the Victims Code, which was being used as a basis for the Victims' Bill consultation. They and we then wrote to the Deputy Prime Minister to request that the definition in current statute (the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004) was protected.

- AAFDA was credited by the Victim's Commissioner and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner for its key role in securing the non-fatal strangulation offence in the Domestic Abuse Act (2021).

The establishment by AAFDA of a national DHR Network Steering Group with representation from the Home Office, Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office, and Local Government Association has ensured the national work on developing DHRs stays connected and complimentary.

## Raising the profile and understanding of domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse

AAFDA has continued to provide strong leadership in building the knowledge base about domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse, the needs of those impacted by it and best practice responses.

AAFDA ran eight online events over the 16 days of action in November and December 2021. Events included family speakers and professional speakers from around the world, providing peer support and learning for professionals and key government stakeholders.

AAFDA offered a series of free webinars with webinar themes including DHRs and older people, best practice in DHR suicides, from findings to change in the DHR process, restoring humanity in the DHR process, and what families being integral to a review means. Feedback on these events has been overwhelmingly positive.

In preparation for the introduction of the new offence of Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS), we have co-developed a first responders' factsheet (incl. police, emergency medical practitioners and social workers) to help professionals recognise when the offence has occurred and/or the life or health of a victim of NFS may be at risk.

We have also been involved in multiple academia led projects contributing to the evidence base, including:

- The VKPP research of fatal domestic abuse during the pandemic.
- The HALT project, evaluating learning from DHRs to influence policy and practice to prevent domestic homicide nationally.
- University of Central Lancashire's research into families' experiences in DHRs.
- The University of Stirling review of children's involvement in DHRs.
- Work with Respect and academics to review the efficacy of perpetrator programmes.

AAFDA partnered with 10 other charities in the Shadow Pandemic, Domestic Abuse Learning Partnership. Set up with the support of The National Lottery Community Fund, the partnership set out to bring together the voices of survivors and practitioners, relevant research from each organisation, and practical and policy expertise, to demonstrate how the response to domestic abuse needs to change in the long-term, after and as a result of Covid-19. This culminated in the publication of a report, *The Shadow Pandemic – shining a light on domestic abuse during Covid*, which called for a funding solution that is long-term, sustainable and ensures survivors from minoritised groups have better access to specialist support services.

Our CEO, Frank Mullane, was invited to address multiple audiences as keynote speaker or presenter, including events held by Probation, the Police, the Church of England in Durham Cathedral, NHS, GPs and many others. Additionally, AAFDA has issued press releases on relevant topics and Frank was regularly approached to provide comment in national and local media, including a two-page feature on his own story in The Guardian.

The website [www.aafda.org.uk](http://www.aafda.org.uk) continues to be a key source of information for both families impacted by fatal domestic abuse and professionals. We have further built upon our online presence throughout 2021 and into 2022, including through a dedicated peer-support mailing group, to share information about third party research and support available for families. In 2022-23, the website will be re-vamped.

AAFDA has continued to assess DHRs as a member of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel.



### Our impact:

In 2021/22 a total of 1,356 professionals attended AAFDA webinars and events.

In 2021/22, along with sector partners, AAFDA's influence saw the following achievements:

- The creation of a new offence of non-fatal strangulation or suffocation of another person.
- Having children classified as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.
- Families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse being classed as victims and having access to the Victims' Code.
- Government commitment to reform the DHR process.
- A heightened awareness of and improving responses to suicide and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse.
- Increased attention on the impact of the pandemic on victims.

*"Moreover, the work of the charity Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse has been pivotal in getting us here today. I have huge respect for the chief executive Frank Mullane, who works tirelessly to help support traumatised families and ensures that professional training is given towards understanding domestic homicide reviews." (Baroness Newlove - March 2021)*



## Good governance and management

During 2021/2022, our Board consisted of five trustees. New member Jessica Stewart joined and gave enormous assistance before resigning due to work commitments. In the year 2021/2022 our Board of Trustees included a local authority strategic Violence Against Women and Girls lead and expert in the criminal justice sector, a restorative justice practitioner, a safeguarding lead for a Clinical Commissioning Group and senior health advisor, a business and finance specialist, and a trust funding manager.

Our Board meets, at minimum, on a quarterly basis. The Chair and Treasurer have regular and frequent contact with the CEO. During Board meetings the CEO and Deputy CEO report on the main aspects of the charity (work with beneficiaries, impact on victims, emerging issues, finance, strategic plan, operational performance, and risk).

The Board is very aware of its responsibilities to identify and manage risk. A risk management register is reviewed regularly by the CEO who highlights to the Board any increased or new risks identified.

The Board complies with statutory obligations to submit Full Year Accounts, a Trustees' Annual Report, and an Annual Return to the Charity Commission.

### Trustee induction and training

We review the composition and skills of the Board each year to ensure that AAFDA has the skills and knowledge to allow the Board to provide robust governance. All new trustees are supplied with a copy of "*The Essential Trustee*", provided by the Charity Commission, and relevant training is provided to support trustees in their role.

## Finance

### Change of Corporate Structure

Following a period of preparation and a formal resolution of the Trustees on the 16 February 2021, the assets, liabilities and operations of AAFDA were transferred from the unincorporated charity (No 1125973) to a company limited by guarantee (No 1185078 and company No 9527065). All governance and board arrangements remain unaltered by this corporate structural change.

As part of the transfer, the employees are now employed by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd, following TUPE rules. All other assets were transferred and as a result, the new company has paid off all liabilities that were transferred at the same time. All operations, contracts, obligations and income generated since 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 have been accounted for and been transacted by the new company.

The attached accounts, in Note 2, contain full details of the assets and liabilities that were transferred.

The Charity Commission transfer register has been updated to confirm this transfer.

As a result, the unincorporated charity has been deregistered from the Charity Commission register and is being formally dissolved.

### Commentary on 2021/22

AAFDA has seen its income for 2021/22 significantly increase to £706K. The major reason for this increase has been because of new grants from PCCs and the John Ellerman Foundation.

This increased revenue has enabled AAFDA to invest, in line with the restricted nature of the grants, in more support for families. In addition, the Charity has seen an uplift in costs consistent with an organisation growing in size. More funds have been expended in developing the Charity's infrastructure and systems, to increase efficiency and sustainability.

As AAFDA grows, the Trustees are allocating more resources to ensure good governance, improved internal controls and compliance with regulations. This includes planning to re-arrange the organisation's banking arrangements to increase investment income and minimise risk.

### Five-Year Trading History

Note 2 in the attached Supplementary Financial Information on page 24 contains details of the Charity's Five-Year Trading History, irrespective of the legal entity through which the Charity was trading at the time.

### Reserves Policy

To ensure the long-term success and sustainability of AAFDA amidst a very uncertain funding and operating environment, the Trustees aim to maintain free reserves (which exclude restricted grants) equivalent to between three to six months of budgeted operating costs. These free reserves include designated funds which are set aside for specific projects decided by the Board.

## Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees understand it is their duty in exercising their powers to meet the obligations as outlined by the Charity Commission. For example, these responsibilities include being clear that the activities undertaken by AAFDA are for the public benefit and meet the objectives outlined in the Charity's Articles of Association.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 6 September 2022.



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James O'Sullivan  
Chair

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

I report on the accounts for the period ended 5 April 2022, which are set out on pages 10 to 14.

### 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:

- a) Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- b) To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and
- c) To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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 of 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 statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- a) 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
  - To prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met
- b) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Independent Examiner



Abacus Accountancy

07/09/2022

Abacus Accountancy  
30 Commercial Road  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 5NS

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 5 APRIL 2022

£	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	Total £
Incoming resources				
Donations	4,289	-	-	4,289
Charitable Activities	65,150	-	-	65,150
Grants	-	628,786	-	628,786
Other Income	8,200	-	-	8,200
Total Incoming Resources	<u>77,639</u>	<u>628,786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>706,425</u>
Resources expended				
Charitable Activities	8,988	628,786	-	637,774
Net Income in Excess of Expenditure	<u>68,651</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,651</u>
Other recognised gains/( losses)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	<u>68,651</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,651</u>
Net funds transferred from old Charity	118,248	-	15,000	133,248
Transfer between funds	(35,000)	-	35,000	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>£151,899</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£50,000</u>	<u>£201,899</u>

## CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All incoming resources and resources expended from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 5 APRIL 2022

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	Total £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-
Total Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Current assets				
Debtors	-	1,980		1,980
Cash at bank	151,899	245,927	50,000	447,826
Total Current Assets	151,899	247,907	50,000	449,806
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	247,907	-	247,907
Net current assets	151,899	-	-	201,899
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	-	-	-	-
Total assets	£151,899	-	£50,000	£201,899
Funds of the Charity				
Unrestricted	151,899	-	-	151,899
Designated	-	-	50,000	50,000
Total funds	£151,899	-	£50,000	£201,899

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 6 September 2022.



James O'Sullivan  
Chair

The notes form part of these financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 5 April 2022

### 1 Accounting Policies

#### Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice FRS 102 Accounting and Reporting by Charities with Accounting Standards and with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

#### Incoming Resources

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

- the Charity becomes entitled to the resources,
- the Trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources, and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising and charitable activities) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Unrestricted grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Restricted grants are included in the SoFA at a gross level with the assumed related expenditure accrued for, also at a gross level with any excess funds duly transferred to unrestricted funds once the performance conditions required the donor have been satisfied.

Volunteer help received by the Charity is not included in the SoFA.

#### Resources Expended

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation – committing the Charity to pay out resources.

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the cost of Trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Support cost included costs associated with all central functions including finance, marketing and management.

#### Tangible Assets

Assets are capitalised and written off over their useful life if they cost in excess of £1000, otherwise they are treated as resources expended.

#### 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.

#### Value Added Tax

The Charity is not required to register for VAT. All expenses include irrecoverable VAT where charged by suppliers.

## Going Concern

The Charity's accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

## 2 Significant Event

On 6 April 2021, the assets and liabilities of the Charity known as Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (Charity No 1125973) were transferred to Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd (Charity No 1185078 and Company No 9527065) which, until that date, had been dormant since its formation in 2015. This transfer was approved by the Trustees of both charities and registered as a transfer with the Charities Commission.

The assets and liabilities transferred were:

Current Assets	£	£
Debtors – Restricted Funds		32,446
Cash at Bank – Unrestricted	118,248	
– Restricted	320,070	
– Designated	15,000	
		<u>453,318</u>
Total Assets		485,764
Creditors – Restricted		(352,516)
		<u>£133,248</u>
Net Assets		
Funds of Charity		
Unrestricted		118,248
Designated		15,000
		<u>£133,248</u>

The transferred assets and liabilities were treated as opening entries of the new Charity for the financial year ending on 5 April 2022.

As the new Charity was previously dormant there are no comparative figures shown in the Statement of Financial Affairs or the Balance Sheet. However, the details of the assets and liabilities transferred as shown above represent the state of affairs of the old Charity on the 5 April 2021.

## 3 Trustee Expenses/Board of Governance

The Trustees ordinarily receive no remuneration or benefits. However in the year ending 5 April 2022, one Trustee received a payment of £9915 in remuneration for carrying out a project related to the development of the DHR Network. Following an appropriate process and as authorised by the Articles of Association, the Board decided that, in the absence of alternatives and as urgent action was required, to appoint that Trustee to carry out this project. The Network was successfully launched by the Trustee and has been developed further by other resources since this initial project.

Other than this payment Board Governance costs were £2110 in the year to 5 April 2022.

#### 4 Fees for Independent Examination of Accounts

The Independent Examiner charged the Charity £100 for their review. They were also paid £2,694 in other fees for advice and accountancy services in the year ended 5 April 2022.

5 Staff Costs	£
Gross Salaries	316,390
Employee National Insurance	22,618
Pension Costs	<u>8,667</u>
Total	<u>£347,675</u>

During the year no benefits in kind were made available to employees.

The average number of full-time equivalent employees employed during the year and the parts of the Charity in which they worked were:

Fundraising	1
Charitable Activities	<u>12</u>
Total	<u>13</u>

#### 6 Debtors and Prepayments

Amounts receivable within one year include: Expenses paid in advance £1,980

#### 7 Creditors and Accruals

Amounts payable within one year were for:

	£
	129,672
Deferred Grant Income	<u>118,235</u>
Total	<u>£247,907</u>

#### 8 Restricted and Designated Funds

##### 8.1 Designated Funds

The Charity maintains a designated fund to facilitate its ability to build and maintain its charitable activities. On the transfer of assets and liabilities on 6 April 2021 (see note 2) this fund had a balance of £15,000. During the year ending 5 April 2022, the Trustees decided to increase this fund to £50,000 by transferring £35,000 from general reserves.

##### 8.2 Movement of Major Restricted Funds

During the year ended 5 April 2022, the Charity received the following restricted grants:

	£
Major Trusts and Foundations	173,719
Government Grants	309,148
Sundry Grants	<u>145,919</u>
	<u>£628,786</u>

Expenditure, either expended or accrued against these restricted incoming resources was £628,786.

### 8.3 Movement in Unrestricted Funds

On the transfer of assets and liabilities on 6 April 2022 (see Note 2) the Charity's general unrestricted funds were £118,248. These funds were increased during the year ending 5 April 2022 by £33,651 after a transfer of £35,000 to designated funds to total £151,899 at that date.

The Trustees of AAFDA Ltd certify that payments of funds awarded under grant contracts, and recognised in the financial statements, have been and are being fully and correctly utilised by the Charity for the purposes of fulfilling the grant obligations.

## 9 Cashflow Statement

Net Incoming Reserves for the year ending 5 April 2022	£68,651
Adjustment in Working Capital	
Movements in Accrual and Deferred Income	(104,609)
Movements in Debtor and Prepayments	<u>30,466</u>
	(5,492)
Opening Bank Balance transferred on 6 April 2021	<u>453,318</u>
Closing Bank Balance as at 5 April 2022	<u>£447,826</u>

## 10 Controlling Policy

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

## SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## 1 Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 5 April 2022

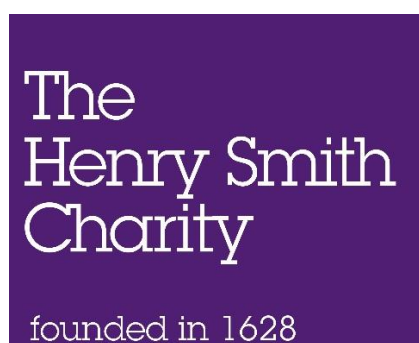
	£	£
<u>Income</u>		
Donations and Gift Aid		4,289
Grants		628,786
Speaking, Consultancy and Training Fees		65,150
Domestic Homicide Review Network Fees		8,200
	Total Income	<u>£706,425</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Charitable Activities		
Employment Cost	347,675	
Travel Expenses	12,397	
Domestic Homicide Review Network	31,849	
Project Partner Costs	17,058	
Support Materials	7,140	
Equipment Renewal	10,667	
Trauma Therapy	13,500	
Peer Support	21,479	
Supervision and Staff Welfare	9,075	
Training and Recruitment	36,516	
Monitoring and Evaluation	25,739	
Strategic Review and Capacity Development	26,342	
Advocacy Awareness Cost Adjustment	(5,511)	
	<u>553,926</u>	
Support Costs		
Fundraising	24,842	
IT Systems and Website	14,556	
Telephone and Postage	3,312	
Security	8,130	
Office Supplies and Utilities	5,652	
Insurance	4,303	
HR Services	5,940	
Legal and Professional	12,209	
Accountancy Fees	2,794	
Board Governance	2,110	
	<u>83,848</u>	
		<u>637,774</u>
		<u>£68,651</u>

## 2 Five Year Trading History

In recognising that the Charity transferred its assets and liabilities on 6 April 2021 to a Limited Company, it was thought to be useful to show the Charity's five-year trading history, irrespective of which organisation was active at that time. The summary information is as follows:

£000's	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Gross Income	229	367	343	451	706
Total Expenditure	<u>232</u>	<u>354</u>	<u>356</u>	<u>454</u>	<u>638</u>
Net Income/Expenditure	<u>(3)</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>(13)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>68</u>
Income from Government Grants	5	139	100	286	309

The figures for 2018-2021 were reported under the old Charity (Charity No 1125973), whereas 2022 is for the new Charity (Charity No 1185078).



**THE DULVERTON TRUST**

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185078

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# Accounts

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# AAFDA

## Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse

# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

## 2020/2021

*To Year Ending 5th April 2021*

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA) is a national charity working across England and Wales, providing specialist and expert advocacy and practical and emotional help for families after fatal domestic abuse. AAFDA is also a centre of excellence for reviews into domestic homicides, suicides and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse. We are particularly skilled in Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) methodology and best practice having been closely involved in developing the model with the Home Office since 2008, three years before they became law. Using our specialist knowledge and collective insights we help agencies to refine their services for victims and to review domestic abuse related deaths more effectively. We provide a unique national voice for the learning that each DHR generates. While no two cases are the same, we believe that each DHR is an opportunity to end domestic abuse.

AAFDA was formed in April 2008 in memory of Julia and Will Pemberton, whose murders in 2003 prompted an inquiry exposing the difficulties families face in these circumstances. Our work raises the status of families left behind after fatal domestic abuse, helping them to cope and to be able to contribute and influence statutory reviews and inquiries.

*"AAFDA has a service offer that cannot be replicated... AAFDA has provided an excellent service and is unique in so far as its staff are specialists in domestic abuse and the reviews that follow domestic homicide, as well as experts by experience. Moreover, AAFDA is recognised internationally for its model of practice and its Centre of Excellence for reviews after domestic homicide."*

*– Letter to the Ministry of Justice from nine DHR Chairs (May 2020)*

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2020/2021

- Over 70 new referrals with support provided to over 100 individuals.
- Over 270 live cases with support provided for over 490 individuals.
- Over 60 families supported after a suicide following domestic abuse.
- 89% of families surveyed indicated they are better able to cope after homicide as a result of engaging with us.
- Over 1,000 participants on AAFDA training.
- A key partner in the creation of the standalone offence of non-fatal strangulation into the Domestic Abuse Bill.
- A key partner in securing the recognition of children as victims of domestic abuse in their own right in the Domestic Abuse Bill.

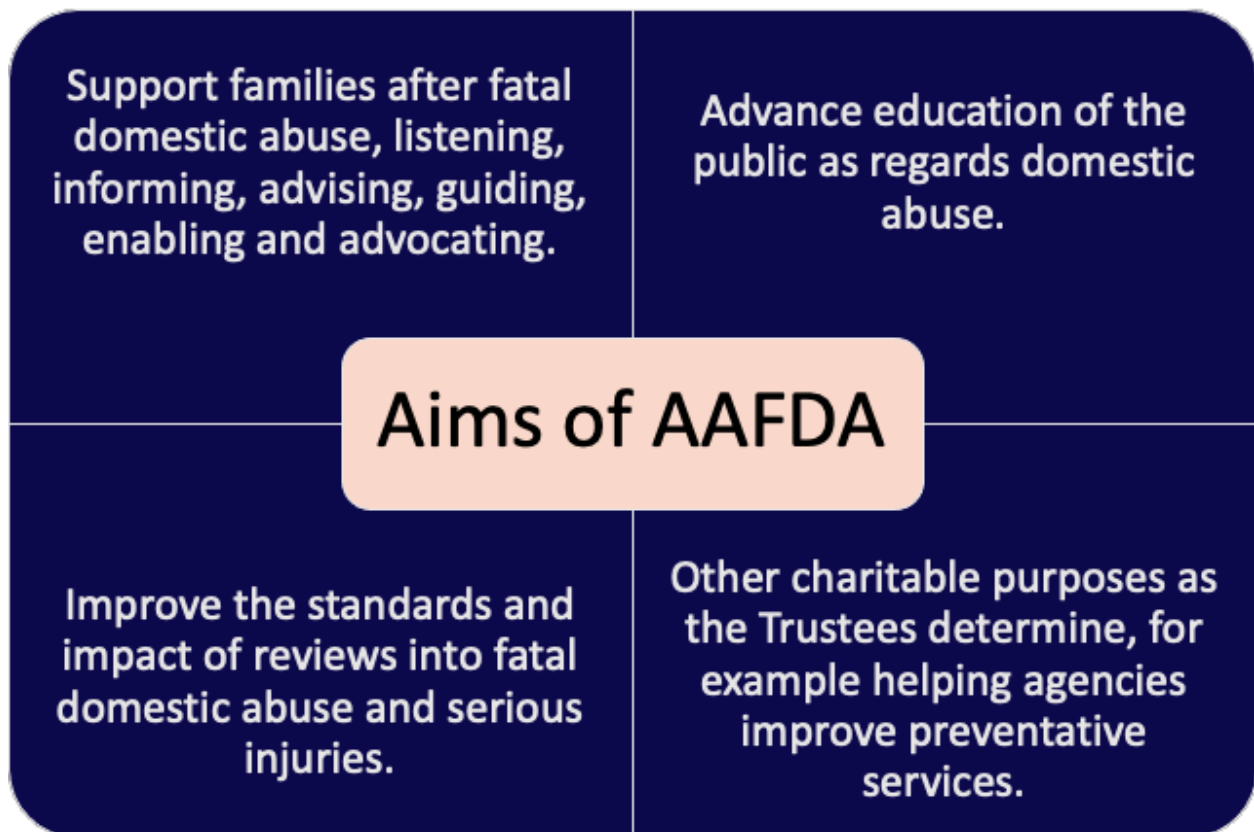


Figure 1: Aims of AAFDA.

# WORKING WITH FAMILIES

Our advocates are both specialist and highly expert due to their own personal lived experience, knowledge, and training. They work in the space where there is sometimes a lack of specialist understanding about domestic abuse and occasionally a "job done" attitude, which limits families' ability to exercise their rights and compounds their trauma. The advocates are intensively trained to ensure that their work achieves outcomes for families. This year we have successfully advocated to achieve families' full legal entitlements in DHRs, Inquests and other statutory reviews.

We use a holistic model of advocacy that goes "above and beyond" to restore dignity and relief for families. Our trauma-informed service provides long-term advocacy. We listen to families and advocate for them in a complex system that too often treats them as passive participants and overlooks the value of their insight.

Our independence and proficiency mean that we can meet the needs of those who are most marginalised and distanced from statutory services, with the majority of our support cases being self-referrals direct from families. A strategic priority remains to increase representation in DHRs and other statutory reviews from minority group families. Our specialist advocacy offers an intersectional understanding to families where circumstances are converging to limit their access to justice.

*"The grieving process never changes but during the lockdown I have more time to reflect on things that happened so feel frustrated and angry and sad."*

*– Family Member, Anonymous (February 2021)*

## Peer Support Network

Despite the difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic we have adapted to continue providing our one-to-one advocacy and peer support. We developed and hosted support sessions via telephone and video conference. We also organised drop-in events over Zoom where families could chat to one another in a safe space (facilitated at least twice a week by an AAFDA team member) while other events involved the award-winning singer/songwriter/harpist Hattie Webb interviewing public figures and guest speakers including: the Secretary of State for Justice and Lord Chancellor Robert Buckland QC MP and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner Nicole Jacobs. These guest speaker sessions included themes on the needs of siblings, families bereaved by suicide, and included a poignant candlelight remembrance session.

*“The peer support is also priceless connecting with others who truly understand and share our experiences.”*

*– Family Member, Anonymous (March 2021)*

## Domestic Abuse Related Suicide/Unexplained Deaths

In direct response to our identification of a previously unmet beneficiary need, we extended our support to families bereaved by suicide and unexplained death where there was a history of domestic abuse. These families had no-where else to turn and were being signposted by professionals or finding their own way to us.

We are the only provider of specialist and expert advocacy and peer support to people bereaved by suicide and unexplained death where there was a history of domestic abuse. We have persuaded authorities to commission DHRs for many families and provided advocacy and support for over 60 families bereaved by suicide. Our evaluation processes consistently showed that this support is as valuable to these families as it is to families bereaved by domestic homicide. Suicide and unexplained death cases uncover perhaps the most invisible victims of domestic abuse, and we want to ensure that their families receive the same level and quality of support as that provided to families bereaved by domestic homicide.

*"I tried for 23 weeks and 6 days to get someone to listen to my concerns and actually see it wasn't as straight forward as the police were saying."*

*– Family Member, Anonymous (February 2021)*

## Annual Family Survey

In April 2021, we conducted an outcome evaluation of our services with the aims of; assisting internal learning, improving services, and enhancing reporting to Trusts who support us. The evaluation involved processes and tools including; a questionnaire to approximately 140 service users, interviews with randomly selected families (from different “bands” of service intensity and length), and interviews with advocates and other team members. The survey questions and topic themes for the evaluation were based on the outcomes and targets agreed with funding bodies.

*“Until your life has been touched by this you will never fully understand the impact, AAFDA have been a bridge across this otherwise impossible to understand canyon of self-protecting agencies!”*

– Family Member, Anonymous (March 2021)

Outcome	Target/Indicator	Result
Families are better able to cope with the emotional and practical challenges after homicide, as a result of engaging with AAFDA.	<b>80% of families asked, report positive changes</b>	<b>Exceeded (89%)</b>
Families report improved wellbeing and are helped to move on positively with their lives as a result of engaging with AAFDA.	<b>75% of families asked, report positive changes</b>	<b>Room for improvement (63%)</b>
Families report feeling reduced isolation and more social interaction as a result of engagement with AAFDA	<b>70% of families asked, report positive changes</b>	<b>Exceeded (85%)</b>
Families are empowered to take part in DHRs, Inquests and other inquiries and do so meaningfully.	<b>90% of families who feel supported and engaged with DHRs etc and are satisfied that they know the facts of the case</b>	<b>Exceeded (91%)</b>



## DHR Network

Throughout 2020/2021 we consulted with stakeholders (including several 1:1 interviews and two target audience and beneficiary surveys) to scope and develop the DHR Network. In March 2021 we held a pre-launch event for DHR Chairs and Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and invited people to join the DHR Network. The project is aimed at creating a network focused on raising the standard of DHRs nationally and it formally launched in April 2021.

The DHR Network aims to;

- Reduce levels of domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse by raising the standard of DHRs,
- Support key professionals in DHR work,
- Ensure that relevant voices are heard, and
- Learn and then embed the learnings.

Ultimately, it is envisaged the DHR Network will assist DHR Chairs to achieve a consistently high standard for DHRs, offer resources, and provide a forum for DHR Chairs to meet, debate, and suggest improvements.

This network has been widely welcomed with;

- Over 40 network pre-registrations,
- A sold-out pre-launch event (2nd March), and
- Over 300 Twitter followers.

*“[the] DHR Network is a monumental step forward”*

*– Regional Safeguarding Lead, DHR Network pre-launch (February 2021)*

## Training

The difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic required us to think differently about how we would hold our annual conference for professionals. Rather than cancel, we swiftly mobilised to instead deliver a series of on-line courses, attracting over 1,000 attendees during the year. Delivered in parallel with DHR Chair training, courses included topics such as; *“Being an Effective DHR Panel Member”*, *“Reviewing Suicide and Unexplained Deaths”* and the CPD Standards Office accredited, *“Managing a Domestic Homicide Review”*.

In addition, we were able to facilitate the delivery of two sessions of our high standard DHR Chair Training with over 20 participants. These sessions incorporated presentations from several external speakers including; family members who have previously undertaken the DHR process and Professors from Oxford University and Gloucestershire University.

*“Really useful as a professional working in the field, even more so that it was available during COVID-19.”*

*– NHS Nurse and Named Child Safeguarding Lead, DHR training event (August 2020)*

## Presentations/Webinars

We are particularly pleased with our 16 Days of Activism event which took the form of 16 one-hour presentations on each day of the period of action (25th November to 10th December 2020). Presenters included bereaved family members who had benefitted from our support and specialists/researchers/professors from the domestic abuse sectors here in the UK, the USA and Australia. We were also privileged to host both the Victims' Commissioner Dame Vera Baird QC and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner Nicole Jacob as presenters. Over 100 people signed up for the event series.

In February, we launched a year-long series of free webinars with over 300 individuals attending the first session relating to best practice in DHR methodology, and over 280 attending our second session, titled *“From Findings to Change”*. These webinars provided a perfect opportunity to reach out to our professional safeguarding colleagues, and as a result we have seen a 6% increase in sign-ups to our mailing list (growing from 1080 to 1145).

*“Thank you, very informative, powerful and inspiring.”*

*– DHR Methodology Webinar Attendee (February 2021)*

## Against Violence & Abuse (AVA) Partnership Supporting Children

We have long been concerned that children and young people are frequently overlooked in the DHR process of gathering information about victims' lives. We therefore worked in partnership with the charity AVA to create a set of three specialist resources for supporting children and young people through the DHR process. This partnership led to the development of a suite of resources for professionals, carers, and for children themselves, to safely support children and young people to have a voice in DHR processes. The resources provide essential information about trauma, its effects, and outline coping strategies to help families, children, and young people. The resources answer common questions about the DHR process and the AAFDA seven-step model for helping families be integral to DHRs. This is in easily accessible language,

alongside practical information. This package of complementary resources was developed with direct beneficiary input.

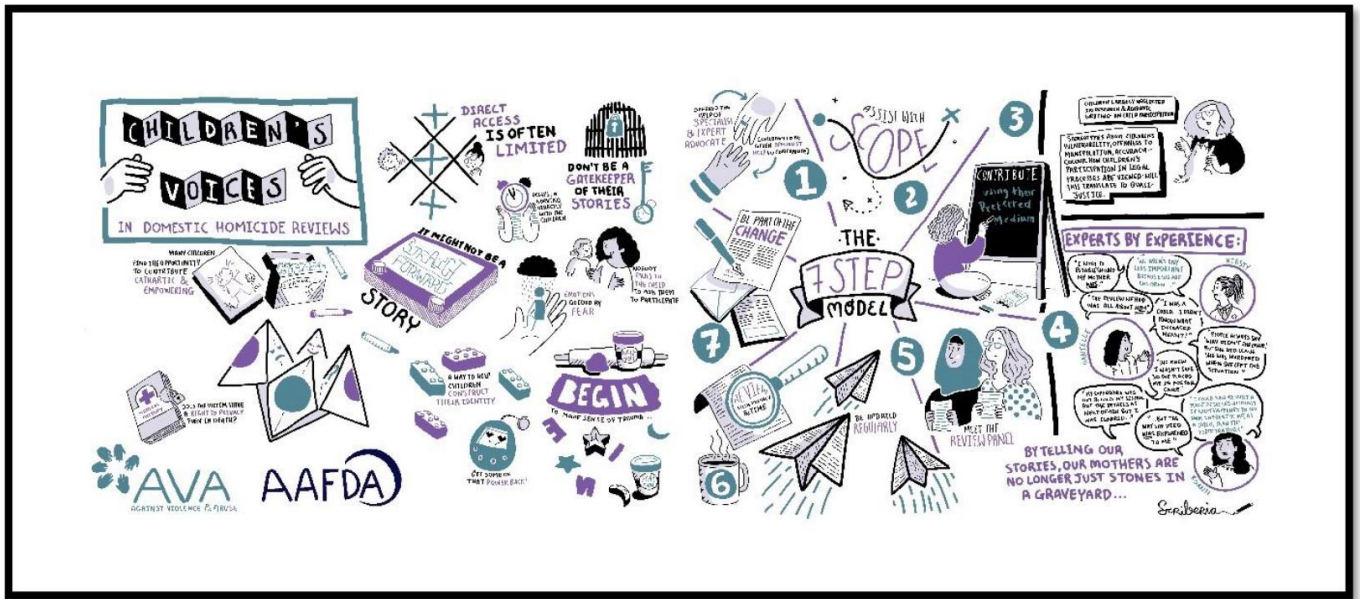


Figure 3: Artwork by Scriberia from the London seminar with children and young people (March 2020)

# WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT

## Domestic Abuse Bill 2020

AAFDA worked with colleagues across the domestic abuse sector to champion the needs of families bereaved by domestic abuse in the Domestic Abuse Bill 2020 consultation process. Throughout the year, AAFDA was part of a Domestic Abuse and Children working group, made up of organisations working in both the children's and domestic abuse sectors. The work of this group has ensured that the Bill, and the expected statute to follow, will view children as victims in their own right and represents a significant success through collaboration.

AAFDA was a founding member of the campaign group lobbying for a standalone offence of non-fatal strangulation in the Domestic Abuse Bill, driven by the lived experience revealed by friends and families supported by AAFDA, backed by research that domestic abuse survivors of non-fatal strangulation are seven times more likely to be killed by their partner or ex-partner. The amendment was supported and tabled by Baroness Newlove in the House of Lords, who in her summary speech in March 2021, after the amendment was passed, noted AAFDA's and its beneficiaries' "pivotal" role in the campaign.

*“Moreover, the work of the charity Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse has been pivotal in getting us here today. I have huge respect for the chief executive Frank Mullane, who works tirelessly to help support traumatised families and ensures that professional training is given towards understanding domestic homicide reviews.”*

*– Baroness Newlove (March 2021)*

## Violence Against Women And Girls (VAWG) Strategy Refresh

AAFDA's work inherently delivers outcomes that align with the Home Office's Single Departmental Plan objective to Protect Vulnerable People and Communities. Our work also supports the actions aimed at supporting victims and their families and pursuing offenders as laid out in the Government's Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2016-2020 and its refresh. During the VAWG Strategy refresh, AAFDA took every opportunity to represent and magnify the voices of victims and survivors who are expert through their own lived experience; and to continue to share knowledge and learning from DHRs and our wider work, in the VAWG Strategy refresh. We were pleased to see that the four pillars of prevention, provision of services, partnership working, and pursuing perpetrators within the Government's VAWG Strategy refresh reflect those at the core of AAFDA since we were established in 2008,

as these continue to be the outcomes families want to see and when adequately applied, provide the outcomes that our work strives to achieve.

## Home Office Preparedness for COVID-19 Inquiry

AAFDA provided written evidence to the Home Affairs Committee to inform their inquiry into Home Office preparedness for COVID-19. The main thrust of AAFDA's response is that Police need to be investigating suicides and unexplained deaths where there is a history of domestic abuse, whether it was reported or not, with the same rigour as they would a homicide.

## Continued Communication and Dialogue

AAFDA continued to set up and manage communication platforms for its beneficiaries and professionals working to support survivors of domestic abuse and/or families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse throughout the year. Despite the limited ability to arrange face-to-face meetings, we set up video conferences with key Government officials and maintained active communication. For example, as noted earlier in this report, we ran an event every day during the 16 Days of Activism against Violence Against Women and Girls with speakers including the Victims Commissioner Dame Vera Baird QC and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner Nicole Jacobs. We further supported the Government's first Hidden Harms Summit in May 2020 and helped shape the Ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately) domestic abuse codeword scheme.

We also regularly communicated with Government on matters relating to the domestic homicide process on behalf of our beneficiaries. For example, in late February 2021, we wrote to Home Secretary Priti Patel MP requesting her intervention to ensure a DHR was commissioned following the homicide of Ruth Williams.

*"This was an appalling case and our thoughts are with the family and friends of Ruth Williams. Having personally reviewed this case, the Home Secretary is not satisfied with the conclusions reached by Torfaen Council Public Service Board that there are no lessons to be learned from this tragic death. That is why she has written to the board to instruct it to establish a domestic homicide review."*

*– Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Safeguarding Victoria Atkins MP (March 2021)*

# GOOD GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

AAFDA formed as an unincorporated association on 1 April 2008. It adopted an amended constitution on 23 July 2008 and became a registered charity on 19 September 2008. It became incorporated on 6 April 2021.

## Finance System

Recognising our growth as an organisation we implemented a new QuickBooks system to facilitate improvements to our financial administration and reporting. Further, expenses are now submitted via Dext software which significantly reduces manual entry. The implementation of this system was initially assisted by an external consultant, and then internally managed by our finance lead, including training and transitioning the wider team to the new financial processes.

## Case Management System

We are pleased with how the annual survey, individual interviews, and independent review have captured many of the outcomes data used in this report. We received a rich, in-depth, and representative analysis of our client group, with both qualitative and quantitative data.

We recognised that a formal Case Management System (CMS) is important for us as a growing organisation, both in terms of size but also in terms of the numbers of beneficiaries we can support. One benefit of a CMS for us is that it will provide for the simplification of collection and analysis of our data, facilitating the identification of further improvements to our service. However, and in our view more importantly, it will be our beneficiaries who see some of the most significant improvements. A CMS will provide a standardised means for advocates to support them. It will facilitate: maintenance of case notes, prompting of regular check-ins and surveys with beneficiaries (voluntary), case milestone reviews, our anonymous annual survey, individual interviews, focus groups, and independent reviews.

A formal CMS is a significant step on the road to ensuring a stable foundation for us to provide support to our beneficiaries and to learn from as we grow, and with its developmental roots in 2020/2021, much of the work relating to selecting and embedding a new system is planned for 2021/2022.

## Governance And How AAFDA Makes Decisions

During 2020/2021, our Board consisted of five trustees. At the start of the year, Samantha O'Sullivan stepped down from the Board and James O'Sullivan was appointed Chair. At the same meeting in April 2020, a new member joined the Board. Throughout 2020/21 our Board of trustees included a local authority strategic Violence Against Women and Girls lead and expert in the criminal justice sector, a restorative justice practitioner, a safeguarding lead for a Clinical Commissioning Group and senior health advisor, a business and finance specialist, and a trust funding manager.

Our Board meets, at minimum, on a quarterly basis. During Board meetings the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Head of Operations report on the main aspects of the charity (work with beneficiaries, impact on victims, emerging issues, finance, strategic plan, operational performance, and risk).

The Board is aware of its responsibilities to identify and manage risk. A risk management register is reviewed regularly by the CEO who highlights to the Board any increased or new risks identified. The trustees and CEO are in regular and frequent contact by telephone and e-mail.

The Board complies with statutory obligations to submit Full Year Accounts, a Trustees' Annual Report, and an Annual Return to the Charity Commission.

## Trustee Induction And Training

Board recruitment continued following our skills audit in 2019/2020 and a new member was appointed. She had experience in working in the charity sector and as an assessor for a grant giving Trust. Trustees receive regular refresher safeguarding training in line with our Safeguarding policy. We review the composition and skills of the Board each year to ensure that AAFDA has the skills and knowledge to allow the Board to provide robust governance. All new trustees are supplied with a copy of *"The Essential Trustee"*, provided by the Charity Commission, and invited to discuss any queries with the Chair. The trustees receive no remuneration or other benefits.

## COVID-19

We adapted our service offer to ensure that families, advocates, and other staff got the support they needed through the year, including during the three periods of lockdown due to the COVID-

19 pandemic. For families, we continued to provide our one-to-one advocacy and peer support sessions via telephone and video conferencing.

*“It has affected my mental health because it makes you miss your loved ones more. In a crisis I would have turned to my Mum, I can't because she was killed.”*

*– Family Member, Anonymous (November, 2020)*

For professionals, the difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic required us to think differently about our annual conference and we instead delivered a series of on-line courses and multiple webinars for professionals. These were very well received.

To ensure AAFDA staff were supported during the various challenges created by the pandemic AAFDA implemented a number of actions including; extending our flexible working arrangements, distributing “*well-being packs*”, and a variety of relevant personal protective equipment.

## Website

Having conducted a review of our online presence at the beginning of 2020, we decided to update our website to ensure we were providing the best possible support to the various groups and individuals we work with. We undertook a process of co-production with families to help shape the content, information, and resources, and, in January 2021, our new website was launched.

# FINANCE

Income for 2020/2021 was £451K and costs were £454K. AAFDA's primary funder was the Home Office (£286K) with significant funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the Henry Smith Charity and the Dulverton Trust. A further £39K was generated through consultancy work. AAFDA undertakes regular strategic reviews to inform our fundraising strategy.

## Reserves Policy

To ensure the long-term success of AAFDA amidst a very uncertain funding environment and to maintain provision for the families who require AAFDA services, the Trustees aim for reserves to be between three and six months of annual expenditure. We are on target to sustain reserves in this range which ensures financial resilience and complies with the Charity Commission's guidance.

## Public Benefit Statement

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regards to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. This includes, for example, being clear that the activities AAFDA undertakes are for the public benefit.

## Financial Review

AAFDA has prepared accounts on the accruals basis. They show a true and fair view.

	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2019-20</u>
	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Donations and Gift Aid	9,295	1,784
Grants	377,333	286,150
Speaking and Training Fees	39,183	54,769
Other	25,510	
Total Income	<u>451,321</u>	<u>342,703</u>

## Revenue Expenditure

	£	£
Salaries and Employer 'On' Costs	326,788	222,796
Travel and Office Supplies	2,832	38,944
Monitoring and Evaluation (CMS)	9,255	1,359
Strategic Review and Capacity Building	21,290	14,291
Other Home Office Advocacy Awareness Raising Costs	-5,511	45,770
Training	18,483	7,700
Website Maintenance and Development	5,392	821
Equipment Renewals and Data Protection	13,026	4,058
Other	62,182	20,677
Total Expenditure	<u>453,737</u>	<u>356,416</u>

	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2019-20</u>
	£	£
<b><u>Balance Sheet</u></b>		
Fixed Assets	0	0
Total Assets less Liabilities	133,248	135,664
Unrestricted Funds	108,248	110,664
Designated Funds	25,000	25,000
Funds	<u>133,248</u>	<u>135,664</u>

## Social Value

Our charitable activities create social value under the National Social Value Measurement Framework's "Social" theme of creating healthier, safer, and more resilient communities. We do this by meeting key outcomes for supporting people to have more control over their own lives and outcomes around promoting mental health support and promoting peer networks.

*“Like a weight has been lifted, comfortable to talk and share with others, not so alone isolated, understood and allowed to be listened to and heard.”*

*– Family Member, Anonymous (March 2021)*

## AAFDA DETAILS

### Charity Number

1185078 (Note: AAFDA's charity number, prior to incorporation in April 2021, was 1125973)

### Company Number

9527065

### Trustees In The Year Ending 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021

*Heather Wilson*

*James O'Sullivan*

*Elizabeth Jones*

*Samantha O'Sullivan*

*Jessica Stewart*

*Becci Seaborne*

### AAFDA Ambassador

*Hattie Webb*

### AAFDA Patrons

*Dame Vera Baird QC (Victims' Commissioner)*

*Helen Grant MP (MP for Maidstone and the Weald)*

*Anne Snelgrove (former MP for South Swindon)*

*Julia Drown (former MP for South Swindon)*



## THE DULVERTON TRUST

The logo for AAFDA (Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse) features the acronym 'AAFDA' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters are set against a dark blue background that has a subtle gradient. To the right of the text, there is a white, glowing crescent moon shape that partially overlaps the letter 'A'.

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE.**

**Charity No. 1125973**

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**Annual Accounts for the Period**

**6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021.**

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**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE**  
**Charity No. 1125973**

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# Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse

Charity No : 1125973

Annual accounts for the period 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021

## Balance Sheet

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Designated Funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets (Note 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock and work in progress	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors (Note 7)		32,446		32,446	789
(Short term) investments	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	108,248	320,070	25,000	453,318	334,391
<b>Total current assets</b>	108,248	352,516	25,000	485,764	335,180
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 7)</b>		352,516		352,516	199,516
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Provisions for liabilities and charges</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net assets</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Unrestricted funds	108,248			108,248	110,664
	-			-	-
		-		-	-
Designated funds (Note 8)			25,000	25,000	25,000
<b>Total funds</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18 January 2022. Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Designated funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds :</b>					
Donations	9,295			9,295	1,784
Grants		377,333		377,333	286,150
Incoming resources from charitable activities	39,183			39,183	54,769
Other incoming resources		25,510		25,510	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>48,478</b>	<b>402,843</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>451,321</b>	<b>342,703</b>
<b>Resources expended (Notes 3-5)</b>					
<b>Costs of Generating Funds :</b>					
Charitable activities	50,894	402,843		453,737	356,416
Governance costs				-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>50,894</b>	<b>402,843</b>		<b>453,737</b>	<b>356,416</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>- 13,713</b>
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>- 13,713</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>- 13,713</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>110,664</b>		<b>25,000</b>	<b>135,664</b>	<b>149,377</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>108,248</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18 January 2022. Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).

## Notes to the accounts

### Note 1 Basis of preparation

*This section should be completed by all charities .*

#### 1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (FRSSE SORP);
- and with\*  Accounting Standards;
- or  Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
- and with the Charities Act 1993.

#### 1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

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#### 1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

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These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18 January 2022. Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).

## Notes to the accounts

### Note 2 Accounting policies

*This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity except for those deleted. Where a different or additional policy has been adopted then this is detailed in the box below.*

#### INCOMING RESOURCES

<b>Recognition of incoming resources</b>	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the charity becomes entitled to the resources;</li> <li>• the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and</li> <li>• the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.</li> </ul>
<b>Incoming resources with related expenditure</b>	Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.
<b>Grants and donations</b>	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
<b>Tax reclaims on donations and gifts</b>	Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.
<b>Contractual income and performance related grants</b>	This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.
<b>Gifts in kind</b>	<p>Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised.</p> <p>Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity.</p> <p>Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.</p>
<b>Donated services and facilities</b>	These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.
<b>Volunteer help</b>	The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.
<b>Investment income</b>	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
<b>Investment gains and losses</b>	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

#### EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

<b>Liability recognition</b>	Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.
<b>Governance costs</b>	Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.
<b>Grants with performance conditions</b>	Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.
<b>Grants payable without performance conditions</b>	These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.
<b>Support Costs</b>	Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, eg allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### ASSETS

<b>Tangible fixed assets for use by charity</b>	These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.
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**POLICIES ADOPTED ADDITIONAL TO OR DIFFERENT FROM THOSE ABOVE**

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## Notes to the accounts

### Note 3 Details of certain items of expenditure

#### 3.1 Trustee expenses

*Please provide details of the amount of any payment or reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses made to trustees or to third parties for expenses incurred by trustees. If no expenses were paid, please enter 'None' in the appropriate box(es).*

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

Nature of the expenses

Total amount paid

This year	Last year
0	0
TRAVEL	TRAVEL
£0	£0

#### 3.2 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

*Please provide details of the amount paid for any statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by your independent examiner or auditor. If nothing was paid please enter NONE in the appropriate box(es).*

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

Other fees (for example: advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

This year £	Last year £
£100	£100
None	None

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## Notes to the accounts

**Note 4**                      **Paid employees***Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.***4.1 Staff Costs**

	This year £	Last year £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	287,267	197,366
Employer's National Insurance costs	22,670	14,176
Pension costs	16,851	11,254
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>326,788</b>	<b>222,796</b>

During the year under review, no benefits-in-kind were made available to employees.

**4.2 Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year**

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	3	3
Charitable Activities	9	7
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>

**4.3 Defined contribution pension scheme***Please complete if a defined contribution pension scheme is operated.*

Brief details of the scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are recognised as soon as they become payable.

The costs of the scheme to the charity for the year

The amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end

	This year £	Last year £
	<b>£7,791</b>	<b>£3,898</b>

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# Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse

Charity No : 1125973

Annual accounts for the period 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021

## Notes to the accounts

### Note 5 Exceptional Items.

#### Board Governance

During the year under review, AAFDA continued with an ongoing system of Board Governance to re-validate existing systems and checks in place to deliver the stated objectives and purposes of the charity on a timely and efficient basis.

A summary of the expense headings are as follows:

Trustee and Meeting Expenses  
Legal and Accountancy Advice

	This Year £	Last Year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18th January 2022.

Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).

## Notes to the accounts

**Note 6 Tangible fixed assets***Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets***6.1 Cost or valuation**

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153

**6.2 Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions**

<b>Basis</b>	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL	SL or RB
<b>Rate</b>				33%	

Balance brought forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153
Depreciation charge for year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment provisions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153

**6.3 Net book value**

Brought forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-

It is the charity policy to write off the cost of replacement assets to the Income and Expenditure Account of the year of purchase.

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## Notes to the accounts

**Note 7 Debtors and prepayments***Please complete this note if the charity has any debtors or prepayments*

## Analysis of debtors

	Amounts receivable within one year		Amounts receivable after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Home Office Grant Income	31,657	-	-	-
Expenses Paid in Advance	789	789	-	-
Other debtors				
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,446</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Note 7 Creditors and accruals***Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.*

## 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 £
Loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Accrued expenses	107,562	69,225	-	-
Deferred Grant income	244,954	130,291	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>352,516</b>	<b>199,516</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18th January 2022.

Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).

## Notes to the accounts

### Note 8 Endowment and restricted income funds

*Please complete this section if the charity has any endowment or restricted income funds.*

#### 8.1 Funds held

Please give a brief description of any of the following type of funds held by the charity:

- permanent endowment funds (PE);
- expendable endowment funds (EE); and
- restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity (R).

**Fund Name**

**Purpose and Restrictions**

DESIGNATED RESERVE	Unrestricted	CAPACITY BUILDING AND WEB-SITE ENHANCEMENT

#### 8.2 Movements of major funds

*Please give details of the movements of the major funds summarised in the restricted and endowment columns of the Statement of Financial Activities.*

Fund names	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
ESMEÉ FAIRBAIRN	-	45,000	45,000	-	-	-
HOME OFFICE	-	285,955	285,955	-	-	-
DULVERTON TRUST	-	2,001	2,001	-	-	-
THE HENRY SMITH CHARITY	-	22,500	22,500	-	-	-
SUNDRY GRANTS	-	21,877	21,877	-	-	-
DESIGNATED RESERVE	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>377,333</b>	<b>377,333</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,000</b>

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18th January 2022. Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse



## Notes to the accounts

Note 9	Cashflow Statement	£
	<b>Net (Outgoing) Reserves for the Year Ended 5th April 2021.</b>	<b>-2,416</b>
	<b>Adjustments on Investing Activities:</b>	
	Add back Depreciation of Tangible Assets	0
	Deduct Expenditure on Capital Assets	0
	<b>Adjustments in Working Capital:</b>	
	Movements in Accruals and Deferred Income	153,000
	Movements in Debtors and Prepayments	<b>-31,657</b>
		118,927
	<b>Opening Bank Balance as at 6th April 2020.</b>	334,391
	<b>Closing Bank Balance as at 5th April 2021.</b>	453,318

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18th January 2022. Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).



## Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse

Charity No : 1125973

Annual Accounts for the Period 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021.

### Certification of Grant Expenditure

The trustees of AAFDA certify that tranche payments of funds awarded under grants contracts, and recognised in the financial statements, have been fully and correctly utilised by the organisation for the purposes of fulfilling its grant obligations.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. M.', written over a vertical line on the left side of the page.

18/01/2022

**Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts.**  
**Report to the Trustees of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse**  
**On the Accounts for the Year Ended 5th April 2021**  
**Charity No 1125973**

**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 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

As independent examiner, it is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no 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 Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 19/01/2022

Neil James Heavens FCA, CTA

30 Commercial Road  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 5NS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5th April 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
<b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>		
Computer Equipment as at 6th April 2020	3,153	3,153
Additions	0	0
Less Depreciation	3,153	3,153
Net Book Value as at 5th April 2021	0	0
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>		
Cash in bank	453,318	334,391
Prepaid expenses	32,446	789
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>485,764</b>	<b>335,180</b>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>		
Amounts falling due within one year	107,562	69,225
Deferred Income	244,954	130,291
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>352,516</b>	<b>199,516</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>
<b><u>FUNDS</u></b>		
Unrestricted funds as at 6th April 2020	110,664	124,377
(Deficit) surplus for the year ended 5th April 2021	-2,416	-13,713
	108,248	110,664
Transfer (to) /from Designated Reserves	0	0
<b>Unrestricted funds as at 5th April 2021</b>	<b>108,248</b>	<b>110,664</b>
<b>Designated funds for Capacity Building</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>

INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO YEAR ENDED 5th April 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations and Gift Aid	9,295	1,784
Grants	377,333	286,150
Speaking, Consultancy and Training fees	39,183	54,769
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	25,510	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income	451,321	342,703
<hr/>		
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Salaries	287,267	197,366
Employer National Insurance and Pension Contributions	39,521	25,430
Recruitment	275	75
Travel Expenses - Staff, Contractors and Volunteers	1,776	38,060
CRM: Monitoring and Evaluation	9,255	1,359
Fundraising	14,081	9,634
Strategic Review & Capacity Building	21,290	14,291
DHR Network Project	9,236	0
Home Office Perpetrator Project	1,250	0
Supervision	2,310	950
Annual Conference Expenses	0	290
Run Online Peer Support	1,201	0
Training - Payments to Associate Trainer	9,666	4,535
Training	8,817	3,165
Home Office Advocacy Awareness Raising Costs	0	45,770
Home Office Advocacy Awareness Costs Adjustment	-5,511	0
Staff Covid Well-being	4,062	0
Telephones	1,978	1,177
IT Support	3,007	0
Internet and Website Maintenance & Development	5,392	821
Equipment Renewals	9,378	2,256
Security Upgrades for Premises and Data	3,648	1,802
Postage	356	369
Development of Finance Reporting System	9,300	0
Films and Other Support Materials	5,682	0
Office Supplies	1,056	884
Insurance	2,704	2,704
Utilities	2,657	2,144
Accountancy Fees	2,758	2,383
Legal and Professional Fees	1,325	951
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenses	453,737	356,416
<hr/>		
Net Surplus (Deficit)	-2,416	-13,713
<hr/>		

The logo for AAFDA (Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse) features the acronym 'AAFDA' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters are set against a dark blue background that has a subtle gradient. To the right of the text is a white, glowing crescent moon shape, which partially overlaps the letter 'A'.

**AAFDA**

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE.**

**Charity No. 1125973**

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**Annual Accounts for the Period**

**6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021.**

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**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE**  
**Charity No. 1125973**

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# Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse

Charity No : 1125973

Annual accounts for the period 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021

## Balance Sheet

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Designated Funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets (Note 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock and work in progress	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors (Note 7)		32,446		32,446	789
(Short term) investments	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	108,248	320,070	25,000	453,318	334,391
<b>Total current assets</b>	108,248	352,516	25,000	485,764	335,180
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 7)</b>		352,516		352,516	199,516
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Provisions for liabilities and charges</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net assets</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Unrestricted funds	108,248			108,248	110,664
	-			-	-
		-		-	-
Designated funds (Note 8)			25,000	25,000	25,000
<b>Total funds</b>	108,248	-	25,000	133,248	135,664

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18 January 2022. Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Designated funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds :</b>					
Donations	9,295			9,295	1,784
Grants		377,333		377,333	286,150
Incoming resources from charitable activities	39,183			39,183	54,769
Other incoming resources		25,510		25,510	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>48,478</b>	<b>402,843</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>451,321</b>	<b>342,703</b>
<b>Resources expended (Notes 3-5)</b>					
<b>Costs of Generating Funds :</b>					
Charitable activities	50,894	402,843		453,737	356,416
Governance costs				-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>50,894</b>	<b>402,843</b>		<b>453,737</b>	<b>356,416</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>- 13,713</b>
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>- 13,713</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 2,416</b>	<b>- 13,713</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>110,664</b>		<b>25,000</b>	<b>135,664</b>	<b>149,377</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>108,248</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>

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## Notes to the accounts

### Note 1 Basis of preparation

*This section should be completed by all charities .*

#### 1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (FRSSE SORP);
- and with\*  Accounting Standards;
- or  Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
- and with the Charities Act 1993.

#### 1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

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#### 1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

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## Notes to the accounts

### Note 2 Accounting policies

*This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity except for those deleted. Where a different or additional policy has been adopted then this is detailed in the box below.*

#### INCOMING RESOURCES

**Recognition of incoming resources**

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

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

**Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

**Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

**Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

**Contractual income and performance related grants**

This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

**Gifts in kind**

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised.

Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

**Donated services and facilities**

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

**Volunteer help**

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

**Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

**Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

#### EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

**Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

**Governance costs**

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

**Grants with performance conditions**

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

**Grants payable without performance conditions**

These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

**Support Costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, eg allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### 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 £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

**POLICIES ADOPTED ADDITIONAL TO OR DIFFERENT FROM THOSE ABOVE**

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## Notes to the accounts

### Note 3 Details of certain items of expenditure

#### 3.1 Trustee expenses

*Please provide details of the amount of any payment or reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses made to trustees or to third parties for expenses incurred by trustees. If no expenses were paid, please enter 'None' in the appropriate box(es).*

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

Nature of the expenses

Total amount paid

This year	Last year
0	0
TRAVEL	TRAVEL
£0	£0

#### 3.2 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

*Please provide details of the amount paid for any statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by your independent examiner or auditor. If nothing was paid please enter NONE in the appropriate box(es).*

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

Other fees (for example: advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

This year £	Last year £
£100	£100
None	None

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## Notes to the accounts

**Note 4**                      **Paid employees***Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.***4.1 Staff Costs**

	This year £	Last year £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	287,267	197,366
Employer's National Insurance costs	22,670	14,176
Pension costs	16,851	11,254
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>326,788</b>	<b>222,796</b>

During the year under review, no benefits-in-kind were made available to employees.

**4.2 Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year**

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	3	3
Charitable Activities	9	7
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>

**4.3 Defined contribution pension scheme***Please complete if a defined contribution pension scheme is operated.*

Brief details of the scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are recognised as soon as they become payable.

The costs of the scheme to the charity for the year

The amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end

	This year £	Last year £
	<b>£7,791</b>	<b>£3,898</b>

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# Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse

Charity No : 1125973

Annual accounts for the period 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021

## Notes to the accounts

### Note 5 Exceptional Items.

#### Board Governance

During the year under review, AAFDA continued with an ongoing system of Board Governance to re-validate existing systems and checks in place to deliver the stated objectives and purposes of the charity on a timely and efficient basis.

A summary of the expense headings are as follows:

Trustee and Meeting Expenses  
Legal and Accountancy Advice

	This Year £	Last Year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

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## Notes to the accounts

**Note 6 Tangible fixed assets***Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets***6.1 Cost or valuation**

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153

**6.2 Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions**

<b>Basis</b>	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL	SL or RB
<b>Rate</b>				33%	

Balance brought forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153
Depreciation charge for year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment provisions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	-	-	3,153	-	3,153

**6.3 Net book value**

Brought forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-

It is the charity policy to write off the cost of replacement assets to the Income and Expenditure Account of the year of purchase.

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## Notes to the accounts

**Note 7 Debtors and prepayments***Please complete this note if the charity has any debtors or prepayments*

## Analysis of debtors

	Amounts receivable within one year		Amounts receivable after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Home Office Grant Income	31,657	-	-	-
Expenses Paid in Advance	789	789	-	-
Other debtors				
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,446</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Note 7 Creditors and accruals***Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.*

## 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 £
Loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Accrued expenses	107,562	69,225	-	-
Deferred Grant income	244,954	130,291	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>352,516</b>	<b>199,516</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18th January 2022.

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## Notes to the accounts

### Note 8 Endowment and restricted income funds

*Please complete this section if the charity has any endowment or restricted income funds.*

#### 8.1 Funds held

Please give a brief description of any of the following type of funds held by the charity:

- permanent endowment funds (PE);
- expendable endowment funds (EE); and
- restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity (R).

**Fund Name**

**Purpose and Restrictions**

DESIGNATED RESERVE	Unrestricted	CAPACITY BUILDING AND WEB-SITE ENHANCEMENT

#### 8.2 Movements of major funds

*Please give details of the movements of the major funds summarised in the restricted and endowment columns of the Statement of Financial Activities.*

Fund names	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
ESMEÉ FAIRBAIRN	-	45,000	45,000	-	-	-
HOME OFFICE	-	285,955	285,955	-	-	-
DULVERTON TRUST	-	2,001	2,001	-	-	-
THE HENRY SMITH CHARITY	-	22,500	22,500	-	-	-
SUNDRY GRANTS	-	21,877	21,877	-	-	-
DESIGNATED RESERVE	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>377,333</b>	<b>377,333</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,000</b>

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**Notes to the accounts**

Note 9	Cashflow Statement	£
	<b>Net (Outgoing) Reserves for the Year Ended 5th April 2021.</b>	<b>-2,416</b>
	<b>Adjustments on Investing Activities:</b>	
	Add back Depreciation of Tangible Assets	0
	Deduct Expenditure on Capital Assets	0
	<b>Adjustments in Working Capital:</b>	
	Movements in Accruals and Deferred Income	153,000
	Movements in Debtors and Prepayments	<b>-31,657</b>
		118,927
	<b>Opening Bank Balance as at 6th April 2020.</b>	334,391
	<b>Closing Bank Balance as at 5th April 2021.</b>	453,318

These accounts have been examined independently and were approved by the trustees on 18th January 2022. Based on advice from the Charity Commission, signed copies are not ordinarily released into the public domain to prevent the signatures being re-used illegally. Signed versions are held by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA).



## Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse

Charity No : 1125973

Annual Accounts for the Period 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021.

### Certification of Grant Expenditure

The trustees of AAFDA certify that tranche payments of funds awarded under grants contracts, and recognised in the financial statements, have been fully and correctly utilised by the organisation for the purposes of fulfilling its grant obligations.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. M.', written over a vertical line.

18/01/2022

**Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts.**  
**Report to the Trustees of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse**  
**On the Accounts for the Year Ended 5th April 2021**  
**Charity No 1125973**

**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 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

As independent examiner, it is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no 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 Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 19/01/2022

Neil James Heavens FCA, CTA

30 Commercial Road  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 5NS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5th April 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
<b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>		
Computer Equipment as at 6th April 2020	3,153	3,153
Additions	0	0
Less Depreciation	3,153	3,153
Net Book Value as at 5th April 2021	0	0
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>		
Cash in bank	453,318	334,391
Prepaid expenses	32,446	789
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>485,764</b>	<b>335,180</b>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>		
Amounts falling due within one year	107,562	69,225
Deferred Income	244,954	130,291
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>352,516</b>	<b>199,516</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>
<b><u>FUNDS</u></b>		
Unrestricted funds as at 6th April 2020	110,664	124,377
(Deficit) surplus for the year ended 5th April 2021	-2,416	-13,713
	108,248	110,664
Transfer (to) /from Designated Reserves	0	0
<b>Unrestricted funds as at 5th April 2021</b>	<b>108,248</b>	<b>110,664</b>
<b>Designated funds for Capacity Building</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>133,248</b>	<b>135,664</b>

INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO YEAR ENDED 5th April 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations and Gift Aid	9,295	1,784
Grants	377,333	286,150
Speaking, Consultancy and Training fees	39,183	54,769
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	25,510	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>451,321</b>	<b>342,703</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee Salaries	287,267	197,366
Employer National Insurance and Pension Contributions	39,521	25,430
Recruitment	275	75
Travel Expenses - Staff, Contractors and Volunteers	1,776	38,060
CRM: Monitoring and Evaluation	9,255	1,359
Fundraising	14,081	9,634
Strategic Review & Capacity Building	21,290	14,291
DHR Network Project	9,236	0
Home Office Perpetrator Project	1,250	0
Supervision	2,310	950
Annual Conference Expenses	0	290
Run Online Peer Support	1,201	0
Training - Payments to Associate Trainer	9,666	4,535
Training	8,817	3,165
Home Office Advocacy Awareness Raising Costs	0	45,770
Home Office Advocacy Awareness Costs Adjustment	<b>-5,511</b>	0
Staff Covid Well-being	4,062	0
Telephones	1,978	1,177
IT Support	3,007	0
Internet and Website Maintenance & Development	5,392	821
Equipment Renewals	9,378	2,256
Security Upgrades for Premises and Data	3,648	1,802
Postage	356	369
Development of Finance Reporting System	9,300	0
Films and Other Support Materials	5,682	0
Office Supplies	1,056	884
Insurance	2,704	2,704
Utilities	2,657	2,144
Accountancy Fees	2,758	2,383
Legal and Professional Fees	1,325	951
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>453,737</b>	<b>356,416</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>-2,416</b>	<b>-13,713</b>