

BE: TRANS SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY

England & Wales · Charity number 1186132

Details

Other names BE NORTH, BE TRANS SUPPORT

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-11-04

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

Contact

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c/o Pride Action North
Adamson House
65 Westgate Road
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Email teambe@be-north.org.uk

Website www.be-north.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS: TO PROMOTE EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY AND TO ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION IN RELATION TO TRANSGENDER PEOPLE IN THE NORTH EAST OF ENGLAND FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC BY: A) PROVIDING, ADVICE AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR TRANSGENDER PEOPLE; B) PROMOTING EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND RAISING AWARENESS IN RELATION TO ALL ASPECTS OF TRANSGENDER HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE NEEDS AND RELATED EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES WITH THE AIM OF ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION; C) CULTIVATING A SENTIMENT IN FAVOUR OF EQUALITY IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION AND ADVICE.

Activities: Facilitated support and social spaces. Materials delivering advice & awareness around health and social care for trans people. Project work (local/national) to deliver the aims of the Charity. Local events to deliver awareness and education around issues of equality and diversity. Advice and consultation with organisations and services to directly benefit transgender people.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£9,318	£4,569	-	-
2024-03-31	£3,035	£1,589	-	-
2023-03-31	£3,099	£2,965	-	-
2022-03-31	£3,623	£749	-	-
2021-03-31	£2,833	£690	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mx Byron Magnavacca	Chair	2025-02-16
Amy Michelle Tysoe		2019-11-03
Debra Hickling-Walker		2025-05-10
Gemma Dellbridge		2019-11-03
Georgia Kwan		2025-10-12
Hana Glaister		2025-05-13
James Anderson		2024-02-10
Liam Irwin		2024-02-10
Rosalina Furie		2025-02-16
Stephen Teale		2024-02-16

BE: TRANS SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1186132

Accounts

Introduction

The trustees are proud to present the annual report for the 31st March 2024 - 1st April 2025.

Be Trans Support and Community (Be North), as a registered CIO (Charity Number: 1186132). Be North was formed in community interest in March 2010, and registered as a charity in 2019. Over the years, Be has developed local community and contributing to the empowerment of trans lives locally.

The objective of the CIO is to promote equality and diversity and to eliminate discrimination in relation to transgender people in the North East of England, for the benefit of the public by:

- Providing advice and support services for transgender people.
- Promoting education, training, and raising awareness in relation to all aspects of transgender health and social care needs related to quality and diversity issues, with the aim of eliminating discrimination.
- Cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity, in particular by the provision of information and advice.

Report from Charity Manager - Jay Anderson (he/him)

I have had the privilege of charity managing Be North throughout the period of 24 - 25, and seeing the charity thrive once again in the face of adversity. Be remains a community led, trans led and volunteer led organisation that improves the lives of community. Be has proven it is a needed and life saving service, by using its unique approach to peer led support has made trans, non binary and gender diverse people feel supported and safe. All volunteers at Be are committed to the same common goal: a better world for trans people. This common thread makes our charity a powerhouse of passion, dedication and strength.

Our Support Services

Our support services continue to run weekly, supporting upwards of 60 people. We have upped provision for our peer support 1:1 service - allowing transgender, non-binary and gender diverse people to have dedicated space for their wellbeing, and be signposted to the correct support and receive advice from other transgender people. This service means all volunteers are enhanced DBS checked, and provided with the correct training to carry out the role. This is an in demand service, with up to 60 people attending at one time. Our service users presenting needs are: social isolation, loneliness, discrimination, survivors of hate crime, lack of access to healthcare, lack of safety in the community, substance misuse, domestic violence, mental health difficulties/crisis, unemployment, and advocacy needs.

As we see an increase in waiting times for transgender people to receive gender affirming care, and an increase in government barriers of access, Be's support services bridge this gap in several ways: harm reduction, peer support, access to opportunities, and tailored support. Our services can be adapted for people with learning disabilities, autism, and/or

other neurodivergence with our large room being able to have break out zones, and our ways of support being person led to what they need.

Be have supported people within this period who have fled countries like Iran due to gender based violence and forced marriage, supported our service users to access services like victims support, rape crisis, food banks, access counselling services and supported our service users to engage to report rape and assault to police.

We are incredibly proud of this service, and the way we can utilise our community trust and reputation to influence services, show other organisations best practice of engaging trans people into society and spaces, and keep community voice at the heart of what we do.

Health and Wellbeing Project

The Health and Wellbeing Project at Be Trans Support and Community is still one of the most popular and most recognisable projects within the charity. Be have continued their work in “right to knowing your risks of cancer”, providing on site cervical screenings for transgender, non binary and gender diverse people who have a cervix. This successful launch of the pilot has supported our partnership organisations to be able to apply to continue this life saving initiative.

We worked with the Northumbria NHS Trust with their EDI event, sharing experiences of healthcare and supporting staff to understand issues trans people face, contributing to their training for the trust.

In light of a non trans inclusive conversion therapy ban, Be provided facilities and space for a psychotherapist to come along and speak with the group around what they need from a a therapist, to share within their network of practitioners and improve overall mental health access to our community.

Be challenged the commissioned review of gender services, including an open letter to NHS England receiving 41 people within the local area agreeing with our stance on how a review into services should be commissioned for equal access to healthcare.

Be are committed to supporting regular sexual health testing, including on site testing, on site PReP advice, and on site access to products like condoms, lubricants, etc. This service has proved a popular and welcomed partnership with NHS Newcroft service.

Dr Ross McLean came to one of our peer support drops in to discuss top surgery options with our service users, and what provisions for more accessible gender affirming care in our region. This was a welcomed drop in and gave lots of needed information around healthcare and access to services.

In the lead up to trans visibility, we used our platform to speak about neurodiversity within the trans community, which is a topic at the heart of what our service users care about.

Sports Inclusion

Our sports inclusion programme ran more sessions this year than ever before, kicking off the year with transgender, non binary and gender diverse only access to tennis introduction sessions. This gave our service users access to inclusive fitness and fun outdoors.

Mr Gay Great Britain, Andy Gardiner, provided a dance fitness sessions and pilates for us, and we were able to encourage our service users to express themselves in a fun, unique and lively way.

We continued our monthly yoga sessions, using a trauma informed approach when engaging in yoga to provide a facilitated safe space at the same time as accessible sports.

And we provided again, our allyship to trans inclusion award to rugby, giving a team an award for their dedication to trans inclusion and trans inclusive practices to sports, changing rooms, and fitness.

Around Trans Day of Visibility, we made a visibility video with a transgender rugby player, to talk about the importance of trans people accessing sports, and we showed our commitment to bringing resources directly to community by running trans and non binary only tennis sessions, and having our session with Queer Fight Club.

This year, we have created a sustainable method of our sports inclusion programme, after seeing the direct effects this has had not only in media, but directly to our service users and their self esteem, self identity, and self image, making a focus that 2025-2026 will harness our sports inclusion programme to its highest ability.

Celebrating Community Pride, and our commitment to community development

Within the heart of community development are our volunteers and service users. We focus on outreach to our community, development both personal and professional of those we support, and making pride what the community need it to be.

Throughout Northern Pride season, we held "Community Jam", providing a safe space for young people, neurodiverse people, and those who do not feel a traditional pride space is a place they can spend the day. Within One Strawberry Lane, we had on site sexual health testing, sensory rooms, community stalls, queer owned businesses, and zinemaking for self expression.

We shared videos for trans day of visibility, to share experiences of those in our local community, and we listened to the voices of community and began holding more regular sessions like our "Be Together Board Game" sessions and our creative writing workshop with Mandy Romero.

Within community development, we have provided grieving spaces for our community for Trans Day of Remembrance, a day which brings people together and focuses on how we

work together to better the life expectancy of transgender, non-binary and gender diverse people.

We attended prides, like Northern Pride, Pride in Sunderland, Pride in Gateshead, Hexham Pride, and more!

This year, all volunteers accessed the opportunity to have over 100 training courses from an inhouse provider and external opportunities sent to the team. All volunteers are Level 2 safeguard trained, first aid trained, and all mandatory training was completed by the volunteers - providing them development to gain employment. We have had volunteers using their roles at Be to be able to gain paid employment and support their life chances.

To continue our development and dedication to our purposes, we have also gotten an office in the city centre. This was a fantastic opportunity and achievement for the charity, and has allowed us to expand our operations smoothly from one central place to work together, hold storage, and plan for our future.

The Charity

Be: Trans Support and Community is constituted as a CIO by association, the most recent updated version of governing document was adopted on the 3rd of November 2019 and the charity was established by the following Trustees:

Katie Marshall
Felix Helianthus
Gemma Dellbridge
Amy Tysoe
Ellen Mellor
Sonya McChristie

The charity was managed during this period by:

James Anderson - Charity Manager
Stephen Teale - Chair of Trustees
Gemma Dellbridge - Operations Director
Amy Tysoe – Trustee
Georgia Kwan - Trustee
Hana Glasier - Secretary
Byron Magnavacca - Health and Wellbeing Manager, Chair of Trustees
Liam Irwin – Volunteer Manager
Rosalina Wold - Finance Director
Daniel Napier - Media Manager
Josie Mackenzie - Media Team

The Charity throughout this period appointed a new chair of trustees, Byron Magnavacca. Byron has successfully managed a board of trustees, including 9 trustees. As we enter the next financial year, we move forward with 9 trustees. We have worked tirelessly on volunteer

retention throughout the year, which has been an asset to the running of the charity and ensuring we have consistently met above a minimum number of trustees for the charity.

Governance

All charity trustees have been supplied with a copy of the governing document, guidance around being a charity trustee and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. All documents relating to the management of the charity and materials regarding safeguarding have been made available to all members and trustees who carry out activities on behalf of the charity.

Governance remains in place and accessible for all members of the board, all trustees and volunteers of Be Trans Support and Community, and all events are ran with a volunteer who is trained in safeguarding adults, first aid, and all volunteers are aware of the designated safeguarding lead allocated to Be.

Our strategy includes:

- A) Meeting the needs of the community
- B) Community Development
- C) Providing Safe and Accessible Physical Spaces
- D) Providing Facilitated Support
- E) Healthcare and Active Lifestyles
- F) Creating Financial Support Structures
- G) Improve Service Provision's

We meet our strategy always to public benefit, seen throughout our project work to sports inclusion, health and wellbeing, and our dedication to community development and community pride, and the dedication we have in providing high quality support services.

We created financial support structures which supported our charity by continuing to build external relationships with local organisations, businesses and charities. This included having multiple fundraising events held by the community for us, a big contribution to this was from SunnyCon Convention, who due to positive feedback from their attendees of our charity, dedicated an auction to us. TransStock was another notable fundraising event for us, this was a transgender, non binary and gender diverse music festival run in the North East.

Our contribution to local service provisions has welcomed and ensured the safety of trans people into more life-saving spaces like NHS hospitals, ambulances, sports clubs, LGBT owned spaces, and support organisations.

Achievements and Performance

Our key achievements include:

- ★ On Site sexual health testing

- ★ Board Game sessions running
- ★ High volunteer retention throughout the reporting period
- ★ Sports Inclusion commitments
- ★ Trans Day of Remembrance
- ★ Christmas Party
- ★ Move to our new venue, which allows us to facilitate more service users and more 1:1 support
- ★ New Trustee onboarding
- ★ EDI Event for NHS England
- ★ Successful external events which are for public benefit and benefit of transgender and/or non binary people in the local area.
- ★ Foundations laid successfully for continuous improvement of the charity.

Conclusion

To conclude,

Be have had another year of providing that their service is an essential part of not only the lives of our service users, but to society overall. With Be's unique approach to support, diversity and equal access.

Upon reflection of last year's financial report, we have not only met the targets, but set foundations for 2025-2026 to exceed these expectations. We plan to continue our targets for the next year to be:

- A) Continue to develop our approach of diversity and inclusion, including taking a more tailored and dedicated role to supported plans for people to engage with us and facilitate that support.
- B) Continue to encourage trans people to live active lifestyles, including the facilitation of events and making clear trans presence to support events, relaying our belief of trans people having equal opportunities and spaces.
- C) Support volunteer retention, including giving more opportunities to volunteer with Be and creating more roles within the charity.
- D) Create lasting structure and system changes to the charity, including policy updates, additions and best practice recommendations when representing the charity.
- E) Provide more opportunities for community voice to be given, including and outside of our peer support sessions
- F) Spread awareness of health inequalities for transgender and non binary communities, including multi-agency working with healthcare practitioners, commissioners, and allow chances for people to engage with services bought to them, in a safe environment.

Financial Reports

Profit and Loss

Be: Trans Support and Community

Date Range: Apr 01, 2024 to Mar 31, 2025

Report Type: Accrual (Paid & Unpaid)



ACCOUNTS

Apr 01, 2024
to Mar 31, 2025

Income

Direct Public Support - Recurring Individual Contributions	£687.00
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions	£621.58
Indirect Public Support	£8,008.92
Total Income	£9,317.50

Total Cost of Goods Sold

£0.00

Gross Profit

£9,317.50

As a percentage of Total Income

100.00%

Operating Expenses

Contract Services	£600.00
Depreciation Expense	£115.87
Donation	£170.00
Equipment Lease or Rental	£1,280.00
Events	£941.92
IT Services	£187.08
Legal Fees	£456.00
Office Supplies	£7.98
Postage & Delivery	£43.45
Printing and Reproduction	£172.68

Operating Expenses	
Refreshments	£46.15
Telephone – Wireless	£20.00
Transaction Fees	£117.14
Travel Expense	£410.81
Total Operating Expenses	£4,569.08

Net Profit	£4,748.42
As a percentage of Total Income	50.96%

Profit and Loss

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BE: TRANS SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1186132

Accounts

23-24



Annual Report



Be Trans Support and Community

Charity Number:
1186132



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Introduction



The Trustees are proud to present the annual report for the 1st of April 2022 to 31st of March 2023.

Be: Trans Support and Community, or Be North, is registered as a CIO, charity number 1186132. Be North was formed from a community interest group in the North East of England originally established in March 2010. We have developed over the years to have an impact both locally and nationally, contributing to causes that benefit Transgender people and those that they come into contact with.

The object of the CIO is,

To promote equality and diversity and to eliminate discrimination in relation to transgender people in the North East of England for the benefit of the public by:

- a) providing advice and support services for transgender people.
- b) promoting education and training and raising awareness in relation to all aspects of transgender health and social care needs and related equality and diversity issues with the aim of eliminating discrimination.
- c) cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality in particular by the provision of information and advice.



Report from the Charity Manager

JAY ANDERSON, CHARITY MANAGER



I am incredibly proud and thankful for all volunteers and members of our community for the hard work and dedication they have put into supporting Be over 2023 - 2024. Be has collated a strong group of volunteers, remaining a trans led organisation which continues to put trans people in the driving seat in our local area. Our unique model and approach to peer support, trans led spaces, and trusted way of working with our community contribute to a successful year. Be North remains a life changing, life saving, and life enhancing charity, which I am proud to be a part of.

Being a transgender and/or non binary person in the current climate can be incredibly challenging, and to be able to see how the community empowers one another remains a driving force for our organisation to not only thrive, but grow strong foundations and create more lasting change for trans people to live happy, fulfilled lives. We not only believe this is possible, we know it is possible, and we are privileged to be apart of that process.

OUR SUPPORT SERVICES

Be has continued to see an increase in services needed for the community, with highs of 60 people per support session attending Be to be able to receive support. In August 2023, we saw a closure of the NHS Northern Region Gender Dysphoria Service (NRGDS) waiting lists, which had detrimental effects on the community. To meet this need, we adapted the sessions to allow for more 1:1 sessions to take place every Tuesday. This support was given by a trans person with lived experience, and volunteers facilitated space for group discussions around topics of mental health, access to services, and long-term dysphoria management.

We saw the closure of the waiting list had detrimental effects to trans people who are neurodivergent, and we created designated "quiet spaces" away from the main sessions. During 1:1 sessions, we adopted methods like story board templates and "worry trees".

Due to maintaining positive reputation, regularity of sessions, and having strong community engagement, we have remained a safe space throughout local times of crisis, including transphobic graffiti in the local area, and supporting people through a time when the region has the highest hate crime rates recorded.

Be have continued to use a harm reduction approach, and maintained up to date with adult safeguarding procedures - taking duty of care seriously in group support settings.

Be having a designated Diversity and Inclusion manager was a welcomed step towards facilitated support, allowing Be members to benefit from tailored support and discussions around accessible ways this can be provided.

Be regularly ask the community what they would like to see and how Be can support them, and take these into account at all times - putting trans people's voices, views, and feelings at the front of what we do.



Our Project work

Health & Wellbeing

- Further outreach of Be's gender neutral cancer support leaflet. This has been shared widely within NHS trusts and within the local community, and has been a tool for trans people to know their rights to cancer screening.
- PReP Nurse attending the Be drop in sessions regularly to provide advice and information sessions regarding PReP, and types of PReP that may be appropriate.
- North East Ambulance Service drop-ins, providing a Q&A Session to allow trans people to know their rights within healthcare and supporting the 'message in a bottle' campaign.
- Supporting access to services, advising on changes within Newcastle Hospitals Northumbria Trust to support trans and non binary people and support them to change gender markers.
- Involvement with Newcastle Health inequalities event. Working alongside NHS England Commissioner, NEAS, healthcare professionals, doctors, psychologists, health inequalities England, and other support charities and organisations.
- Collated feedback from "Trans Visibility within Health and Social Care".
- Began working with the Freeman Hospital surrounding patient experience, allowing trans people to talk about their experiences of healthcare and how this effects them.
- Continued challenging local NHS services when processes they have put in place may negatively affect the livelihoods of transgender and non-binary people.
- Providing gym memberships for members who felt that this may improve their health and wellbeing.
- New Health and Wellbeing manager assigned to the charity.



Our Project work

Sports inclusion

- Continued Yoga sessions on a monthly basis to support accessible fitness.
- Involvement in the Hadrian's Cup, expanding to 3 awards. This was for "Ally of the Year", "Team of the year", and special mentions to teams and players who had done their best to ensure trans inclusion in sports and in their club.
- Special mention and promotion of a trans-led and trans exclusive Rugby Team
- Continued to distribute our "Let Us Play" Campaign, which informs the public on the ban of trans people in sports.
- Access to Gym Memberships
- Attendance of an LGBT+ Inclusion in sports event, including a video played inside the Stadium Of Light during half time, talking about pride in sports and trans people belonging in sports.
- Gave a platform during Trans Day of Visibility 2023 throughout our short documentary interviews, dedicating time to speak about what it means to be a trans person in sports.
- Created social opportunities at local sports games, encouraging trans people to be in attendance and engage with sports.



Celebrating Community Pride, and commitment to community development



- Held a stall at Northumbria University during Trans Awareness Week.
- Engaged with Sunderland Family Pride to be able to provide support resources to families regarding where trans people can engage with support in the region.
- Worked alongside the local community to create World Aids Day projects, under the “More than HIV” project, which showcases and celebrates the lives of people who are living with HIV/AIDS.
- Ran the yearly Trans Day of Remembrance service, bringing approximately 150 members of the trans community and allies together to remember the lives lost to violence within 2023. Be worked closely with community advocate and artist NaviiMedia, creating artwork in commemoration.
- Being active on social media showcasing support for Black History Month, International Non Binary Peoples Day, LGBT+ History Month, Pansexual + Panromantic awareness day, IDAHOBIT, and giving educational information in accessible formats.
- “March Together” for Northern Pride 2024, enabling the community to engage together throughout the march and feel a sense of pride within the community.
- Providing referrals to third party advocates to support Trans people to live safe lives and have access to safe housing, equal healthcare and employment.
- Be has worked hard on volunteer recruitment within 2023-2024 to provide as much lived experience within the Be team as possible and be able to provide more opportunities to trans people within the North East.
- External events ran by Be in community hubs, including Be’s annual Christmas Party.



The Charity



Be: Trans Support and Community is constituted as a CIO by association, the most recent updated version of governing document was adopted on the 3rd of November 2019 and the charity was established by the following Trustees:

Katie Marshall
Felix Helianthus
Gemma Dellbridge
Amy Tysoe
Ellen Mellor
Sonya McChristie

The charity was managed during this period by:

James Anderson - Charity Manager
Stephen Teale - Chair of Trustees
Gemma Dellbridge - Operations Director
Amy Tysoe - Finance Director
Rose Blackwood - Secretary
Jordan Blackwood - Sports Inclusion Project Manager
Byron Magnavacca - Health and Wellbeing Manager
Liam Irwin - Diversity and Inclusion Manager
Roxanne Soul - Peer Support Worker
Rosalina Wold - Shadow Finance Director
Daniel Napier - Media Manager
Josie Mackenzie - Media Team
Kaitlyn Donaldson - Media Team

The Charity throughout this period appointed a new chair of trustees, Stephen Teale. Stephen has successfully managed a board of trustees, including 7 trustees. As we enter the next financial year, we move forward with 6 trustees. Be have worked tirelessly on volunteer retention throughout the year, which has been an asset to the running of the charity and ensuring we have consistently met above a minimum number of trustees for the charity. Throughout the next reporting period, Be plan to appoint a new secretary and new treasurer, and maintain a focus on recruitment of volunteers and trustees going forward.

The Charity 23-24



James Anderson - Charity Manager Stephen Teale - Chair of Trustees Gemma Dellbridge - Operations Director



Amy Tysoe - Financial Director

Rose Blackwood - Secretary

Jordan Blackwood - Sports Inclusion



Byron Magnavacca - Health and Wellbeing Manager

Rosalina Wold - Shadow Financial Director



Liam Irwin - Diversity and Inclusion Manager Roxanne Soul - Peer Support

Daniel Napier - Media Manager



Kaitlyn Donaldson - Media Team

Josie Mackenzie - Media Team



Governance



All charity trustees have been supplied with a copy of the governing document, guidance around being a charity trustee and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

All documents relating to the management of the charity and materials regarding safeguarding have been made available to all members and trustees who carry out activities on behalf of the charity.

Governance remains in place and accessible for all members of the board, all trustees and volunteers of Be Trans Support and Community, and all events are ran with a volunteer who is trained in safeguarding adults, first aid, and all volunteers are aware of the designated safeguarding lead allocated to Be.

Our strategy includes:

- A) Meeting the needs of the community
- B) Community Development
- C) Providing Safe and Accessible Physical Spaces
- D) Providing Facilitated Support
- E) Healthcare and Active Lifestyles
- F) Creating Financial Support Structures
- G) Improve Service Provision's

We meet our strategy always to public benefit, seen throughout our project work to sports inclusion, health and wellbeing, and our dedication to community development and community pride, and the dedication we have in providing high quality support services.

We created financial support structures which supported our charity by continuing to build external relationships with local organisations, businesses and charities. This included Be having a sponsored podcast with Pride Radio, having multiple fundraising events held by the community for us, including Bobbys Newcastle, Dots Bagles, Geordie Grand Slammers, Newcastle University Clinical Psychology Doctorate Students, Newcastle Ravens, Newcastle College, and creating lasting positive relationships. Our contribution to local service provisions has welcomed and ensured the safety of trans people into more life-saving spaces like NHS hospitals, ambulances, sports clubs, LGBT owned spaces, and support organisations.



WHAT'S THE



Episode 1



Achievements & Performance



International
Non-Binary
People's Day
2023



Be has achieved great things throughout the reporting period, and this is not only evident by our ability to engage our community but the lasting changes made to empower the lives of transgender and/or non binary people in the local area. Here is a few of our proudest achievements this year:

- Be won an award in 2024 for their contribution to positive media with Pride Action North, and the amazing work carried out by our media team throughout the reporting period.
- Record numbers of people accessing support from our services.
- Trans and/or Non Binary people engaging in tailored support around healthcare, including unique ways of engaging like bringing PReP nurses for advice and support, Members of Ambulance services to the group, and provide feedback to improve services.
- Successful external events which are for public benefit and benefit of transgender and/or non binary people in the local area.
- Access to equal opportunities within sports given throughout the year
- High volunteer retention, improving from previous years and creating clear structure for future development in the board.
- More access to neurodivergent trans people to access our support services, taking pride in our ability to provide high quality support.
- Speaking at an NHS England Event to multiple healthcare professionals and directors of NHS England about the importance of transgender inclusive care.
- Parking in multiple pride events throughout the region, bringing out community together
- Transgender Day of Visibility Documentary Series
- "What's the T?" Podcast with Pride Radio
- Outreach to further areas (Sunderland, Gateshead, North Tyneside, and Hexham)



Conclusion

To conclude,

Be Trans Support and Community continues to thrive, and has used valuable time to plan a busy and impactful year throughout 2024 to 2025. The charity has grown in popularity, outreach and has shown its ability to improve lives of transgender, non binary, and people who need facilitated support to safely explore their gender identity.

We are extremely proud of our achievements, and even more excited for the future of the charity. We remain committed to empowering trans lives in the North East, and have identified our key areas for the upcoming year, these being:

A) Continue to develop our approach of diversity and inclusion, including taking a more tailored and dedicated role to supported plans for people to engage with us and facilitate that support.

B) Continue to encourage trans people to live active lifestyles, including the facilitation of events and making clear trans presence to support events, relaying our belief of trans people having equal opportunities and spaces.

C) Support volunteer retention, including giving more opportunities to volunteer with Be and creating more roles within the charity.

D) Create lasting structure and system changes to the charity, including policy updates, additions and best practice recommendations when representing the charity.

E) Provide more opportunities for community voice to be given, including and outside of our peer support sessions

F) Spread awareness of health inequalities for transgender and non binary communities, including multi agency working with healthcare practitioners, commissioners, and allow chances for people to engage with services bought to them, in a safe environment.

Be continues to grow as the needs of trans people grow, and we are proud of the role we play in supporting those needs to be met.

“On behalf of the charity, I’d like to take this time to thank all the trustees, board members and volunteers of Be Trans Support and Community. It is due to their dedication that we have built so many positive relationships with local organisations, charities, NHS and health care provisions, and members of our community.” – Stephen Teale, Chair of Trustees.



Financial Reports



Profit and Loss

Be: Trans Support and Community

Date Range: Apr 01, 2023 to Mar 31, 2024

Report Type: Accrual (Paid & Unpaid)



ACCOUNTS

Apr 01, 2023
to Mar 31, 2024

Income	
Direct Public Support - Recurring Individual Contributions	£591.00
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions	£426.00
Indirect Public Support	£1,497.86
Media Sponsorships	£300.00
Sales	£220.00
Total Income	£3,034.86
Total Cost of Goods Sold	
	£0.00
Gross Profit	
As a percentage of Total Income	100.00%
	£3,034.86
Operating Expenses	
Accounting Fees	£200.00
Contract Services	£50.00
Equipment Lease or Rental	£45.00
Events	£457.34
IT Services	£187.08
Office Supplies	£172.08
Postage & Delivery	£29.57
Printing and Reproduction	£131.09

Financial Reports



Operating Expenses	
Refreshments	£169.00
Transaction Fees	£22.04
Travel Expense	£125.77
Total Operating Expenses	£1,588.97

Net Profit	£1,445.89
As a percentage of Total Income	47.64%

Financial Reports



Balance Sheet

Be: Trans Support and Community

As of Mar 31, 2024

Report Type: Accrual (Paid & Unpaid)



ACCOUNTS	Mar 31, 2024
Assets	
Cash and Bank	
DONR	£0.05
Lloyds Be: Treasurer's Account	£4,407.19
Paypal	£2,644.21
Total Cash and Bank	£7,051.45
Other Current Assets	
Total Other Current Assets	£0.00
Long-term Assets	
Accessibility Equipment	£87.48
AV Equipment	£11.95
Event/Display Items	£783.58
POS Equipment	£20.00
Total Long-term Assets	£903.01
Total Assets	£7,954.46
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Reimbursements (B Magnavacca)	£47.90
Total Current Liabilities	£47.90
Long-term Liabilities	
Total Long-term Liabilities	£0.00

Financial Reports



Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	£47.90

Equity	
Retained Earnings	
Profit for all prior years	£6,460.67
Profit between Apr 1, 2023 and Mar 31, 2024	£1,445.89
Total Retained Earnings	£7,906.56
Total Equity	£7,906.56

BE: TRANS SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1186132

Accounts



Annual report

Trustees report for financial year
2022-23



**TRANS SUPPORT
AND COMMUNITY**
www.be-north.org.uk

FY 2023

Be: Trans Support and Community
Charity Number 1186132

Be: Trans Support and Community

Introduction

The Trustees are pleased to present the annual report for the 1st of April 2022 to 31st of March 2023.

Be: Trans Support and Community (or Be North) is registered as a CIO, charity number 1186132. Be North was formed from a community interest group in the North East of England originally established in March 2010. We have developed over the years to have an impact both locally and nationally, contributing to causes that benefit Transgender people and those that they come into contact with.

The object of the CIO is:

To promote equality and diversity and to eliminate discrimination in relation to transgender people in the North East of England for the benefit of the public by:

- a) providing advice and support services for transgender people.
- b) promoting education and training and raising awareness in relation to all aspects of transgender health and social care needs and related equality and diversity issues with the aim of eliminating discrimination.
- c) cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality in particular by the provision of information and advice.



Report from the Chair

I am incredibly proud of the group of volunteers who run and contribute to Be. We are and will always be community-led, and our mission of delivering personal empowerment to members of the community via the many avenues which we engage with has had a positive impact on many lives. This year we concluded our third full year operating as a charity, we are proud to examine our performance and pleased to say that we have continued to grow and reach further into the trans community - and continue to positively influence all we come into contact with, including the wider public and other organisations where we have improved services for trans people for the public benefit.

Our support services,

This year we have continued to improve our core services by increasing the numbers of volunteers within our team - allowing us to help more individuals in our one to one support sessions and our group open drop in sessions that we conduct weekly. The numbers accessing our services have grown to an average of 30 individuals every week, with a peak of 48. We have been creating sessions with other organisations and services to help provide access and advice to professional medical and local authority provisions that trans people find difficult to navigate in their daily lives.

As we continue to see the impact of social isolation and the continued reduction in access to quality healthcare we have seen the demand for quality community space increase, this year we have invested in training and expanding our skills with help from partner organisations so that we can adjust to the demands and meet the needs of the community.

Our project work,

We entered the year as a partner in the Transforming Futures partnership, funded and supported by the National Lottery Community Fund, which aims to create lasting change for trans communities in the healthcare and criminal justice systems. However, at the end of this financial year we have taken the decision as a board of trustees to wind up our participation in the project as we believe that we can no longer impact it positively and our focus must shift to our core purpose which is not currently the function of the project.

We are a partner in the Trans Lives North East project, which aims to bring awareness and education to those organisations and professionals who work with people who may identify as transgender. This year after losing many of the partners involved with the project Be self-funded and provided the annual

conference to the interested parties in March 2023.

Our Healthcare project is in its final year of the current strategy, as we held more sessions with various areas of the NHS and our partner organisations. A key area we were able to impact was in our work with Northern Cancer Alliance and Healthworks Newcastle – where we helped to develop materials and inform inclusive policies and working practices around trans people in cancer care. We helped distribute this information amongst the community and public. We also helped to deliver a webinar with Healthworks and provided cancer awareness sessions to community members. Our focus on sexual health has also continued, with Mesmac and Shine (local sexual health charities) providing sexual health advice and access to STI testing and PrEP to the community.

Our wellbeing work has continued with the ongoing operation of regular yoga groups, these are open to all members of our community and are hosted by us at our space in ReCoCo in partnership with LGBT+ Northern Social Group.

We also partnered with Newcastle Ravens rugby club to support trans inclusion in their annual Hadrian's Cup event. We sponsored an award, open to entries from rugby clubs throughout the country, which would recognise the efforts made to open rugby up to greater participation from trans people. We judged the submissions and were pleased to present the award at the pre-tournament launch party.

Events,

We have led the community organisation of 2022's Trans Day of Remembrance event. The event supports those who wish to remember those lost to transphobic violence over the preceding year and bring the community and allies together to stand in solidarity over action we can take in our part of the world to reduce discrimination against Transgender individuals.

We have participated in several Pride events, this both promotes the work of the charity and gives us a platform to talk about issues that affect trans people in society. With local Pride events having returned to in-person events we were able to reach a large number of people at our stands and through our presence in various marches. This also gave us an opportunity to network with similar organisations in attendance.

To conclude,

This year was a successful one for the Charity, as most services returned fully from reduced operations related to the pandemic, we were able to execute on our strategy more fully. Attendance at our core group sessions continues to increase

and peripheral services are launching in the coming years, in the context of a new strategy this is anticipated to include new art therapy sessions, sporting events and more social outings for isolated individuals.

At the AGM, it was agreed that I would resign from the position of Chair in the coming year. The financial officer is also indicated they would like to find a suitable replacement. We will look to appoint a new chair and I will work closely with them to ensure a smooth handover of responsibilities with minimal impact on our operations. I have decided that I will resign both my commitments to the board of trustees and to the daily running of the Charity.

In order to grow the organisation and maintain good governance in addition to appointing a new chair of trustees we decided to appoint a charity manager who will oversee the day to day running of the Charity, they will lead the Charity in delivering the objectives set out by the board of trustees and chair all non-trustee meetings. This effectively will split my current role in the charity and allow trustees and members to focus on their responsibilities.

Finally I would like to thank everyone who I have worked with and has helped me to grow this incredible charity, reflecting on how far we have come and the impact we have made on peoples lives has been humbling and emotional. Thank you.

Chair - Katie Marshall

The Charity

Be: Trans Support and Community is constituted as a CIO by association, the most recent updated version of governing document was adopted on the 3rd of November 2019 and the Charity was Governed this year by the following Trustees,

Katie Marshall (o)
Gemma Dellbridge
Amy Tysoe (o)
Liam Irwin
James Anderson
Alice Appleby (Active until November 2022)
Jordan Blackwood (Active from November 2022)
Rose Blackwood (Active from November 2022) (o)

The charity board was managed during this period by:

Katie Marshall - Chair
Gemma Dellbridge - Operations Director
Amy Tysoe - Finance Director
Rose Blackwood - Secretary

Alice Skye - Communications Manager
James Anderson - Project Manager
Liam Irwin - Diversity and accessibility manager
Jordan Blackwood - Sport inclusion
Steph Bloomfield - board member

Our we had an EGM in November 2022 to discuss the changing of trustees and the late AGM. It was decided that a normal AGM would be conducted in December 2022 with the new trustees in attendance. The previous years report was approved, and all governance commitments were concluded in the meeting. We conducted 6 trustee meetings through this year and held regular board meetings both virtually and in person.

Governance

All Charity trustees have been supplied with a copy of the governing document, guidance around being a charity trustee and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

All documents relating to the management of the Charity and materials regarding safeguarding have been made available to all members and trustees who carry out activities on behalf of the Charity. Training has been provided for all trustees and elected members for safeguarding both Adults and children.

The trustees have met regularly throughout the period and both the governing document and the guidance on public benefit are supplied as supporting documents.

The objects as set out in the governing document are as follows:

To promote equality and diversity and to eliminate discrimination in relation to transgender people in the North East of England for the benefit of the public by:

- a) providing advice and support services for transgender people.
- b) promoting education and training and raising awareness in relation to all aspects of transgender health and social care needs and related equality and diversity issues with the aim of eliminating discrimination.
- c) cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality in particular by the provision of information and advice.

The main activities in relation to the purposes for public benefit are as follows:

Provision of facilitated spaces for trans people to receive support and socialise.
Provision of materials both digitally and physically that provide advice and awareness around aspects of health and social care needs for transgender individuals.

Local project work that has a direct benefit to both Transgender people and those around them such as assisting with access to healthcare and services

National project work in partnership with other organisations to deliver larger projects that fulfil the aims of the charity and benefits large populations of transgender people.

The organisation of local events that directly bring awareness and education around issues of equality and diversity.

Providing advice and consulting with organisations and services to directly benefit transgender people and their families.

Achievements and performance

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

The main activities of the Charity are as follows:

Meet the needs of the community

- Newcroft Centre Sexual Health drop-ins held
- Fingerprick HIV and AIDS testing from SHINE.
- HealthWorks drop in to speak about cancer in accessible formats for trans and non binary people.
- Anxiety Management and Drug/Alcohol support sessions over a 3 week period.
- Continuing to provide physical safe spaces working with partner organisations.
- Community development at our core, outreach work in the community.
- Outreach at Northumbria Students Union
- Involvement at Newcastle Mela, advertising Be's services to global majority communities across the North East.
- TRANSForming Futures Research findings made public.

Provide safe and accessible physical spaces for the community

- Tuesday open drop in sessions continue to run at ReCoCo.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead remains in place, and staff with relevant training accessible at all times for advice, support, and address concerns appropriately.
- Christmas Party 2022 held at Bobbys, in which provided a safe and accessible place for a celebration of visibility.
- Trans Day of Remembrance held in a safe and accessible space, ensuring that trans people have a safe space to grieve.
- Yoga sessions once a month

Provide facilitated support

- Growing our 1:1 listening and advice service, including bringing new peer support workers to the role, and being able to support long term while people are on waiting lists.

-
- Addressing growing need for accessibility, including a specialised Diversity and Inclusion role created within the board.
 - Board has remained trans-led throughout 2022-2023, providing lived experience to aspects of support.

Enable Trans people to achieve active lifestyles / Provide resources for healthcare

- Newcastle Ravens collaboration this year has provided access to sports and active lifestyle.
- Advocating for trans peoples' space within sports and fitness, including sponsoring an award at the Hadrian Cup.
- Specialised Sports Inclusion role within the board made.
- Stall at The Hadrian Cup, in which LGBT+ Athletes and sports players attend.
- North East Ambulance Service information and advice drop in.
- Creating links with local venues who offer regular fundraising opportunities.
- Regular advertising from external supporters.

Improve service provision within our region

- "Trans Visibility within Health and Social Care" event, running with great success and 50+ healthcare professionals in attendance from various sectors.
- Allowing local sexual health centre, Newcroft, to receive community advice regarding access to their services.
- Work with local Cancer Champions to ensure trans and non-binary individuals can access their services.
- Engaging with North East Fire Service.
- Speaking with ITV news to spread information regarding cancer screenings further, and about the importance of avoiding near misses within health and social care settings.

-
- Webinar sent out to primary and secondary care practitioners about trans engagement and speaking with a trans patient.

Celebrate community pride

- Working with Pride Radio to send out messages to the community for Transgender day of visibility 2022.
- Northern Pride 2022, Be held a stall to be able to outreach to members of the community.
- Celebrated International Non-Binary People's Day with speeches and community engagement from Be members.
- March together 2022 at Northern Pride.

Planning for FY24

The year ahead will be guided by a new strategy and new financial planning. Whilst this is being developed, we expect to conduct most of the work from the previous year but to also include:

- New media team and media manager to consolidate the communications, social media and managing media relationships.
- New Health and wellbeing strategy which will require up to a year of research to establish requirements and new partnerships, while continuing some previous established activities.
- New leadership plans and policy changes in line with a new strategy and management
- Sports inclusion, Be has plans to expand this area and grow partnerships
- Peer support, Be has plans to grow our peer support outside of our weekly sessions and expand our training and development opportunities.

We expect that we will need to fundraise an additional £3000 to support the new activities over the next 18 months and keep our current activities achievable. The finance team will include details of our financial planning alongside our strategy as we are investigating possible new funding streams. Currently we have funding for another 18 months in our accounts without any new activities and continue to hold a reserve as part of our governance - which we expect to increase in FY24.

Our financial report ending March 31st 2023 follows.



Financial reports

Profit and Loss

Be: Trans Support and Community

Date Range: Apr 01, 2022 to Mar 31, 2023



Apr 01, 2022
to Mar 31, 2023

ACCOUNTS

Income	
Direct Public Support - Recurring Individual Contributions	£280.00
Direct Public Support - Corporate Contributions	£100.00
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions	£915.41
Indirect Public Support	£1,804.39
Total Income	£3,099.80

Total Cost of Goods Sold	£0.00
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Gross Profit	£3,099.80
As a percentage of Total Income	100.00%

Operating Expenses	
Contract Services	£28.90
Depreciation Expense	£19.80
Equipment Lease or Rental	£1,068.00
Events	£975.93
IT Services	£173.88
Office Supplies	£246.67
Postage & Delivery	£43.82
Printing and Reproduction	£378.68
Transaction Fees	£30.26

Operating Expenses

Total Operating Expenses	£2,965.94
---------------------------------	------------------

Net Profit	£133.86
As a percentage of Total Income	4.32%

Balance Sheet

Be: Trans Support and Community

As of Mar 31, 2023



ACCOUNTS	Mar 31, 2023
Assets	
Cash and Bank	
DONR	£0.05
Lloyds Be: Treasurer's Account	£5,769.36
Paypal	£1,372.17
Total Cash and Bank	£7,141.58
Other Current Assets	
Total Other Current Assets	£0.00
Long-term Assets	
Accessibility Equipment	£87.48
AV Equipment	£11.95
Event/Display Items	£650.78
POS Equipment	£20.00
Total Long-term Assets	£770.21
Total Assets	£7,911.79
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	£1,082.99
Reimbursements (K Marshall)	£368.13
Total Current Liabilities	£1,451.12
Long-term Liabilities	

Liabilities

Total Long-term Liabilities	£0.00
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Total Liabilities	£1,451.12
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Equity**Retained Earnings**

Profit for all prior years	£6,326.81
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Profit between Apr 1, 2022 and Mar 31, 2023	£133.86
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Total Retained Earnings	£6,460.67
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Total Equity	£6,460.67
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Declaration

The above report has been approved by the trustees.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Katie Marshall', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Name: Katie Marshall

Position: Chair of trustees

Date: January 26th, 2024

BE: TRANS SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1186132

Accounts

Annual report

Trustees report for financial year
ending March 31st 2022



**TRANS SUPPORT
AND COMMUNITY**
www.be-north.org.uk

FY 2022

Be: Trans Support and Community
Charity Number 1186132

Be: Trans Support and Community

Introduction

The Trustees are pleased to present the annual report for the 1st of April 2021 to 31st of March 2022.

Be: Trans Support and Community or Be North is registered as a CIO, charity number 1186132. Be North was formed from a community interest group in the North East of England originally established in March 2010. We have developed over the years to have an impact both locally and nationally, contributing to causes that benefit Transgender people and those that they come into contact with.

The object of the CIO is,

To promote equality and diversity and to eliminate discrimination in relation to transgender people in the North East of England for the benefit of the public by:

- a) providing advice and support services for transgender people.
- b) promoting education and training and raising awareness in relation to all aspects of transgender health and social care needs and related equality and diversity issues with the aim of eliminating discrimination.
- c) cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality in particular by the provision of information and advice.

Report from the Chair

I am incredibly proud of the group of volunteers who run and contribute to Be, we are and will always be community-led and our mission of delivering personal empowerment to members of the community via the many avenues which we engage with has had a positive impact on many lives. Our inaugural year as a charity has taken place in a very challenging environment, which has seen us operating throughout the pandemic, finding new ways of working to ensure we continue to reach those who need us. Be North has become a lifeline for those individuals who have become intensely isolated during the pandemic, with our support services being more in demand than ever before.

Our support services,

May 2021 saw our return to in-person support, using space generously provided to us by ReCoCo - another registered charity in Newcastle upon Tyne. Since restarting face-to-face sessions, we have seen attendance rise sharply. Prior to the pandemic, we would regularly hold sessions for 10-15 people, our virtual sessions would see between 4-10 people each week. Currently, we average between 30-35 attendees at any given session.

We have seen that the isolation of lockdown over 2020/21, the rising hostility to trans people in the media and general discourse, as well as the ever-expanding delays in accessing healthcare are having an incredibly detrimental effect on the mental and physical wellbeing of those we support. Our support services are helping to address this situation by providing spaces for trans people to socialise in a safe, protected environment, offering help and advice to individuals on a variety of topics, including signposting and assisted access to other services.

Our project work,

We remain a partner in the Transforming Futures partnership, funded and supported by the National Lottery Community Fund, which aims to create lasting change for trans communities in the healthcare and criminal justice systems.

We are a partner in the Trans Lives North East project, which aims to bring awareness and education to those organisations and professionals who work with people who may identify as transgender. This year saw the return of the in-person conference, hosted in Newcastle Civic Centre. The conference is aimed at community members, service providers and the wider public. Representatives from Be attended the conference, providing speakers as well as promoting the charity and our partner services.

Our Healthcare project has been able to resume more fully this year, as we held more sessions with various areas of the NHS. A key area we were able to impact was in our work with Northern Cancer Alliance and Healthworks Newcastle – we helped to develop materials and inform inclusive policies and working practices around trans people in cancer care. We also helped to deliver a webinar with Healthworks and provided cancer awareness sessions to community members. Our focus on sexual health has also renewed, with Mesmac and Shine (local sexual health charities) providing sexual health advice and access to STI testing and PrEP to the community.

Our wellbeing work has also been boosted by the addition of regular yoga groups, these are open to all members of our community and are hosted by us at our space in ReCoCo in partnership with LGBT+ Northern Social Group. We had hoped to provide swimming sessions in this financial year, however we were unable to find an accessible facility able to provide private sessions in a suitable location – our work in this area is ongoing.

Events,

We have led the community organisation of 2021's Trans Day of Remembrance event. The event supports those who wish to remember those lost to transphobic violence over the preceding year and bring the community and allies together to stand in solidarity over action we can take in our part of the world to reduce discrimination against Transgender individuals.

We have participated in several pride events, this both promotes the work of the charity and gives us a platform to talk about issues that effect trans people in society. Unfortunately many of these pride events, Northern Pride being the most notable, had not yet returned to in-person events and were conducted mostly online.

To conclude,

This year has been very difficult for trans people, with the effects of the pandemic still being felt widely. Our efforts this year have helped more people than ever before, as we have seen attendance at group events and general engagement far in advance of previous years. We are aware of a need to expand our group of volunteers in order to adjust to this rapid growth and to continue providing a quality service in the areas we are already successful - while also expanding further in our programme work to benefit the public and achieve our charitable objectives.

Chair – Katie Marshall

The Charity

Be: Trans Support and Community is constituted as a CIO by association, the most recent updated version of governing document was adopted on the 3rd of November 2019 and the charity was established by the following Trustees:

Katie Marshall
Felix Helianthus
Gemma Dellbridge
Amy Tysoe
Ellen Mellor
Sonya McChristie

The charity was managed during this period by:

Katie Marshall - Chair
Felix Helianthus - Vice Chair
Gemma Dellbridge - Operations Director
Amy Tysoe - Finance Director
Ellen Mellor - Secretary

Alice Skye - Communications
James Anderson - Project Manager
Liam Irwin - Board member
Steph Bloomfield - Board member

This financial year we have only conducted the minimum number of trustee meetings required since our last AGM in June 2021 we conducted a general meeting in February 2022 to discuss our need for volunteers and the ongoing management of activities by the charity and planned for our AGM IN July 2022 to discuss the previous year and agree on this report. The AGM was delayed to an EGM as the number of trustees reduced to our minimum number during this period and did not take any further decisions until a new secretary was found and appointed - this is due to be voted and approved by the members on 04/12/2022 at a general meeting and we will be increasing the number of trustees subject to approval by the members. This report will be subject to approval on the same date.

Governance

All charity trustees have been supplied with a copy of the governing document, guidance around being a charity trustee and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

All documents relating to the management of the charity and materials regarding safeguarding have been made available to all members and trustees who carry out activities on behalf of the charity. Training has been provided for all trustees and elected members for safeguarding both Adults and children.

The trustees have met regularly throughout the period and both the governing document and the guidance on public benefit are supplied as supporting documents.

The objects as set out in the governing document are as follows:

To promote equality and diversity and to eliminate discrimination in relation to transgender people in the North East of England for the benefit of the public by:

- a) providing advice and support services for transgender people.
- b) promoting education and training and raising awareness in relation to all aspects of transgender health and social care needs and related equality and diversity issues with the aim of eliminating discrimination.
- c) cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality in particular by the provision of information and advice.

The main activities in relation to the purposes for public benefit are as follows:

Provision of facilitated spaces for trans people to receive support and socialise
Provision of materials both digitally and physically that provide advice and awareness around aspects of health and social care needs for transgender individuals.

Local project work that has a direct benefit to both Transgender people and those around them such as assisting with access to healthcare and services

National project work in partnership with other organisations to deliver larger projects that fulfil the aims of the charity and benefits large populations of transgender people.

The organisation of local events that directly bring awareness and education around issues of equality and diversity.

Providing advice and consulting with organisations and services to directly benefit transgender people and their families.

Achievements and performance

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

The main activities are as follows:

- Support services – Creating safe spaces for Transgender people and their friends and families to receive peer support and access to information, advocacy and listening services.
- Project work – Working with public and private providers to help educate and support access to inclusive services
- Events – supporting and creating events for both the wider public and transgender people to raise awareness and provide information and advice

Specifically, we achieved:

- Provision of 50 weekly drop in support sessions during the year, with the attendance of over 200 transgender people over the duration
- Provision of 1-2-1 support sessions and listening services with a total of 34 independent sessions recorded during the year
- Provision of access to sexual health services and related education through our partner program
- Access to counselling and bereavement services through our partner program
- Creation of media to assist with education amongst healthcare and education professionals with regard to Transgender people and their needs
- Creation of Digital resources and media to reach out to community members and service providers during pride month and for Northern Pride online.
- Organisation of 2 large events which brought the community together to improve both emotional and social connections
- Provision of wellbeing services including Yoga, Walking groups, outdoor swimming and social events.
- Creation of the TRANSforming futures Youth report in partnership with national organisations
- Working as part of the Trans Lives North East partnership to provide education and access to services in the North east

Financial reports

Profit and Loss

Be: Trans Support and Community

Date Range: Apr 01, 2021 to Mar 31, 2022



Apr 01, 2021
to Mar 31, 2022

ACCOUNTS

Income	
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions (Recurring)	£350.00
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions	£414.13
Indirect Public Support	£1,859.23
Services Provided	£1,000.00
Total Income	£3,623.36
Total Cost of Goods Sold £0.00	
Gross Profit	£3,623.36
As a percentage of Total Income	100.00%
Operating Expenses	
Contract Services	£195.25
Events	£83.80
IT Services	£207.48
Refreshments	£250.00
Transaction Fees	£13.20
Total Operating Expenses	£749.73
Net Profit	£2,873.63
As a percentage of Total Income	79.31%

Balance Sheet

Be: Trans Support and Community

As of Mar 31, 2022



ACCOUNTS

Mar 31, 2022

Assets	
Cash and Bank	
DONR	£0.05
Lloyds Be: Treasurer's Account	£5,883.99
Paypal	£391.02
Total Cash and Bank	£6,275.06
Other Current Assets	
Total Other Current Assets	£0.00
Long-term Assets	
AV Equipment	£41.57
Total Long-term Assets	£41.57
Total Assets	£6,316.63
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Total Current Liabilities	£0.00
Long-term Liabilities	
Total Long-term Liabilities	£0.00
Total Liabilities	£0.00

Equity	
Retained Earnings	
Profit for all prior years	£3,443.00
Profit between Apr 1, 2021 and Mar 31, 2022	£2,873.63
Total Retained Earnings	£6,316.63
Total Equity	£6,316.63

Declaration

The above report has been approved by the trustees.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'Katie Marshall', is written over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.

Name: Katie Marshall

Position: Chair of trustees

Date: December 4th 2022

BE: TRANS SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1186132

Accounts

Annual report

Trustees report for financial year ending
March 31st, 2021.



**TRANS SUPPORT
AND COMMUNITY**
www.be-north.org.uk

FYE 2021

Be: Trans Support and Community
Charity Number 1186132

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Introduction

The Trustees are pleased to present the annual report for Be: Trans Support and Community (the Charity) for period ending on the 31st of March 2021. This is the first report from the Charity which was registered on the 4th of November 2019 and due to the pandemic reports on a 17-month period of operations and the first full year of operation as a charity.

“Be North has become a lifeline for those individuals who have become intensely isolated during the pandemic.”

Report from the Chair

I am incredibly proud of the group of volunteers who run and contribute to Be, we are and will always be community-led and our mission of delivering personal empowerment to members of the community via the many avenues with which we engage has had a positive impact on many lives. Our inaugural year as a charity has taken place in a very challenging environment, which has seen us operating throughout the pandemic, finding new ways of working to ensure we continue to reach those who need us. Be North has become a lifeline for those individuals who have become intensely isolated during the pandemic, with our support services being more in demand than ever before.

Our support services,

We operated a weekly drop-in centre for trans people until April 2020 when we were forced to move our operations purely online, since that time we have conducted 56 facilitated group sessions online with an additional 32 one to one support sessions up until March 31st. Additionally we have given support through our Facebook groups and email - which has at times reached the capacity of our current resources. We are currently working with two providers to bring back our physical support services as soon as possible.

Our project work

We are a partner in the TRANSforming Futures partnership. We are a group of trans equality focused organisations working together on a ground-breaking five-year project, funded and supported by the National Lottery Community Fund. The project aims to create lasting change for trans communities in the healthcare and criminal justice systems.

We are a partner in the Trans Lives North East project, which aims to bring awareness and education to those organisations and professionals who work with people who may identify as transgender. Most recently, we provided a short film highlighting the misconceptions about trans youth, filmed by Be North with contributions from the local community. We also attended and provided speakers and workshop facilitation at the annual conference.

Our healthcare project has had limited reach because of the impact from the pandemic, however the project team has engaged with local providers and helped to create conversations around better access to services for trans people. This has been especially impactful within Cancer care providers and Maternity care. We have also given awareness advice and made good connections with providers such as bereavement and personal counselling services. We have temporarily paused our wellbeing project, however there are plans to expand this as normality resumes and we will be pursuing areas of the project such as access to swimming.

The trans visibility project has allowed us to work with other regional organisations such as the LGBT Northern Social Group, Northern Pride, Trinity Youth and many more. We have used online platforms to livestream panel discussions around important topics and contribute to partners' streams and we have developed short films to showcase our community around Trans visibility and awareness. This project will continue all year round and hopefully centre around a showcase event on Trans Day of Visibility annually.

Events

We have led the community organisation of two Trans Day of Remembrance events, one physical and one online. These events support those who wish to remember those lost to transphobic violence over the preceding year and bring the community and allies together to stand in solidarity over action we can take in our part of the world to reduce discrimination against Transgender individuals.

We have participated in several Pride events; this both promotes the work of the charity and gives us a platform to talk about issues that affect trans people in society.

To conclude,

There is much work to do when it comes to equality for Trans people. Our efforts so far have helped many people, and that has been recognised both by the community and other organisations. Post-pandemic, we hope to build on our services and project work and continue to grow as a charity. We aim to move back to physical spaces, relieving isolation for many and helping people to live in the safety and dignity they deserve.

Chair – Katie Marshall



Charity Information

Trustees	Katie Marshall Felix Helianthus Gemma Dellbridge Amy Tysoe Ellen Mellor Sonya McChristie (Nov 2019 – March 2021)
Registered Charity Number	1186132
Principal Address	15 Greenacres Pelton Chester le Street Durham DH2 1DJ
Bankers	Lloyds Bank
Charity Management	Katie Marshall – Chair Felix Helianthus – Vice Chair Gemma Dellbridge – Director of Operations Amy Tysoe – Finance Director Ellen Mellor – Secretary Sonya McChristie – Governance Director James Anderson – Project Manager Alice Appleby – Communications Manager
Exiting Trustees / Management	Sonya McChristie – Removed March 2021

Governance

Be: Trans Support and Community (or Be North) was registered on the 4th of November 2019 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by Association - charity number 1186132. The principal office for the Charity is located at 15 Greenacres, Pelton, Chester le Street, DH2 1DJ.

Trustees

Trustees are appointed by the board of trustees and meet 4 times a year, in addition to regular management meetings, to discuss the governance of the Charity. The day-to-day running of the Charity is overseen by a board which comprises both trustee and non-trustees in a volunteer capacity.

The induction process for newly-appointed trustees comprises an initial meeting with the trustees to brief them on their legal obligations under charity law, the decision making processes of the Charity and its policies and procedures. Trustees are provided with all information - including a copy of the Charity constitution, their role in the organisation and any relevant documentation.

The first AGM was due to be held in April 2020 however due to the pandemic it was cancelled. This was eventually replaced by an Emergency General Meeting on the 15/06/2020 which was called to establish both how we continue to operate during the pandemic and deliver our annual governance commitments. Both the Secretary and Chair resigned as trustees and during the meeting and the election of the posts was overseen by the vice chair. Both were duly re-elected to their posts by nomination and unanimous vote. Sonya McChristie left her role at the end of the financial year – her responsibilities have been absorbed by the Chair until a suitable replacement can be found.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined strategic, business, and operational risks which the Charity may face and can confirm that any risks involved are currently very minimal and have training and systems in place to mitigate these risks. We regularly report any necessary actions to the trustees.

Public Benefit

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission in respect of public benefit and, in planning the activities for the year, have kept this in mind.

Objectives and Activities

Be North was formed from a community interest group in the North East of England (originally established in March 2010). We have developed over the years to have an impact both locally and nationally, contributing to causes that benefit Transgender people and those that they come into contact with.

The object of the CIO is,

To promote equality and diversity and to eliminate discrimination in relation to transgender people in the North East of England for the benefit of the public by:

- a) providing advice and support services for transgender people.
- b) promoting education and training and raising awareness in relation to all aspects of transgender health and social care needs and related equality and diversity issues with the aim of eliminating discrimination.
- c) cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality in particular by the provision of information and advice.

The main activities in relation to the purposes for public benefit are as follows:

- Provision of facilitated spaces for trans people to receive support and socialise.
- Provision of materials both digitally and physically that provide advice and awareness around aspects of health and social care needs for transgender individuals.
- Local project work that has a direct benefit to both Transgender people and those around them such as assisting with access to healthcare and services
- National project work in partnership with other organisations to deliver larger projects that fulfil the aims of the charity and benefit large populations of transgender people.
- The organisation of local events that directly bring awareness and education around issues of equality and diversity.
- Providing advice and consulting with organisations and services to directly benefit transgender people and their families.

Achievements and performance

Due to the pandemic our strategy was deferred, and we operated on a constant review basis of what we could achieve as the world changed and so did the measures of success for our charity.

What we achieved during the pandemic;

- Digital support services - A weekly Zoom drop-in session, bookable one to one google meet support service, increased demand of email support requests, increased membership of moderated Facebook group.
- Completion of first phase of TRANSforming Futures project (NLCF funded project), over 18 report published.
- Trans Day of Remembrance community event
- Trans Day of Visibility online showcase event and panel talk show.
- Contributed to local Pride events (held online).
- Trans Lives North East conference planning.
- Planned re-opening of physical meetings.
- Fundraised for health and wellbeing project.
- Nominations for local and national awards for the charities work
- Meetings with local service providers to aid service provision for trans people.

Finance report

The following financial reports have been created on a receipts and payments basis, and cover the period from initial Charity registration in November 2019 to the end of the financial year on the 31st of March 2021.

The first report is an account summarising all money received and paid out by the Charity over this period.

The second is a statement giving details of all assets and liabilities at the end of FY 2020-2021.

These reports have been prepared by the Finance Director, Amy Tysoe, and signed off as an accurate statement by the Trustees.

Reserve Policy

It is the policy of the Charity to maintain £600 as a reserve, which is to be used in the event that unanticipated costs are incurred – such as insurances for events, extra costs for day-to-day operations should our existing meeting space be unavailable, and to handle the winding up of the Charity should it become necessary.

Profit and Loss

Be: Trans Support and Community

Date Range: Nov 01, 2019 to Mar 31, 2021



ACCOUNTS

Nov 01, 2019
to Mar 31, 2021

Income	
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions (Recurring)	£461.00
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions	£160.40
Indirect Public Support	£211.14
Services Provided	£2,000.00
Total Income	£2,832.54

Total Cost of Goods Sold	£0.00
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Gross Profit	£2,832.54
As a percentage of Total Income	100.00%

Operating Expenses	
Equipment Lease or Rental	£73.08
IT Services	£172.68
Postage & Delivery	£0.99
Printing and Reproduction	£40.64
Training Services	£398.40
Transaction Fees	£3.86
Total Operating Expenses	£689.65

Net Profit	£2,142.89
As a percentage of Total Income	75.65%

Balance Sheet

Be: Trans Support and Community

As of Mar 31, 2021



ACCOUNTS	Mar 31, 2021
Assets	
Cash and Bank	
DONR	£0.05
Lloyds Be: Treasurer's Account	£2,762.86
Paypal	£138.25
Total Cash and Bank	£2,901.16
Other Current Assets	
Accounts Receivable	£500.00
Total Other Current Assets	£500.00
Long-term Assets	
AV Equipment	£41.57
Total Long-term Assets	£41.57
Total Assets	£3,442.73
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Total Current Liabilities	£0.00
Long-term Liabilities	
Total Long-term Liabilities	£0.00
Total Liabilities	£0.00

Equity	
Retained Earnings	
Profit for all prior years	£2,385.13
Profit between Apr 1, 2020 and Mar 31, 2021	£1,057.60
Total Retained Earnings	£3,442.73
Total Equity	£3,442.73

Approvals

This report was approved by the board of trustees and was signed on its behalf by



Katie Marshall
Chair of Trustees

Aims for FY2021-2022

Our planned projects and provisional expenditure for the 2021-2022 financial year are listed below. Due to the ongoing pandemic and uncertain nature of many of our events and programmes, this may be subject to substantial adjustment. Some of these costs may be deferred until the following financial year, or until it becomes feasible to deliver the related work.

The key aims for the Charity are to return to face-to-face support group meetings, attend all Pride events within our area of operation, to hold events to mark the major trans-related events in the calendar (Trans Day of Remembrance and Trans Day of Visibility) and develop our project work – with a particular focus on health and wellbeing provision.

Support

Setting up physical support services	£500
Professional Counselling services	£500
Events	£600

Project Work

Wellbeing Project	£1200
Healthcare Project	£300
Trans Lives project	£100

Core Costs

Training	£250
Reserve	£600
IT services	£180
Operating costs	£50

Total	£4280
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Fundraising Requirement FY21-22	£879
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