



Rape and Sexual Abuse
Specialist Service

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1186836



SERICC

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

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SERICC

CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Charity Name:	SERICC
Charity Registration Number:	1186836
Registered Office and Address:	SERICC The Hall West Street Grays Essex RM17 6LL
Board of Trustees:	A Curnick (Acting Chair) G Harrington (Acting Secretary) M Heine K Dobson S Todd
Senior Management:	Sheila Coates MBE, Director Lee Eggleston OBE, Operational Manager
Auditors	Rowland Hall Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors 44/54 Orsett Road Grays Essex RM17 5ED
Bankers	CAF BANK Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ Barclays Bank Thurrock Business Centre 9 The Street Grays Essex RM17 6NL
Solicitors	Taylor Vinters Merlin Place Milton Road Cambridge CB4 0DP

SERICCC

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SERICCC applied to the Charity Commission to change its name from South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre (which was established on 13th January 1983) to SERICC and incorporate the charity. The Charity Commission granted this on 9th December 2019. Trustees agreed to continue with the existing charity until the end of the financial year ending 31st March 2020. Trustees attended a special meeting at the end of February 2020 to propose the transfer of assets and the merger of the charities. However, the extraordinary global situation of the COVID pandemic crisis made this challenging and the process was delayed.

The merger of the charities was published at the end of June on the Charity Commission website. Due to the delays SERICC (CIO) did not become fully operational until the transfer was substantially complete at 1st July 2020, including grants and contracts been assigned or novated to SERICC CIO by that date with the merger fully finalised by the end of July 2020 and existing staff transferred to the new charity in August 2020. At the end of July, the net assets of £1,378,774 were donated from South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre to SERICC.

The charity activities have seamlessly continued throughout this change of charitable status. As such the statistics in this report relate to the period April 2020 – March 2021.

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the period 9th December 2019 to 31st March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published on 16th July 2014 (as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on 2nd February 2016).

Trustees of The Charity

The trustees who have served during the period and since the period end were as follows:

- A Curnick (Acting Chair)
- G Harrington (Acting Secretary)
- M Heine
- K Dobson
- S Todd
- M Abboyi (resigned July 2020)

Purpose and Aims

The charity's purpose as set out in the constitutional objectives and activities for public benefit are:

- to relieve sickness and distress amongst those affected by any form of sexual violence and abuse, particularly, but not limited to, women and girls and the community in Essex and the surrounding areas within East Anglia, and including the families and friends of those affected and others affected who are in need, in particular by the provision of counselling and support for such persons; and

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- to advance education of the public in the subject of sexual violence and abuse, including by but not limited to, the provision of training and publication of information and guidance.

SERICC provides specialist services to anyone in South and West Essex who is experiencing, or who has experienced, any form of sexual violence and abuse at any time in their life. Specialised services are also offered to parents, carers and supporters.

Sexual violence is a term that includes any sexual behaviours that are unwanted or that happen without a person's consent. It includes rape, sexual assault and sexual abuse, child sexual abuse. Sexual violence and abuse does not always involve physical contact it can include online grooming, viewing and making indecent images of children.

SERICC provide short-term and long-term emotional support and practical information by telephone, online and in person, and offer advocacy and support through the criminal justice system.

Many individuals experience self-blame, shame, guilt and find it difficult to speak of their experiences. The impact of sexual violence and abuse often results in low self-esteem, depression, anxiety and mental health problems. Some individuals say that feel disconnected from their friends, family and peers, school or work performance can suffer difficulty caring for family members or themselves. Sexual violence counselling, support and advocacy is delivered in an empathic sensitive environment which provides emotional support and works with individuals in regaining control over their own lives.

SERICC uses an evidenced based approach to providing high-quality sexual violence services including:

- Emotional support services – telephone and face-to-face support, involving coping strategies, self-esteem, recovery, confidence building and self-care
- Family and Young People's Services – preventative and educative work, working with families to look at safety, emotional resilience and physical well being
- Practical Support services – advocacy, information and support with debt, housing, education, childcare, welfare benefits, legal issues and liaison with statutory organisations such as social care, police, youth offending services, child sexual exploitation triage team
- Specialist sexual violence therapeutic interventions – one-to-one counselling, pre-trial therapy and support groups

This objective is achieved through the provision of high-quality services that are based within SERICC's ethos of empowerment and choice.

SERICC provides a range of specialist services including counselling for adults, young people and children, Independent Sexual Violence Advisors, telephone and emotional support. Below is a summary of activities:

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Child and Family Services

SERICC provides a service for Thurrock council to parents / carers whose children have experienced sexual violence and/or where the family are engaged with social care. The Brighter Futures programme offers an integrated and intensive support service to equip families to learn and apply parenting skills that develop resourcefulness and resilience while strengthening positive relationships with their children. This has been difficult to deliver during the pandemic and resources were used to create an online programme for parents and children. When possible, face to face services have been provided. In person services resumed in September but were impacted by the NHS isolation alerts for parents and children to stay at home.

Child and Family Services SERICC offers parents / carers whose children have experienced sexual violence and/or where the family are engaged with social care, specialised information and support provided by a registered Social Worker. SERICC provides an integrated and intensive support service to equip families to learn and apply parenting skills that develop resourcefulness and resilience while strengthening positive relationships with their children, 56 Children and families have received 681 sessions of direct work with children who were 12 years or under.

SERICC responded to 15,364 counselling related contacts and activities including telephone calls, emails/ letters and meetings. With the year-on-year increase in take-up of services, SERICC are committed to ensuring that as many individuals as possible can access services and have their individual needs met, including increasing their support networks, decreasing isolation and influence the services they receive from SERICC and other agencies. This has been particularly challenging through the pandemic. SERICC received 2,762 new referrals in the last year whilst working with 3,796 individuals. Individuals were offered 7,764 in person face-to-face sexual violence counselling sessions and 1,490 ISVA and advocacy sessions.

"I am so thankful you that you walked along me and told me it was ok to feel as I did. I had counselling in the past but you let me it was ok to be angry, upset, blaming and shameful. Thank you".

"Lockdown has really challenged my boundaries – I have worked so hard in my counselling to build my boundaries and working on having my own choice but now I am feeling confused. It feels like my choices have been taken from me and some of my old ways of thinking have returned – it is so good to be able to talk about it "

Advocacy and Support

Staff provide needs-based advocacy and support to those who require assistance in accessing additional services external to SERICC. This has continued throughout the pandemic and within government restrictions. Services include:

- housing support and information
- legal information and accompaniment
- support with criminal injuries compensation applications
- criminal justice system information and dedicated support

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SERICC has an established specialist advocacy service that includes Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA). The ISVA service provides an essential advocacy service to those who choose to report sexual offences to the police. ISVAs provided support to individuals going through the Criminal Justice System including initial and ongoing police investigations and support through the courts process. The ISVA service works in close partnership with Essex police and Oakwood Place, Essex Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) who carry out forensic evidence gathering.

Advocacy and Support Staff provide needs-based advocacy and support to those who require assistance in accessing additional services external to SERICC.

The ISVA service provides an essential advocacy service to those who choose to report sexual offences to the police. ISVAs provided specialists interventions including initial and ongoing police investigations and support through the courts process. There has been an increase in safeguarding concerns due to the 'stay at home' guidance from the government. The ISVA service works in close partnership with Essex police and Oakwood Place, Essex Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) who carry out forensic evidence gathering. There were 15,191 contacts relating to advocacy and ISVA. During the pandemic ISVAs continued to provide accompaniment to court and police related appointments, sexual health services, general health and well-being services.

"I can't thank you enough for helping me with this, I don't know how I would have done this. I feel like I have been let down time and time again, it been one thing after another and it's been made it easier having you in my corner"

They provided housing support and information and where necessary access to legal information and accompaniment. ISVA provided support with criminal injuries compensation applications, criminal justice system information.

"I sincerely want to thank you, even though we didn't get to court this time and have yet another delay you have helped me to keep calm and understand it is what it is, your support has helped me get through this".

During the period SERICC supported:

Number of individuals reported to the police	
In last 12 months	591
In last 12 -24 months	263
More than 24 months	422
Not reported to the police	707

There has also been a significant increase in the number of referrals for 956 individuals concerning multiple mental health and health needs self reported:

- 469 individuals stated they are experiencing mental health difficulties
- 97 individuals stated they have learning disability
- 155 individuals stated they have physical disability

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- 235 individuals stated they have a diagnosed long-term illness

"Thank you for taking the time to see me and not my Mental Health"

Achievements and Performance

SERICC is committed to upholding the highest possible standards for all services, training and consultation. This was achieved through:

- Gathering information about the service user experience, through feedback, evaluation and outcome data
- Receiving stakeholder feedback
- Providing ongoing staff supervision and staff performance appraisals
- The use of ongoing data collection followed by data analysis for service planning
- The provision of training for staff as part of ongoing professional development
- Strengthening and expanding of local, national and international partnerships and joint working to ensure that service user needs are included in policy and procedure.

SERICC undertakes client surveys before and after service. The questionnaires are collated and the % reflects the overall total. A benchmark measure of 40% is used. Any % returned that is below this value are closely examined and changes made.

Satisfaction with the service:	97% of closed cases said they were satisfied with the service and the support was sensitive to needs and situation.
More in control of their lives:	95% of closed cases said they were now more confident and able to make decisions about their future.
Better health & Well Being:	94% of closed cases had better coping strategies and were able to recognise the impact of sexual violence in their lives.
More able to access further support:	95% of closed cases said they knew of resources and opportunities to access education or employment.
More able to develop & maintain positive relationships:	47% of closed cases stated they felt more able to trust people and build relationships.
More able to assert their rights:	93% of closed cases stated that they knew their rights and entitlements which included engaging with the Criminal Justice System, family courts and / or civil proceedings.

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SERICC meets this objective through organising and participating in consultations and working groups relating to sexual violence, and providing training and learning opportunities in which current research and good practice are disseminated to external practitioners and agencies. This engagement was increased during the period due to multiple online meetings and discussions relating to the impact of the government restrictions and its effect on the charity and service users. SERICC participated in Consultations/Working Groups with and undertook work related to the following:

- Thurrock multi-agency Strategic Board for Violence Against Women & Girls
- Thurrock Council for Voluntary Service Joint Strategic Forum and Managed Networks
- Support and prevention work in Thurrock & Basildon and other Essex Schools
- East Region Crown Prosecution Service expert panels
- Quarterly meetings with Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
- Essex Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategic Group including sub groups relating to high profile media coverage of sexual violence and sexual harassment

Partnership working

SERICC works in partnership with Southend Rape Crisis Centre (SOSRC), and Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse (CARA). Together we form the partnership Synergy Essex to ensure services are accessible pan Essex. Centres offer services through the primary funding sources: the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and the Ministry of Justice and NHS England. More victims who have experienced sexual violence in Essex are supported through the partnership and the provision of a triage system and access to immediate specialist support. The Ministry of Justice made additional funds available due to the impact of COVID.

Social Impact

SERICC works to the Rape Crisis England & Wales monitoring and evaluation framework that is aimed at reporting on the improvements to victims and survivor's mental and physical health after using SERICC services.

SERICC distributes and circulates on the SERICC website and through outreach sites, education, skills and employment opportunities to service users. The materials and information on SERICC's website, has the added benefits of increasing well-being and resilience and reducing isolation.

SERICC:

- provides subsidised travel for individuals who are experiencing financial hardship
- provides accompaniment to appointments, such as welfare reviews and medical appeals, which are funded by SERICC
- supports victims to apply for criminal injury compensation awards and when appropriate to support appeals
- undertakes advocacy work to enable individuals who are experiencing housing or debt difficulties to address and resolve problems, enabling them to move forward with their lives
- provides advocacy support, which relieves pressure on statutory services e.g. housing, GPs, mental health services by providing one to one support for individuals to maintain independent living including food vouchers.

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Achievements and Performance Delivering Public Benefits

SERICC responded to the pandemic by ensuring services could be fully delivered via home working and are implementing a hybrid blend of home and office-based work. The impact of the pandemic has created challenges as well as opportunities to revision future offers of support to victims and survivors. This will include counselling and support work provided by safe and confidential platforms online. To provide continuity, the logistical and practical challenging have incurred substantial IT costs, increasing mobile phone use, scaling up of equipment and staff training. The government and local infrastructure organisations made additional funding available to ensure that office spaces could be Covid Compliant which enabled SERICC to purchase equipment, IT support and Personal Protective Equipment. The Government designated front line charity workers as 'Essential' which means services such as court and police support could continue. SERICC have continued to provide services despite the challenges of self-isolation and disruption to schools. Referrals rates to the charity continue to increase. Additional staffing and capacity has been implemented on a short term basis to respond to demand as the charity navigates its way through the impact of the pandemic on society.

The core services provided by SERICC are usually the provision of sexual violence 'face to face' counselling, support, advocacy, telephone support and an information helpline and outreach work. The sexual violence counselling and advocacy support is provided both at the SERICC main office and its satellite base in Thurrock Council for Voluntary Service (Beehive Centre) and across outreach sites including schools and clinics across South and West Essex. Information and awareness raising training is provided to statutory and voluntary organisations on a range of issues including the long-term impact of sexual violence and abuse. Due to the government restrictions face to face services were moved online or by telephone for young people and adults. The advocacy service has continued face to face services as they were considered 'essential workers. Managers have been in the SERICC main office throughout the pandemic to ensure the continuation of the service and to provide access to confidential spaces for service users as and when needed. Training and information sharing has been conducted online over the last year.

Covid related funding has increased staff and contracted hours provided by counselling sessional workers to increase capacity to tackle waiting lists. SERICC did not join the government Furlough scheme.

SERICC will be applying for continuation of funding due to the inevitable decrease in central government funds and increased in demand. To maximise SERICC's resources we continue to look for suitable premises that will accommodate all staff on one site and have designated reserves for potential opportunities. We have secured shared premises and are pooling service delivery with Southend Rape Crisis to increase capacity across the South East. We are looking at the feasibility of providing dedicated children's services from the Southend venue.

SERICC continues to review and improve internal systems to ensure that all are robust and up to date. SERICC's internal policies and procedures are subject to an external annual review undertaken by Thurrock Children's and Adult Services Commissioners. This annual quality assurance review involves

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policy and procedures, staff and service user interviews. SERICC is professionally approved as a Rape Crisis Centre by Rape Crisis England & Wales.

SERICC works in partnership with a range of local, regional and national statutory strategic groups and provides the external relations on behalf of Rape Crisis England & Wales. This includes attending meetings held by Ministry of Justice, the Home Office, Department of Health, NHS England and Crown Prosecution Service. SERICC works in partnership with Essex Police, Basildon Council, Community Safety Partnerships across South Essex and the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

SERICC is recognised as a strategic lead regionally across Essex and nationally regarding services for sexual violence and abuse victims and survivors. SERICC has a bespoke Data Performance Management System (DPMS) that collates detailed anonymous sexual violence statistical records and data in line with data protection legislation to performance manage, inform service delivery, meet funding monitoring requirements and identify trends and patterns.

Financial Review

The charity, with the aid of sound financial management and the support of both its staff and trustees generated a positive financial outcome for the period.

PRINCIPAL FUNDING SOURCES

SERICC's main source of income is project-specific grants, contracts and Service Level Agreements include:

- Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
- Ministry of Justice
- NHS England
- Rape Crisis England & Wales
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group / Thurrock Council Better Care Fund
- Thurrock Council (Development Fund, Housing Related Support, Brighter Futures, Young People Counsellor)

These income sources are dependent on the ability and willingness of external agencies and government departments/local authorities to support the provision of specialist sexual violence services.

RISK REVIEW

The level of income retained in reserves is based on a realistic assessment of the charity's future income needs and SERICC continues to be prudent in any expenditure. The current unpredictability of existing funding streams and the limited availability of new funding streams, specifically for sexual violence.

There has been significant investment from central government via the Essex PCC office in response to the impact of COVID 19. This investment ceases as of March 31st 2023. It is uncertain regarding

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the overall economic climate and risks remain. The Board of Trustees are satisfied that risk management steps will mitigate the identified risks to the charity.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees recognise that the main external risk to the organisation is loss or reduction in funding. Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner awarded the tender to the Essex Partnership, led by SERICC, until March 2023. There are discussions that this contract will be extended for a further year as stated in the original procurement. SERICC have received additional funding from the National Lottery Community Fund due to the impact of COVID to increase capacity for the First Contact Navigator project until November 2022 and a one-off grant to update the Synergy Essex website to incorporate emerging digital technologies.

Internal financial controls, policy and procedures are in place to ensure compliance. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity. Quarterly monitoring reports to external funders ensure a consistent quality of delivery for the operational aspects of the charity.

External expertise has been commissioned regarding data protection and improving data security for the charity.

The charity manages risks through reserves to maintain operations and services whilst contingency plans are implemented.

RESERVES

The level of income retained in reserves is based on a realistic assessment of the charity's future income needs and SERICC continues to be prudent in any expenditure. The current unpredictability of existing funding streams and the reduction in the availability of new funding streams due to the economic climate remains a risk. The trustees are satisfied that risk management steps will mitigate the identified risks to the charity. SERICC are mindful of the current economic climate and the likelihood of reduced levels of funding which may impact on reserves when COVID related funding is reduced from central government.

SERICC reserves policy is determined on an annual basis. The budget is monitored against actual expenditure on a quarterly basis. The trustees recognise the need to ensure adequate operational costs are held in unrestricted reserves to account for contractual obligations to staff, risk management and any unanticipated reduction in income. This is set at the beginning of the financial year and is subject to review when staff levels and operational costs increase. The level set in relation to the year to 31st March 2021 was £646,768 for 6 months running costs.

The level of reserves required is based on:

- An understanding of operating activities to be maintained;
- Potential risks to staffing costs such as long-term staff illness or maternity leave;
- Potential unanticipated need for new ICT equipment;
- Possible delays in restricted funding to on-going projects;

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- Potential risks of funding cuts; and
- Potentially reduced unrestricted funding.

Amounts are set aside to meet the provision for an orderly winding-down of operations in the event of a significant adverse event that is outside the control of SERICC. This may include:

- Statutory redundancy payments;
- paying off contracts such as those for mobile phones, rent and broadband;
- the continuation of an internet presence for a period of time;
- staff salary and expenses to oversee the winding down; and
- any professional fees needed e.g. accountancy and legal.

SERICC have agreed to designate funds for legal costs and a new property and will actively seek advice in relation to this in the next two years.

As at 31st March 2021 SERICC total funds were £1,576,158 which included restricted funds of £14,499, designated funds of £830,184 and unrestricted funds of £731,475, which is slightly above the target for the organization although is not of immediate concern to the charity.

Any surplus funds will be used to increase capacity, additional hours and duties of staff to meet the waiting lists.

Due to the nature of SERICC's work, particularly with vulnerable clients, it is vital counselling, support and advocacy services are completed with each individual client in a time sensitive manner, particularly for clients who have reported to the police and are awaiting criminal justice outcomes. These individuals, and in particular children, can wait up to eighteen months or longer from reporting the offence to the police to attendance in court. Support work needs to continue throughout and after the criminal justice process ends. The impact of the pandemic has meant that delays have increased to up to four years.

Lack of certainty about future funding has ongoing significant impact on strategic short- and long-term planning and service delivery, causes multiple organisational problems including employment issues such as redundancy notices, short-term or fixed-term contracts and maintaining staff morale. The charity needs reserves to evidence sound financial management, particularly when applying for grants and contracts and can demonstrate reliable services or funding over the longer term. As lead partner in Essex Partnership, reserves are held to ensure payments can be made in advance to partners to ensure seamless service delivery. This has been particularly challenging due to fast turn around of emergency funding that has been delayed for up to three months.

Future Developments

As part of SERICC's sustainability work we have been working in partnership with 4 rape crisis centres to develop a trading arm. SERICC's sustainability officer has been leading developing this project. It is envisaged that the sustainability officer is 'seconded' into this role full time to ensure that the project has more capacity going forward.

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SERICC have received additional funding to increase capacity and will be undertaking a programme of recruitment over the next year to reduce the waiting lists for services and increased demand for our services.

Fundraising

The charity has not undertaken any significant fundraising activities in the year but has welcomed donations from local individuals and organisations. These unrestricted donations go towards meeting some of SERICC's organisations costs such as utility bills but more specifically go towards a 'hardship' fund which is used when emergency situations arise. This includes supporting families in emergency accommodation or providing emergency food and clothing, transport and interpreting. With an increase in modern day slavery and trafficking for sexual exploitation, donations become crucial support, as these individuals have no access to public funds.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The organisation is a charity that registered with the Charity Commission on 9th December 2019. The charity was established under a constitution that includes specific objects and powers. It is an Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Recruitment and appointment of the Management Committee

SERICC is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of no less than three and no more than twelve trustees with a range of skills, knowledge and experience. Trustees that hold honorary positions serve for 12 months, after which they must be re-elected at the Annual General Meeting.

The Board of Trustees meets on a regular basis and is responsible for the ongoing viability, strategic development and direction of the organisation. Trustees hold overall responsibility for the organisation's continued success, it is vital that its trustees have the necessary skills and knowledge to enable them to carry out this function. Trustees are encouraged to take part in all appropriate training opportunities, to continue to develop their skills and update their knowledge of legal requirements, funding issues and other developments. Meetings have taken place virtually and in person when possible according to government guidance.

Information from the Charity Commission publications and the Commission's guidance is distributed to as well as updated financial information at the meetings.

The SERICC Board of Trustees confirms that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission.

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Organisational structure

SERICC is a South Essex based charity providing essential services to individuals who have experienced any form of sexual violence and abuse. A range of specialised services are provided in Thurrock, Brentwood, Southend and Harlow with hub outreach sites across the districts, schools and colleges, GP surgeries and voluntary sector buildings and are delivered by professional and experienced staff.

SERICC's primary beneficiaries are individuals affected by any form of sexual violence and sexual abuse, particularly, but not limited, to women and girls and the community in South Essex and the surrounding areas.

Secondary beneficiaries include the community, organisations and agencies that access awareness raising relating to the impact of sexual violence and sexual abuse.

SERICC is a needs-led service in which the needs of service users influence the strategic and operational development of the organisation. Service users play a central role through the provision of ongoing individual feedback and evaluation. SERICC also facilitates focus groups with service users to ensure their views and opinions are included in the development and monitoring process.

The Director Sheila Coates MBE and Operations Manager Lee Eggleston OBE carry out day-to-day overall management and strategic development. SERICC staff receive individual and peer supervision in recognition of the impact of working with trauma and adhering to professional code of ethics. In addition to providing clinical support, supervision also plays an important role in the continued professional development of all staff, ensuring they are up to date with therapeutic and other developments in the sector and related fields. SERICC is committed to the ongoing professional and personal development of all its staff and volunteers (including trustees), of which training and supervision is an integral part. The training needs of all staff are closely monitored to ensure that individuals and the staff team are provided with opportunities to develop or improve their practice and stay up to date with new developments, legislation and procedures.

Remuneration

SERICC is committed to careful management of its charity funds. In so doing, it ensures the greatest effectiveness in delivering its charitable objectives and meeting the needs of service users. SERICC uses salary bandings and descriptions for all posts, and salary allocations are based on the requirements of the post, including experience and the funding available for the post. The median of the band would be the 'market average' salary for this type of post identified through the benchmarking process above. Any cost of living increases are considered in line with any NJC recommendations, where appropriate. The annual accounts disclose the number of staff receiving salary of more than £60,000 per annum, in bands of £10,000.

Members of staff are entitled to receive a contribution towards the auto enrolment pension scheme, equivalent to 3% of their gross salary.

SERICC trustees are not paid for their work as a trustee. Trustees are offered reimbursement for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

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SERICC's Board of Trustees takes legal, HR or any other advice when necessary from experts that SERICC contracts with.

Organisational values

SERICC's services are evidenced based. Recording (monitoring) the service delivery outcomes and outputs inform service delivery and measures performance. Monitoring informs all aspects of the organisation, from service gaps in provision, governance and any changes to service provision. SERICC offer creative and innovative services that best meets the needs of service users and the local communities in which SERICC serves.

At the time of this report SERICC employs 24 staff and contracts with sessional counsellors and consultants who have specific areas of expertise, when necessary.

INVESTMENT POLICY

SERICC trustees, where necessary will seek advice from an independent financial advisor regarding any future financial investments. Should the national financial position change and stabilise the charity would reassess its position whilst continuing to adhere to the Charity Commission guidance on investments.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees on 14th December 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Curnick', written over a dotted line.

Alison Curnick – Acting Chair of Board of Trustees

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS
TO THE MEMBERS OF SERICC**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of SERICC (the 'charity') for the period ended 31st March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of 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 charity's affairs as at 31st March 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the period 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 Charities Act 2011.

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS
TO THE MEMBERS OF SERICC**

we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 require 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.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 14 and 15, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which 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 charity 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 regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

SERICC

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF SERICC

Use of our audit 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.

44/54 Orsett Road
Grays
Essex


.....
ROWLAND HALL (Statutory Auditor)
Chartered Certified Accountants
and Registered Auditors

20/1-2022
.....

SERICC

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Designated Funds £	Unrestricted General Funds £	Total Funds to 31.03.21 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies:					
Donations		-	-	3,962	3,962
Grants	3	-	-	48,219	48,219
Charitable activities:					
Grants	3	283,914	-	1,324,263	1,608,177
Fees for services & direct work	4	-	-	28,597	28,597
Other		-	-	-	-
Other trading activities		-	-	-	-
Investments	5	-	-	56	56
Other					
Donation from South Essex Rape & Incest Crisis Centre	6	165,441	777,781	435,552	1,378,774
Total Income		449,355	777,781	1,840,649	3,067,785
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	7	398,460	-	1,093,167	1,491,627
Total Expenditure		398,460	-	1,093,167	1,491,627
Net Income/(expenditure)		50,895	777,781	747,482	1,576,158
Transfers between funds		(36,396)	52,403	(16,007)	-
Net movement in funds and Total funds carried forward		14,499	830,184	731,475	1,576,158

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Movements in funds are disclosed in note 16 to the financial statements.

The notes on pages 22 to 34 form part of these financial statements.

SERICC

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	Notes	31.03.2021 £
Fixed Assets:		
Tangible assets	13	1,627
Total fixed assets		<hr/> 1,627
Current assets:		
Debtors	14	155,625
Cash at bank and in hand		1,493,156
Total current assets		<hr/> 1,648,781
Liabilities:		
Creditors falling due within one year	15	74,250
Net current assets		<hr/> 1,574,531
Total assets less current liabilities and Net assets		<hr/> <hr/> 1,576,158
The funds of the charity:		
Restricted income funds		14,499
Unrestricted income funds:		
General fund		731,475
Designated fund		830,184
Total unrestricted funds		<hr/> 1,561,659
Total charity funds		<hr/> <hr/> 1,576,158

The notes on pages 22 to 34 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 14th December 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Alison Curnick – Acting Chair of Board of Trustees

SERICC

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Total Funds to 31.03.21 £
Net Cash used in Operating Activities	22	1,495,134
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>		
Interest		56
Purchase of equipment		(2,034)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		(1,978)
Cash flows from financing activities		-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period		1,493,156
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		-
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		1,493,156
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:		
Cash at bank and in hand		1,493,156
Short term deposits		-
Cash and cash equivalents at 31.3.21		1,493,156

The notes on pages 22 to 34 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. General Information and Basis of Preparation

SERICC is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England. The address of the charity is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in the Report of the Trustees on pages 2 to 15.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention in accordance with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these financial statements. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

b. Reporting Period

These financial statements are the first for this entity and represent a long period from registration of the charity on 9th December 2019 to 31st March 2021. A year end of 31st March has been chosen in line with many of the Charity's funding contracts.

c. Fund Accounting

Restricted funds comprise grants made for specific purposes as laid down by the donor (e.g. for specific projects). Expenditure that meets these specific purposes is matched against grant income and analysed over the appropriate cost. Further details regarding restricted funds are provided in note 17.

Unrestricted funds comprise other income received or generated for charitable purposes but which may be spent at the discretion of the Management Committee.

Designated funds are those unrestricted funds that have been earmarked by the trustees for a purpose.

d. Income Recognition

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the fund, any performance conditions attached have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income generated from contracts for services is recognised as earned.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

Investment income and all other incoming resources are accounted for in the period in which they are received.

e. Expenditure Recognition

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred.

The charity is not registered for VAT and all expenses are inclusive of VAT where appropriate.

Charitable activities expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them and assist with the governance of the charity.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. per capita, floor space or estimated usage as set out in notes 7, 8 and 9.

f. Fixed Assets

Depreciation on fixed assets has been calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life at a rate of 25% on written down values. It is the charity's policy to capitalise assets costing in excess of £5,000.

g. Staff and Pension Costs

Counselling staff costs are allocated in the Statement of Financial Activities on a direct basis per individual employees and time spent on charitable activities. Other non-counselling staff costs are allocated on the basis of estimated time and resources expended by the charity overall on each charitable activity. Pension costs are accounted for in the period to which they relate and are similarly allocated on a direct basis.

h. Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the period of the lease.

i. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discounts offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

j. Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

k. Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

2. JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

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 revisions affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

3. GRANT AND CONTRACT INCOME

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	31.03.21 Total £
Donations and legacies:			
Thurrock Borough Council			
Development Fund	-	48,219	48,219
Ministry of Justice Rape Support Fund	-	-	-
	-	48,219	48,219

In the period to 31.03.21, of the grant income classified as Donations and Legacies income, £nil was attributable to restricted income funds with the balance of £48,219 adding to unrestricted funds.

Income from Charitable activities:

Thurrock Borough Council			
Children and Families	-	7,500	7,500
YP SV Counsellor Children & Families	-	54,000	54,000
Housing Related Support	-	31,769	31,769
Brighter Futures	-	33,741	33,741
Thurrock CCG/Better Care Fund	29,450	-	29,450
Essex Police Crime Commissioner			
Sexual Violence Counselling	-	986,998	986,998
MOJ ISVA	-	185,130	185,130
MOJ Extraordinary COVID fund	160,000	-	160,000
Big Lottery Fund	84,464	-	84,464
The National Lottery Community Fund (Coronavirus Community Support Fund)	10,000	-	10,000
Rape Crisis England & Wales			
External Relations Programme	-	25,125	25,125
	283,914	1,324,263	1,608,177

In the period to 31.03.21, of the grant and contract income classified as Income from Charitable Activities, £283,914 was attributable to restricted income funds with the balance of £1,324,263 adding to unrestricted funds.

SERICC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

4. INCOME FOR SERVICES & DIRECT WORK

			31.03.21
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£
Rape Crisis – Hosting Fees	-	5,187	5,187
Counselling Sessions	-	-	-
Training	-	1,500	1,500
Other Services & Direct Work	-	21,910	21,910
	-	28,597	28,597

In the period to 31.03.21, of the Fees for Services and Direct Work income, £nil was attributable to restricted income funds with the balance of £28,597 adding to unrestricted funds.

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

			31.03.21
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	-	56	56

In the period to 31.03.21, of the Investment income, £nil was attributable to restricted income funds with the balance of £56 adding to unrestricted funds.

6. DONATION FROM SOUTH ESSEX RAPE AND INCEST CRISIS CENTRE

South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre, charity no: 287762, continued activity until 1st July 2020 when the majority of assets were transferred to SERICC, with all assets and liabilities having been fully transferred by 31st July 2020. South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre ceased activity after that date and has been removed from the Charity Commission register. The net amount of assets and liabilities transferred in the period totalled £1,378,774.

SERICC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

7. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Counselling & Advocacy £	Prevention & Education £	31.03.21 Total £
Counselling Staff Salary costs	372,647	75,940	448,587
Counselling Consultants	31,312	-	31,312
Staff training	3,583	423	4,006
Travel & Subsistence	824	92	916
Supervision	10,413	1,157	11,570
Transport for clients	7	-	7
Counselling Telephone costs	15,770	1,752	17,522
Language & Sign Interpreters	968	-	968
Essex Partnership payments	724,213	-	724,213
Governance costs (note 8)	118,126	29,900	148,026
Support costs (note 9)	73,150	31,350	104,500
	<hr/> 1,351,013	<hr/> 140,614	<hr/> 1,491,627 <hr/>

Of the £1,491,627 expenditure in the period to 31.03.21 £398,460 was charged to restricted funds and £1,093,167 to unrestricted funds.

Costs relating directly to charitable activities have been allocated between the two key activities on a direct basis or on a per capita staff basis depending on the nature of the expense. Governance and support costs have been apportioned as detailed in notes 8 and 9 respectively.

SERICC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

8. ANALYSIS OF GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Counselling & Advocacy £	Prevention & Education £	31.03.21 Total £
Non-Counselling Staff Salary costs	143,690	35,923	179,613
Salary costs recharged to ICENA (inc prior periods)	(72,491)	(26,135)	(98,626)
Payroll/Accounting fees	10,595	4,541	15,136
Audit fee	2,450	1,050	3,500
Legal & Professional fees	12,050	5,164	17,214
Consultancy	18,900	8,100	27,000
Insurances	2,932	1,257	4,189
	<hr/> 118,126	<hr/> 29,900	<hr/> 148,026 <hr/>

Governance costs are apportioned between the two key charitable activities based on the level of resources and time expended by the charity as a whole on each activity.

9. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Counselling & Advocacy £	Prevention & Education £	31.03.21 Total £
Rent	13,807	5,918	19,725
Heat and Light	349	149	498
Cleaning, Repairs and maintenance	18,682	8,006	26,688
IT Equipment & software	19,758	8,468	28,226
IT Support & development costs	5,491	2,353	7,844
Printing, stationery & postage	11,405	4,888	16,293
Publications, subscriptions & publicity	2,019	865	2,884
Non-Counselling Telephone costs	923	396	1,319
Hospitality & refreshments	250	107	357
General expenses	27	12	39
Depreciation	285	122	407
Bank charges	154	66	220
	<hr/> 73,150	<hr/> 31,350	<hr/> 104,500 <hr/>

Support costs are apportioned between the two key charitable activities on the basis of the level of resources and time expended by the charity as a whole on each activity.

SERICC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

10. STAFF COSTS AND KEY PERSONNEL

	31.03.21
	Total
	£
Salaries and Wages	555,683
Social Security Costs	57,216
Pension costs	15,301
	<hr/>
	628,200
	<hr/>
	Number
Average head count (number of staff employed)	24

During the period, the number of higher paid employees was as follows:

£60,000-£69,999

-

£70,000-£79,999

-

The trustees received no remuneration nor were they reimbursed for any expenses during the period.

The charity considers its key management personnel comprise the Trustees, the Director and Operations Manager. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £79,265.

11. PENSIONS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the SOFA in the period to which they relate. The charge for the period was £15,301.

12. AUDITORS REMUNERATION

	31.03.21
	Total
	£
Audit fees	3,500
Other services	5,266
	<hr/>
	8,766
	<hr/>

SERICC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

13. FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment £
COST	
Additions	2,034
Disposals	-
As at 31st March 2021	2,034
DEPRECIATION	
Charge	407
Eliminated on disposals	-
As at 31st March 2021	407
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2021	1,627

14. DEBTORS

	31.03.21 Total £
Grants and fees receivable	33,214
Prepayments and accrued income	23,785
Other debtors	98,626
	155,625

Other debtors comprise interest free loans of £98,626 for which there is no formal repayment schedule but total loans are repayable within 20 years of the initial agreement.

15. CREDITORS

	31.03.21 Total £
Trade creditors	38,486
Accruals and deferred income	35,764
	74,250

SERICC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

16. ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance Transferred	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance C/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds:					
Counselling & Advocacy:					
Thurrock CCG/Better Care Fund	(450)	29,450	(18,122)	-	10,878
TBC Brighter Futures	(6,834)	-	-	6,834	-
Essex Police Crime Commissioner	(12,103)	-	-	12,103	-
101 Essex PCC	18,104	-	-	(18,104)	-
Talking Therapies	(165)	-	-	165	-
National Lottery Community Fund	47,529	84,464	(126,179)	-	5,814
National Lottery Community Fund (Coronavirus Community Support Fund)		10,000	(9,678)	-	322
Development and Policy:					
Rape Crisis England & Wales	25,550	-	-	(25,550)	-
RCEW Digital Transformation	4,210	-	(3,902)	-	308
Ministry of Justice:					
Extra-Ordinary Funds	53,275	160,000	(205,936)	(10,162)	(2,823)
Rape Support Fund	36,325	-	(34,643)	(1,682)	-
	165,441	283,914	(398,460)	(36,396)	14,499
Designated Funds:					
Contingency Fund	627,781	-	-	52,403	680,184
Capital Fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Legal Fund	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
	777,781	-	-	52,403	830,184
Unrestricted Funds					
	435,552	1,405,097	(1,093,167)	(16,007)	731,475
	1,378,774	1,689,011	(1,491,627)	-	1,576,158

The details of each restricted fund are provided in note 17.

The details of designated funds are provided in note 18.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

17. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Sexual Violence Counselling and Advocacy:

- Thurrock Borough Council:
- Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group

Grant funding and contracts have been utilised to meet operational and delivery costs of counsellors and advocates providing sexual violence support, counselling and advocacy services to adults, children, young people.

Essex Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)

This contract was awarded after a successful procurement process in the Autumn 2019 for three years. Third party payments are made to the two Essex Rape Crisis Centres, SOSRC and CARA. SERICC are the lead partner. Reserves are maintained to ensure third party payments can be made in advance to ensure seamless service delivery across the partnership.

Talking Therapies

This NHS funding stream integrated into the PCC contract is for providing counselling support to victims and survivors who have been referred by the Sexual Assault Referral Centre. It contributes towards time limited counselling before clients are referred into ISVA and counselling services provided by SERICC and the partnership.

The service delivery includes providing sexual violence support, counselling and advocacy services to adults, children, young people across Essex.

MOJ Rape Support Fund

This grant funding has been utilised to meet operational and delivery costs of counsellors and advocates providing sexual violence support, counselling and advocacy services to adults, children, young people.

SERICC as lead partner for the Essex Partnership of Rape Crisis Centres have managed additional funds this period that have been awarded to cover exceptional costs due to government restrictions and increase capacity for counselling and Independent Sexual Violence Advisers.

MOJ Extraordinary COVID Fund

Additional funding of £160,000 was made available to the Partnership to provide support to the charity and partnership organisations due to the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The National Lottery Community Fund

This essential funding has ensured the continuation of the first contact team which provides the triage support both to service users and professionals.

A one-off grant from the Coronavirus Community Support Fund, distributed by The National Lottery Community Fund, has helped SERICC re-design the website with additional resources.

SERICC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Rape Crisis England and Wales (RCEW):

Policy and strategic work

SERICC's senior staff deliver national policy and strategic work on behalf of the Rape Crisis network. The work includes responding to national consultations, attending national stakeholder meetings and ensuring that policy is informed by frontline practice, victims and survivors experiences. SERICC also hosts staff members from the national team at the SERICC office. From time to time SERICC undertake additional time limited pieces of work, such as updating specific policy on behalf of RCEW. RCEW has been provided with a dedicated budget for research and policy purposes across a two-year period. This year the research was focused on providing a National Helpline.

Digital Transformation and Rape Crisis 'Weaving the Web' project

Rape Crisis England & Wales has supported centres with training and funding to begin to address a digital transformation in our sector by formalising an action plan and dedicated resources. Funding was used to update SERICC IT, and IT support and create dedicated IT office space. The funding enabled the website to be refreshed, engage in training and updating office space and equipment. Rape Crisis is running a national project called Weaving the Web which provides a virtual chat and information support service for victims. Resources were to support any referrals, involvement or related activities were received from RCEW services.

Transfers between funds

Certain restricted funds have been reclassified as unrestricted income from contracts for services. Any funds transferred from South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre relating to these funds have been transferred accordingly.

18. DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Contingency fund is maintained for the potential expenditure that would be incurred in the event that funding is withdrawn from SERICC. At the period end the trustees reviewed the level of the Contingency fund and took the decision to increase it by £52,403 to reflect the increased staffing levels and core costs related to the charity's activities.

The Capital fund is for future and additional capital costs that may include additional premises in order to deliver services effectively in the community.

Whilst there are no existing or pending claims against the charity, the trustees have taken advice and maintained a designated Legal fund as a cautionary measure in order to meet any legal and professional fees and ancillary costs that may arise in the future as a result of any potential claim against the charity or in connection with its operations.

SERICC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS IN FUNDS

	Restricted	Designated	Unrestricted	Total 31.03.21
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,627	1,627
Current assets	42,130	830,184	776,467	1,648,781
Current Liabilities	(27,631)		(46,619)	(74,250)
	14,499	830,184	731,475	1,576,158

20. COMMITMENTS

At 31st March 2021, the charity was committed to a formal lease with the Parochial Church Council of Grays Team Ministry with commitments totalling £55,000 due within the next 5 years. The lease commitment was formally transferred to SERICC CIO after the end of the period.

The financial statements for the period include lease payments recognised as an expense of £12,043.

21. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

At 31st March 2021, an amount of £98,626 was owed to SERICC by ICENA, an entity in which certain key management personnel of SERICC are directors. This loan is interest free and repayable in installments as agreed between the two parties.

22. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.03.21 £
Net movement in funds	1,576,158
Add back depreciation charge	407
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(56)
(Increase) in debtors	(155,625)
Increase in creditors	74,250
Net Cash used in Operating Activities	1,495,134

ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	Transfer from South Essex Rape & Incest Crisis Centre £	Cashflows £	Total 31.03.21 £
Cash and cash equivalents	1,282,551	210,605	1,493,156
Total Net Debt	1,282,551	210,605	1,493,156