THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

England & Wales · Charity number 1191145

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	12275770
Registered	2020-09-03
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Nat. Academy For Social Prescribing Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX
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Website	www.socialprescribingacademy.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE TO ADVANCE THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF SOCIAL PRESCRIBING FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY:1. INCREASING KNOWLEDGE, AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF SOCIAL PRESCRIBING;2. THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF SOCIAL PRESCRIBING PRACTICE;3. THE PROMOTION OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND BEST PRACTICE IN SOCIAL PRESCRIBING; AND4. THE PROMOTION AND CARRYING OUT OF RESEARCH (DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY) INTO SOCIAL PRESCRIBING.(SOCIAL PRESCRIBING IS THE PRACTICE OF LINKING HEALTHCARE TO COMMUNITY BASED ACTIVITIES TO ADDRESS INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING).

Activities: We are dedicated to the advancement of social prescribing through promotion, collaboration and innovation. We work to create partnerships, across the arts, health, sports, leisure, and the natural environment to promote health and wellbeing at a national and local level. We will champion social prescribing and the work of local communities in connecting people for wellbeing.

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Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£3,137,353	£2,831,764	£1,260,138	18
2024-03-31	£2,731,968	£2,536,295	£954,549	22
2023-03-31	£3,897,979	£3,372,410	£758,876	20
2022-03-31	£250,284	£3,014,057	£233,307	6
2021-03-31	£3,410,657	£3,322,757	£87,900	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Professor Kamila Hawthorne	Chair	2025-06-25
Amanda Ellingworth		2024-08-16
Brad Gudger		2021-05-13
Clova Fyfe		2024-08-16
Dr Davina Deniszczyc		2024-08-16
El-Bashir Abubakr Salem Bahaj		2025-03-13
Gay Anthia Palmer		2021-05-13
Lisa Tookey		2025-03-13
Phoebe Ruwadzano Hitchcox		2020-02-25
Sarah Metcalfe		2021-05-13

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THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191145

Accounts

Charity registration number 1191145

Company registration number 12275770 (England and Wales)

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr B Gudger	
	Ms P R Hitchcox	
	Ms S Metcalfe	
	Ms G A Palmer	
	Ms C A Fyfe	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
	Dr D M Deniszczyc	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
	Lady A P Ellingworth	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
	Ms L J Tookey	(Appointed 13 March 2025)
	Mr E A S Bahaj	(Appointed 13 March 2025)
	Dr K Hawthorne - Chair	(Appointed 25 June 2025)
Charity number	1191145	
Company number	12275770	
Principal address	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Registered office	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Auditor	PKF Littlejohn LLP 15 Westferry Circus London E14 4HD	
Solicitors	DAC Beachcroft LLP Portwall Place Portwall Lane Bristol BS1 9HS	

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

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THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

FOREWORD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Government's new ten-year plan for the health service stresses the need to shift care from treatment to prevention and from hospitals to communities. Social prescribing can play a crucial role in both of these ambitions, as a key feature of the final step in the conversation between healthcare and the public.

Link workers and similar roles have time to support people with the underlying factors that affect their health and wellbeing – from loneliness and isolation to debt, housing problems and other social needs. Our research in 2024-5 has shown how this approach can benefit not just patients but the health service, reducing unnecessary GP appointments, hospital admissions and A&E attendances.

However, social prescribing can only be successful if there is a good range of activities, groups and services to which link workers and other healthcare staff can connect people. That is why we published an ambitious call for joint investment in frontline organisations providing socially prescribed activities and services. Our vision for a National Community Health and Wellbeing Fund was developed in partnership with more than 100 organisations and would be a crucial step towards ensuring more sustainable preventative programmes.

We know that pooling investment works, because of the success of The Power of Music Fund. We are proud to have brought together public, private and charitable funders to support thousands of people living with dementia and carers across the country through music. Through the fund, we have established the UK's first Centre of Excellence for Music and Dementia, which we hope will gather the evidence needed to secure much wider investment.

Connecting the health system with community organisations remains at the heart of what we do. We managed the extension of the successful cross-Government Green Social Prescribing Programme, which connected people struggling with their mental health to nature-based support, from gardening to walking groups to outdoor therapy. The evaluation demonstrated statistically significant improvements in mental health and wellbeing, in a way that was cost-effective compared to other interventions.

We have directly supported thousands of health and care workers through our webinars, events and resources, as well as our Champions and Innovation programmes. We have explored new frontiers for social prescribing, through research and resources focusing on children and young people, older people, and patients admitted to secondary care.

We also created a new hub to support heritage organisations – such as museums or historic properties – to work more closely with the NHS, and we continue to work with partners across the arts and culture and physical activity sectors, as well as with faith groups.

All of this work is fundamentally related to tackling the factors that drive ill health. If a link worker can help someone with respiratory problems to have the mould removed from their walls, or if a local organisation can support someone who's chronically lonely to find a sense of belonging and purpose, they are preventing problems from escalating.

As we look ahead to the future, we are hugely grateful to Professor Dame Helen Stokes-Lampard, our first Chair of Trustees, for leading our work from the organisation's inception, and to Jonathan Badyal for acting as Interim Chair for six months. We look forward to welcoming Professor Kamila Hawthorne to the role and to the development of NASP into a truly national centre for social prescribing going forwards.

We are also grateful for the support of all our partners, including the Department of Health and Social Care, and for their ongoing commitment to advancing health and wellbeing through social prescribing.

Kamila Hawthorne, Chair

Charlotte Osborn-Forde, Chief Executive

Dated: 2nd December 2025

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities
Social prescribing is the practice of linking healthcare to community-based activities to address individual and community mental and physical health and wellbeing.

The charity's objects are to advance the study and practice of social prescribing for the public benefit, in particular, but not exclusively, by:

1. Make some noise - raising the profile of social prescribing
In order to expand social prescribing, we need to get the message out there - that connecting people for wellbeing is vital for people and communities.

2. Find resources - develop innovative funding partnerships
We recognise the challenges faced by social prescribing link workers, the local voluntary, community, social enterprise and arts sector and will seek to improve resources to realise their social prescribing goals.

3. Build relationships - broker and build relationships across all sectors
Social prescribing relies on strong, mature relationships at national and local levels across multiple sectors.

4. Improve the evidence - shape and share the evidence base
There is already an evidence base for social prescribing, but it is not comprehensive. We need to build a consensus about what we know and don't know, improve accessibility and visibility of evidence.

5. Spread what works - promote learning on social prescribing
We will share what is good, what has been learnt and draw from multiple sources to ensure continued development of social prescribing.

The National Academy For Social Prescribing ("NASP") works with key partners - such as Arts Council England, Dept. for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Independent Age, Natural England, Rayne Foundation, Sport England and The Utley Foundation – to administrate and manage grants allowing greater reach and deeper engagement in relation to social prescribing. All grant making/giving partners are issued NASP's partnership agreement detailing key governance, project management and risk mitigation points. All grant making/giving strands of activity must be signed off at Board level too.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Our vision

Our vision is to help people live the best lives they can through social prescribing.

Our strategy for 2023-26 focuses on five key ambitions.

Connection
A connected social prescribing system enabling easier access to activities and information.

Partnership
Local, national and international partnerships driving innovative ideas and approaches.

Investment
Boosted investment in community activities directly supporting people's health and wellbeing.

Evidence
The best evidence shaping social prescribing policy, practice and research.

Profile
A raised profile of how social prescribing changes lives and strengthens communities.

Highlights from 2024-25

- Hosted the International Social Prescribing Conference and The Social Prescribing Day Summit;
- Published groundbreaking reports, including Envisaging a Social Prescribing Fund, Connected To Thrive and research on the impact of social prescribing on health service use and cost;
- Launched the UK's first Centre of Excellence for Music and Dementia;
- Reached thousands of health and care professionals through events and our free webinar series; and
- Welcomed 122 guests from 10 countries to learn about social prescribing.

Kelly's story

Kelly started experiencing difficulties with her mental health following the birth of her second child, was placed under regular care of a Community Psychiatric Nurse and was seeing a psychiatrist every six months. Unfortunately, things got worse following a diagnosis of fibromyalgia, leading to financial trouble for Kelly when she had to retire from work. "*I was struggling with suicidal ideation*" at this time, she says, and she attended A&E and crisis services. Twenty years since she first started experiencing her difficulties, Kelly was referred by her GP to a Mental Health Social Prescribing Link Worker. With their support, she has accessed the financial support she needs, applied for a volunteering role, and has required no further crisis support. "*The support I have received has allowed me to see a way out of a dark place and put positive changes in place*," she says. "*I feel connected...I feel motivated...I feel more in control of my life.*"

Connection

We are continuing to create a connected social prescribing system, enabling easier access to activities and information. We do this by supporting the social prescribing workforce – including Social Prescribing Link Workers, NHS clinical staff and voluntary sector organisations - and providing advice and support to improve social prescribing systems.

Workforce & Healthcare Integration

In 2024-2025, the Healthcare Integration portfolio of our work has grown significantly focussing on influencing national developments, strengthening clinical leadership in social prescribing, and equipping professionals to embed social prescribing in practice.
Headline Achievements:

- Engaging with 88% of Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), including through setting up a quarterly community of practice, strengthening local leadership for social prescribing.
- Re-launching our Social Prescribing Champions Programme engaging with nearly 300 champions across the year, increasing NASP's reach into healthcare workplaces.
- Engaging thousands of health and care professionals through targeted events, conferences, and webinars.
- Facilitating a Clinical Advisory Group, bringing together clinical leaders within social prescribing delivery and policy.
- Holding 12 Link Worker Advisory Group meetings and progressing with the development of England's first national training roadmap for link workers.
- Carrying out our first national link worker survey, providing an evidence base for system-wide improvement.
- Influencing the future clinical workforce through our Student Champions publications and teaching medical students in partnership with Imperial College London.

Link Worker Advisory Group
We now have 26 active members of our Link Worker Advisory Group (LWAG) who meet on a monthly basis to advise NASP, proactively engage with developing projects, and ensure that the link worker voice is represented in all that we do.

Integrated Care System Engagement
Over the past year, we have built up an engaged Integrated Care Board (ICB) community of practice, with 67% of ICBs represented. Survey respondents rated the usefulness of the community of practice and NASP support very highly, with an average score of 8.9 out of 10. The community aims to increase knowledge, forge stronger networks, and provide practical insights to help ICB leaders drive integration locally. We have also built engagement with Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), Boards and Partnerships across our wider work.

Clinical Engagement Events
Over the past year, increasing awareness and engagement with healthcare professionals has been a key priority. To support this, we have facilitated and participated in a wide range of events, working in partnership with national organisations to deliver high-quality, evidence-based sessions, designed to upskill and educated clinicians across a diverse range of practices and disciplines. This included a half day conference with the Royal Society of Medicine. We also worked closely with PrescQIPP to create a flagship seven-part webinar series that attracted over 1,400 sign-ups from 152 healthcare roles.

Social Prescribing Link Worker Survey
This year we have conducted NASP's first ever Social Prescribing Link Worker survey, engaging with a total of 411 practising link workers, representing all 42 ICSs. Results will be published in 2025.

Clinical Engagement Strategy Meetings
Another positive development in 2024 is the development of our Clinical Advisory Group, facilitated by Dr Mohan Sekeram. The expert insight provided by the group shaped our future objectives and the mobilisation of our clinical engagement strategy.

Karen, Social Prescribing Link Worker

"I felt it really important to join NASP both as a Social Prescribing Champion and member of the Link Worker Advisory Group. It has given me the opportunity to promote the work that link workers do amongst practices and local community groups, connect with other link workers, and help shape the future direction of social prescribing so that it's benefits can be spread far and wide."

Champions

This year, our Social Prescribing Champions network has grown significantly after an official re-launch of the programme. This has resulted in NASP now engaging 296 champions, with 152 active volunteers. Champions represent a wide range of professions, including GPs, nurses, clinical psychologists, Integrated Neighbourhood Team leads, pharmacists, and healthcare directors. All champions commit to promoting social prescribing, sharing NASP resources, and feeding back on their impact.

To date, Champions have extended the reach of our evidence, guidance, and toolkits, strengthening advocacy and practice at local and national levels. Overall, 90% of champions reported influencing the development of social prescribing in their workplace through our support.

Partnerships

National Leads

Arts and Culture
As part of our commitment to social prescribing through arts and culture, we appointed Sunita Pandya Malik as our Associate Cultural Strategic Lead in January 2025. The focus of the work has been to ensure NASP is part of key national strategic conversations around Creative Health, working closely with partners such as Arts Council England, the National Centre for Creative Health, the Creative Health and Wellbeing Alliance and the London Arts and Health Forum, as well as developing partnerships with cultural partners of varying scales. We continue to offer insight and support for cultural organisations wanting to connect more deeply and meaningfully into the health and social care system.

We also continued to manage the Power of Music Fund (see Investment section), supporting thousands of people living with dementia through music.

Children & Young People
In 2024-2025, we made significant strides in shaping and strengthening social prescribing for children and young people (CYP). Supported by the Linbury Trust and Same West Foundation, we embarked on an ambitious programme to develop a clear vision for children and young people's social prescribing. This began with our Big Conversation, which brought together over 100 organisations from across the country – from national charities and local authorities to NHS partners, schools, and community organisations.

From this collaborative process, we developed and published Connected to Thrive, the first national vision for children and young people's social prescribing. Connected to Thrive sets out how social prescribing can empower young people to access the support they need, build confidence, improve wellbeing, and connect with their communities. It represents a milestone in creating a shared ambition across health, education, and community partners.

Over the year, we also conducted a detailed exploration of the workforce needs across the CYP system. This culminated in the development of a comprehensive training and workforce development report, which sets out clear recommendations to support link workers, practitioners, and wider professionals delivering social prescribing for young people.

Historic Environment
In 2024-2025 the partnership between Historic England and NASP supported further innovation and capacity building in the health, heritage and voluntary and community sectors. The Heritage and Social Prescribing Advice Hub, developed in collaboration with the Heritage and Social Prescribing Community of Practice and the Social Prescribing Link Workers Advisory Group, was launched in March 2025.

Building on the pilots carried out in previous years, the advice hub offers a wealth of resources, evidence and tools to show how heritage can be used for social prescribing. It also includes practical guides for Social Prescribing Link Workers and for heritage practitioners. Further plans include the development of a Heritage and Social Prescribing training for Social Prescribing Link Workers.

Historic England supported the first Heritage Social Prescribing Award as part of the International Social Prescribing Conference in June 2024, which was won by the Heritage Link Worker Project in Great Yarmouth and The Restoration Trust. The Heritage Link worker film, commissioned by Historic England, brought attention to the practical implementation of heritage in social prescribing pathways.

In collaboration with Churchworks, the Good Faith Partnership and the Bishop of London, NASP and Historic England delivered a roundtable event on *Faith Communities and Social Prescribing* at the House of Lords. Representatives of Government departments, faith groups, Arm's Length Bodies and the NHS, as well as funders and voluntary organisations, agreed on the need to raise awareness about the potential of faith groups to link with social prescribing and neighbourhood health.

The initiative led to a decision to create a national lead for Faith and Social Prescribing at NASP. The partners also came together at the NASP webinar on *Faith and Social Prescribing* in February 2025, where Churchworks and Theos presented the results of their report Creating a Neighbourhood Health Service: The role of churches and faith groups in social prescribing, as well as practical guides for social prescribers and faith leaders.

Natural Environment & Green Social Prescribing
Between August 2023 and April 2024, we project-managed a one-year extension of the cross-government Green Social Prescribing (GSP) Programme, the evaluation of which will come out at the end of 2025.

In September, the evaluation report from Phase 1, running from 2021 to 2023, of the GSP Programme was published. It showed that the programme had a statistically significant impact on the wellbeing and mental health of participants, in a way that was cost-effective compared to other mental health interventions.

The evidence was presented by the Natural Environment Lead to various forums, such as the Therapeutic Horticulture Stakeholder Group, Green Health Learning Network and Social Justice Academy.

From December 2024, a new Green Social Prescribing Innovation Community began its development, informed by a survey which highlighted the need for networking opportunities across sectors.

Between January and April 2025, NASP ran three webinars showcasing the Green Social Prescribing Programme, as well as an in-person event to celebrate the impact of the programme.

In addition, NASP ran Action Learning Collaboratives with Green Social Prescribing pilot managers as part of the extension phase of the programme with focus on workforce, data, children and young people, mental health, and sustainable funding.

Finally, from December to March 2025, the National Lead engaged in policy mapping across government departments and various arms-length bodies to identify opportunities for GSP to be embedded in forthcoming policies.

Older People
In partnership with Independent Age, we continued with our commission with *Reaching People Leicester* (RP) and *Hastings Voluntary Action* (HVA) in 2024. The pilots, which finished in November 2024, sought to explore new social prescribing approaches that integrate financial and social support, creating more inclusive and holistic systems of care for older people facing financial difficulties.

In Hastings, HVA worked with older people and partners on local initiatives that focused on health, wellbeing, and practical financial tips. Outreach in foodbanks, faith groups, and community hubs ensured engagement with those least likely to access social prescribing. Over the course of the year, the Hastings pilot recorded 4,480 contacts, including 245 instances of in-depth support.

In Leicester, Reaching People delivered activities in two contrasting areas - Belgrave and New Parks - with 11,594 contacts during the year.

Alongside the local pilots, NASP and Independent Age delivered an online national training offer that reached 282 Social Prescribing Link Workers, focused on how to better support older people experiencing financial hardship.

A full Learning Report, published in March 2025, captured these insights in detail, alongside toolkits and other resources highlighting the lived experiences of older people. The project leaves a legacy of knowledge, skills, new groups and activities, and better referral pathways for older people facing financial hardship.

Lee's story

Lee was referred to the Oak Tree Project, a weekly session at Tortworth Arboretum, which provides a safe and supportive environment for participants to experience the mental health benefits of being active in the wood. Activities include walks, crafting with natural materials and cooking on the fire.
Having struggled with their mental health, this project has become central to Jay's week. *"Thursday is my day. It's my escape day. If it disappeared, I'd probably have absolutely nothing."* The outdoor setting is a source of peace and inspiration. *"I love coming to see all these trees...You just come and sit with your thoughts. I think I'd be lost without it."*

Physical Activity
Our work on physical activity and social prescribing, in partnership with Sport England, has focused on two interconnected priorities: understanding the needs of primary care and supporting the physical activity sector to deliver high-quality, impactful opportunities for communities.

Supporting Primary Care
We have engaged closely with primary care teams to understand their challenges and opportunities in embedding physical activity into social prescribing. Through this, we have developed and begun delivering a programme that equips multidisciplinary teams with the confidence, skills and knowledge to work effectively with their local physical activity sector, via their local Active Partnership. This approach enables stronger partnerships at a community level and helping physical activity to become a routine part of the social prescribing offer.

Strengthening the Physical Activity Sector
Alongside this, we have invested time in understanding the needs of the physical activity sector itself. Our aim has been to support providers so they can offer safe, inclusive, and high-quality social prescribing opportunities. We have focused on programmes for children and young people, with an emphasis on improving mental health and wellbeing.

Partnerships and Advocacy
We have continued to champion the role of sport and physical activity as an effective prescription for health and wellbeing, especially for groups who are often harder for the health system to reach.

- We worked in partnership with *Movember* and *Rugby League Cares*, supporting the development and expansion of the *Ahead of the Game* programme across England. This initiative equips young people, parents and coaches with tools to build resilience and protect mental health.
- We have advocated nationally for physical activity and sport to be recognised as tools for prevention, recovery, and community connection.

Anna's story

Anna is a single parent with four teenage boys who went to the GP experiencing low mood. She was referred to see Social Prescribing Link Worker Zoe, who met with her in the local park for some walking consultations. Together, they identified two goals of working on Anna's activity levels and improving her mental wellbeing. Anna started cycling to her sessions with Zoe and was also referred to a local women's centre who were able to provide some free person-centred therapy alongside a community-based course at her local healthy living centre, Brighter Living Partnership. She enjoyed the course and got on very well with the leaders, so after attending the centre for a few weeks Anna offered to help volunteer her time at the community café meeting and greeting people, taking orders and helping prepare food. Anna is now an extremely highly valued volunteer at the centre.

Global

International Visits & Speaking Engagements
We continue to support ministries of health, leading NGOs, and academic partners for strategic guidance, capacity building, and access to the latest global insights. Over the last year, we have hosted more than 122 guests from 10 countries to learn about social prescribing in the English health system, including delegations from South Korea, USA, Hong Kong, Denmark, Singapore and Taiwan. We have also learned from our guests about pioneering approaches in other countries.

At the 2024 International Social Prescribing Conference in London, we hosted attendees from over 20 countries. NASP spoke at the Canadian Social Prescribing Conference in Toronto with speakers and insights from across the world. This was followed by NASP CEO delivering a keynote speech at a New York Social Prescribing Summit hosted by the Social Prescribing USA Network.

International Social Prescribing Collaborative
We convene the *International Social Prescribing Collaborative,* the world's largest network of social prescribing policymakers and practitioners. With 34 countries now represented, these six-weekly sessions spotlight developments in social prescribing policy, practice, research and implementation, facilitating interdisciplinary knowledge-sharing. Through our international work, NASP was able to welcome seven new countries to the collaborative (United Arab Emirates, Norway, Greece, India, Colombia, Finland, New Zealand) growing the network and its reach. Our work ensures the global community is connected, informed, and empowered to drive innovation and best practice in social prescribing.

Partnerships
Our International Programme works through partnerships designed to create lasting impact, empowering local leadership, and building a global movement of community-centred care to better health for all.

The second edition of the Social Prescribing around the World report was published in June 2024 at the International Social Prescribing Conference. This includes the addition of six new countries, including work from Lower-Middle Income Countries such as The Philippines and Nigeria.

The large-scale £7m Social Prescribing EU project, funded under the Horizon Europe programme, began in January 2025 with our Communications and International teams working together on the Communications and Dissemination workplans. The project will conduct a randomised control trial to assess the potential of social prescribing to promote and improve access to health and care services for people in vulnerable situations, focusing on three primary target groups: LGBTIQ people, refugees and first-generation immigrants and older adults living alone. The project involves over 22 partners across the EU and will run for five years.

Our partnership with The Canadian Institute for Social Prescribing (CISP) has seen a fantastic first year with sessions on Student Champions, Formal Curriculum, Research partners, Clinical Engagement, Arts and Culture and Communication materials. NASP also presented at Canada's social prescribing community of practice.

Our journey to become a World Health Organisation (WHO) Collaborating Centre has progressed well under the guidance of Nils Fletje (WHO Europe) and Christopher Bailey (WHO Lead for Arts and Health). Our work with WHO continues alongside this, with a WHO Europe series of webinars launched in collaboration with the Austrian Government with speakers from WHO Geneva, WHO Europe, WHO Western Pacific, reaching an audience of over 20 countries.

Mary's story

When her husband passed away, Mary's life was turned upside down. Living alone, she became increasingly isolated and was referred to Môn Community Link, a Social Prescribing Service on Anglesey. In her conversations with Local Asset Coordinator, Awen, Mary opened up about her feelings of low mood and expressed a strong desire to reconnect with her community.

Mary's first step was volunteering at a community Christmas dinner event at Hen Ysgol Bodorgan, a Community Centre in a rural area on Anglesey. She felt an immediate connection to its warm and welcoming community, making it the perfect place to start a group for people navigating grief and loss. With the help of a small grant, within a few weeks the Bereavement Café was launched in February 2025 and has quickly flourished. The group, led by Mary, is now a close-knit circle of friends, meeting weekly with around 15 regular attendees and has even organised summer walks together.

Innovation

This year, NASP's innovation work has focused on building stronger connections across the social prescribing system, driving collaboration through specialist communities, and supporting the sector with high-quality development opportunities.

The Innovation Network has continued to expand, with representation from across the social prescribing system, including healthcare, workforce and voluntary and community organisations. In Autumn 2024, we launched an enhanced digital platform for the Network, offering members a dedicated hub to collaborate, exchange knowledge and overcome challenges.

We also delivered a regular programme of Innovation events, including monthly themed networking sessions, peer clinics, and specialist tutorials. Evaluation shows that participants are building meaningful professional relationships and translating learning directly into their work, supporting a more connected and resilient social prescribing system.

During 2024/25, we developed the concept of 'Innovation Communities' within our wider Innovation Network. These themed communities are being designed as focused spaces where partners can test ideas, share insights, and tackle specific priorities. Work on the Green Social Prescribing Community was prioritised, with the aim of creating a national platform to advance the scale and spread of green social prescribing.

We also soft-launched our first training module on the Social Prescribing Knowledge Gateway. 'Social Prescribing Essentials' is a new e-learning module introducing the fundamentals of social prescribing. Developed with practitioners and voluntary sector partners, the course has received excellent feedback, with participants reporting increased knowledge and confidence in applying social prescribing in their own settings.

Mark's story

"When I first spoke to my social prescriber, I was feeling really low and didn't know where to turn for help," says Mark. Following the death of a long-term partner, struggles with mental health led to the loss of employment. Mark divulged that he was living without heating and had a substantial energy debt which was causing distress and financial hardship. Through a partnership with Citizens Advice, support with this debt was provided, and through a referral to the Heart Home Adaptions team, Mark received a new boiler and windows. A PIP claim, with the support of his social prescriber, means an extra income so Mark can afford his essentials, keep warm and eat properly.

As Mark continued to engage with his Social Prescribing Link Worker, it was apparent how lonely and isolated he still was. He was invited to a Walk and Talk Group, delivered by the social prescribing team, giving him a chance to meet new people, gain confidence and enjoy some exercise and fresh air. *"I was really nervous...but I pushed myself to do it and I'm really glad I did,"* he says. Mark now also consistently attends a Walking Football group and Men Talk, a group just for men, *"I have made many new friends through these groups so even on bad days when I would have hid away previously, I now go along as it makes me feel so much better."*

Investment

Power of Music Fund (PoM)

Key milestones and stats from 2024-2025

- Supported over 200 organisations and over 12,000 people.
- £2.7 million raised for Power of Music Fund.
- 70 small grants of up to £7,000 across three years for local community activities such as choirs and music groups, as well as 32 grants made by our partner Music for All.
- First Centre of Excellence for Music and Dementia launched with Manchester Camerata in 2024, which will track 1,000 patient journeys and use of NHS services before and after music interventions.

Summary of activity

Manchester Camerata became the UK's first Centre of Excellence for Music and Dementia, launching in May 2024 in Manchester with Andy Burnham speaking alongside Charlotte Osborn-Forde and a range of other partners. They were awarded a grant of £500,000 from NASP, which was equally matched by investment from Greater Manchester NHS and Greater Manchester Local Authority, totalling over £1m over three years. Press coverage was significant, including 27 featured pieces in national and international mainstream print and broadcast media.

The Rayne Foundation's commitment to the fund enabled us to bring together remaining funds from Utley Foundation and public fundraising and create a second Centre of Excellence, focusing on enhancing the health and social care workforce's ability to integrate music into dementia care. The application process was carried out in 2024-25, with Hertfordshire ultimately selected as the second Centre of Excellence. They will co-produce a robust training programme to upskill the local health and care workforce. They will roll this out across health care providers and establish champions within the Hertfordshire care homes that can embed the use of therapeutic music techniques within dementia care.

Music for All awarded 32 organisations a total of just under £50,000 of funding in July 2024. This funding prioritised applications from underrepresented communities, with a strong spread of organisations across the country. Music for All has since committed to a further two years of funding small grants as part of the Power of Music Fund.

NASP has worked closely with Manchester Camerata to create a Power of Music Learning Network, delivering webinars on a range of topics including the evidence base for music and dementia, how to connect to healthcare, as well as more practical topics such as managing risk and communications. The learning network is aimed at music and dementia projects, to help them share learning, discuss challenges and connect to others. The network is growing and has so far involved more than 100 leaders and organisations from across the UK. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive from network members.

The wider Power of Music Consortium and Steering group continue to meet regularly and progress the wider aims of the group around music and health.

Community Health & Wellbeing Fund (formerly Shared Investment Fund)

In December 2024, we published a report, Envisaging a Social Prescribing Fund, which made the case for a new fund that would support community activities, groups and services that benefit people's health and wellbeing.

The proposed England-wide fund of £1 billion over 10 years would bring together contributions from the public, philanthropic and private sectors, and provide vital long-term funding for community groups and organisations to meet the rising demand for their activities and services.

The allocation of funds would be based on local health needs and could include support for evidence-based community projects for people who are struggling with their mental health, music-based programmes for people living with dementia or exercise sessions to help prevent diabetes.

We developed the report with more than 100 organisations – from national funders to NHS Integrated Care Boards to local charities - who strongly supported the vision it presented.

Our aim is that the fund – now known as a National Community Health and Wellbeing Fund – could be worth £1 billion over ten years.

Evidence

New evidence published in 2024-25

The best evidence shaping social prescribing policy, practice and research

During 2024-25, we focused on developing the evidence base to address identified priority areas, such as developing better ways to report on the economic value of social prescribing services, supporting voluntary sector activity providers to demonstrate the impact of their services, and ensuring that findings were shared in ways that are as accessible and useful as possible.

In August, we shared an accessible resource to support voluntary, community faith and social enterprise sector organisations to evaluate the impact of their work, informed by a scoping review the previous year.

In November, we published a report on **the impact of social prescribing on health service use and costs**, summarising the analysis of social prescribing evaluation data from nine local health systems across England. These evaluations found that social prescribing can substantially reduce pressure on the NHS, including through:

- reduced GP appointments
- reduced hospital admissions
- reduced A&E visits

We also worked with the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research (CRESR) at Sheffield Hallam University to conduct research on Community-led Social Prescribing, commissioned by Local Trust. This year-long research project, published in January, explored the potential for greater community involvement in and leadership of social prescribing in England.

We expanded our International Evidence Collaborative to over 1,000 members and shared monthly evidence newsletters to keep them updated on relevant social prescribing evidence and research opportunities.

We have engaged with stakeholders focused on improving data-driven systems for social prescribing and at the end of 2024/25 we formed a partnership with the Social Biobehavioural Research Group at UCL to develop a National Centre for Social Prescribing Data and Analysis. This fulfils one of the key recommendations from NASP's 2023 report, The Future of Social Prescribing in England. The partnership combines NASP's reach into communities and our expertise in policy development and advocacy with UCL's world leading research and analysis capability.

We also continued to provide an evidence service to NASP itself, to ensure all our activity is evidence informed and can contribute to the evidence base.

Profile

Communications

According to our latest YouGov survey, 22% of people in England now recognise the phrase "social prescribing", a rise from 13% in 2022. Many more people understand that health professionals can refer people to non-medical groups and activities, and support for the concept of social prescribing remains high.

With over 168k users, the NASP website continues to be a one-stop shop for information and support on social prescribing, with highlights including new 'hubs' focusing on heritage and social prescribing, and on long-term conditions. The website saw an 18% rise in users over the course of the year, and there was also a 14% rise in followers on social media.

NASP and its work was featured in a wide range of local and national media. We also continued to play a coordinating role for Social Prescribing Day. There were more than 50 events across the country on the day, and the day trended on social media.

Events and Webinars

The sold-out International Social Prescribing Conference in June 2024, co-hosted with The Social Prescribing Network and The University of Westminster, attracted more than 500 delegates from 20 countries, and featured more than 60 speakers. These included Sir Michael Marmot, Cormac Russell and Dame Sarah Mullally (the Bishop of London).

We also hosted The Social Prescribing Day Summit in March 2025, featuring contributions from Stephen Kinnock MP, Minister of State for Care, and the Chief Executives of Natural England, Royal College of General Practice, Historic England, Local Trust, National Voices, PPL and the Lloyds Bank Foundation.

Other live events included the launch of the Envisaging a Social Prescribing Fund report, and an event to celebrate the success of the cross-Government Green Social Prescribing programme.

NASP offers a programme of free webinars covering a range of themes from a variety of industries and backgrounds. In 2024-2025, topics included faith, older people, the impact of social prescribing on health service use and costs and youth social prescribing in action. On average, the audiences rated these 8.8 out of 10 for usefulness.

Our staff also spoke at more than 40 external events and estimate that we reached thousands of health and care professionals.

Internal Developments

At NASP, we know that delivering impact externally begins with creating a thriving culture internally. Over the past year, we have invested in our wellbeing, equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging (WEDIB) initiatives, embedding practices that ensure every colleague feels supported and able to thrive.

At the start of the year, we introduced a new opportunity for staff to become 'Wellbeing and Inclusion Reps.' These roles volunteer to be visible advocates for wellbeing and inclusion, gathering feedback from colleagues, sharing relevant updates with their team, and contributing to our WEDIB Staff Action Group. These roles are now playing a central role in shaping organisational culture; their work has amplified staff voice, informed decision-making, and driven new initiatives that reflect the lived experience of our team.

We have also advanced our commitment to inclusive practice through the Disability Confident Scheme, building on our initial accreditation, to successfully achieve 'Disability Confident Employer' status this year. Alongside this, we introduced a new comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme, providing staff and their immediate families with free, confidential access to a range of support including counselling, legal and financial advice, wellbeing support and online courses. This additional layer of support ensures colleagues can access support 24/7, further strengthening our approach to staff wellbeing.

In March 2025, we undertook a full-scale review of staff policies, to ensure they uphold high standards of inclusivity, best practice, and alignment with our values. We also introduced a new 'People Insights Cycle' which will see a refreshed staff survey and improved design for employee appraisals. These changes provide staff with structured opportunities for meaningful reflection, feedback and development, while providing leadership with valuable insights into how NASP can continue to evolve as an employer of choice.

Alongside this, we have taken significant steps to modernise our HR processes, making them more intuitive and effective for staff, to provide quicker access to the tools and information they need, reducing administrative burden and creating a smoother, more transparent employee experience. We also invested in staff training, with a particular focus on managing change. In partnership with ACAS, managers took part in a tailored training session covering best practice in people management, including how to create a psychologically safe workplace.

To support opportunities for belonging, collaboration and learning across the organisation, we have worked alongside employees, including our Wellbeing and Inclusion Reps, to co-create a number of in-person staff days.

This ensures that staff days are shaped by the needs of our team and support a stronger culture of connection across the organisation, building a culture that truly reflects our values.

Our partners

We would like to thank our national partners, including:
Arts Council England
Historic England
Rayne Foundation
The National Lottery Fund
Natural England
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
NHS England
Music for Dementia
Sport England
The Utley Foundation
University College London
The Social Prescribing Network
Local Trust
Good Faith Partnership
Horizon Europe
The European Commission
University of Westminster
Universal Music UK
Worwin UK Foundation
PrescQIPP
University of East Anglia
The Linbury Trust
Independent Age
The Sam West Foundation
The Rowlands Trust

And our regional partners, including:
Hastings Voluntary Action
Reaching People Leicester

Financial review

For the year ended 31 March 2025 the Charity received total income of £3,137,354 (2024: £2,731,968) and incurred expenditure on charitable activities of £2,831,763 (2024: £2,536,295) resulting in a surplus position for the year of £305,591 (2024: £195,673). During the year the Charity received a grant of £1.7m from The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and has secured funding from DHSC of £1.5m for 2025/26.

At 31 March 2025 the Charity had cash of £1,524,792 (31 March 2024: £1,424,652), restricted funds of £355,121 (31 March 2024: £442,822) and unrestricted funds of £905,019 (31 March 2024: £511,727).

Reserves policy

NASP's Reserves policy is designed to ensure financial stability for NASP as a registered charity with between 3-6 months of operational costs held in a designated Reserves Account which can only be used with Board authorisation.

NASP's main source of income continues to be grant funding from DHSC but one of its objectives over the next 2-3 years is to derive more income from other sources. The current funding agreement with DHSC means that any underspend of grant monies received from DHSC is carried over into the following year and offset against new grant monies due from DHSC.

Based on its current levels of expenditure NASP has set a target of between £700,000 and £1,400,000 to hold as reserves as recommended by the Charities Commission to cover between 3 and 6 months of operating costs.

Risk management
NASP management regularly reviews the Risk Register on a bi-monthly basis and reports this to our Trustees and on a quarterly basis to the Finance, Audit, Investment and Risk Committee (FAIRCO). At present the main highlights are around diversifying our income streams and ensuring we have robust processes and staffing structures and levels to meet our programme requirements. As the Risk Register is reviewed across the Senior Management Team and Board every 8 weeks this ensure that the leadership team are very aware of the risk and related mitigations in daily business operations.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the impact or likelihood of occurrence of its major risks.

Plans for future periods
We have developed five longer term goals which will shape our priorities and outcomes for 2023-2026:
- Raise the profile of how social prescribing changes lives and strengthens communities.
- Boost investment in community activities directly supporting people's health and wellbeing.
- Strengthen the whole social prescribing system to enable easier access to activities and information.
- Build the evidence so the best information shapes social prescribing policy, practice and research.
- Forge local, national & international partnerships to drive new ideas and approaches.

Structure, governance and management
The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The charity is governed by its memorandum and articles adopted on 25 February 2020 as amended by special resolution on 1 September 2020.

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

Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard	(Resigned 16 October 2024)
Mr J Badyal	(Resigned 22 October 2025)
Dr H O Brunjes	(Resigned 13 February 2025)
Ms P Dimond	(Resigned 13 March 2025)
Mr B Gudger	
Ms P R Hitchcox	
Ms S Metcalfe	
Ms G A Palmer	
Ms C A Fyfe	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
Dr D M Deniszczyc	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
Lady A P Ellingworth	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
Ms L J Tookey	(Appointed 13 March 2025)
Mr E A S Bahaj	(Appointed 13 March 2025)
Dr K Hawthorne - Chair	(Appointed 25 June 2025)

The appointment of new trustees is performed through national advertising when the positions become available. Trustees are offered induction training when they first join allowing them to understand and connect to the business fully. Regular meetings with respective staff members take place with Board expertise in specific areas being utilised.

Alongside NASP's Remuneration Committee (REMCo), NASP's Remuneration Policy clearly states that the policy and any changes in remuneration must support NASP's vision, purpose and values. A robust process around renumeration changes (e.g. acting up allowance, additional responsibilities), is in place which involves sign off at both Senior Management Team and Trustee level with a yearly review of all salaries scheduled in Q4. Annual benchmarking of salaries and reviews of internal bandings are completed in Q4.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Charity is governed by the trustees with day-to-day activities managed by an operational committee which is headed by our Chief Executive Officer, Charlotte Osborn-Forde.

Auditor
PKF Littlejohn LLP were appointed as first auditors to the company during 2020/21 by the Trustees. The Company is not required under its Articles to hold an Annual General Meeting. Accordingly, PKF Littlejohn LLP are re-appointed auditors to the Company.

Disclosure of information to auditor
Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

In preparing this report the trustees have taken advantage of the small company exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

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Dr K Hawthorne - Chair
Trustee
Dated: 2nd December 2025

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors of The National Academy for Social Prescribing for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of the National Academy for Social Prescribing (the 'charitable company') for the year ending 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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

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

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

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

Other information
The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the trustees' annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial period for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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 Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the charitable company and the sector in which it operates to identify laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a direct effect on the financial statements. We obtained our understanding in this regard through discussions with management, industry research, application of cumulative audit knowledge and experience of the sector.
- We determined the principal laws and regulations relevant to the charitable company in this regard to be those arising from Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

- We designed our audit procedures to ensure the audit team considered whether there were any indications of non-compliance by the charitable company with those laws and regulations. These procedures included, but were not limited to, enquiries of management and review of minutes.
- We also identified the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud. We considered, in addition to the non-rebuttable presumption of a risk of fraud arising from management override of controls, that there was potential for management bias in the timing of recognition of income from grants. We addressed this through review of all material grant agreements to ensure correct treatment under the Charities SORP, including consideration of the accounting period in which income should be recognised.
- As in all of our audits, we addressed the risk of fraud arising from management override of controls by performing audit procedures which included, but were not limited to: the testing of journals; reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alastair Duke (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP
Statutory Auditor
5 December 2025

15 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
London E14 4HD

PKF Littlejohn LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Grants and donations	**3**	369,977	2,623,449	2,993,426	-	2,619,831	2,619,831
Charitable activities	**4**	126,646	-	126,646	81,161	24,256	105,417
Investments	**5**	17,281	-	17,281	6,720	-	6,720
Total income		513,904	2,623,449	3,137,353	87,881	2,644,087	2,731,968
Charitable activities	**6**	247,147	2,584,617	2,831,764	83,301	2,452,994	2,536,295
Net income		266,757	38,832	305,589	4,580	191,093	195,673
Transfers between funds		126,535	(126,535)	-	198,127	(198,127)	-
Net movement in funds		393,292	(87,703)	305,589	202,707	(7,034)	195,673
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		511,727	442,822	954,549	309,020	449,856	758,876
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		905,019	355,119	1,260,138	511,727	442,822	954,549

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

The notes on pages 22 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**12**		5,292		12,520
Current assets					
Debtors	**13**	78,329		76,398	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,524,792		1,424,652	
		1,603,121		1,501,050	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(348,275)		(559,021)	
Net current assets			1,254,846		942,029
Total assets less current liabilities			1,260,138		954,549
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**16**		355,119		442,822
Unrestricted funds			905,019		511,727
			1,260,138		954,549

For the year ended 31 March 2025, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

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

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

The notes on pages 22 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on .2nd.December 2025

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Dr K Hawthorne - Chair
Trustee

Company Registration No. 12275770

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**22**		82,859		573,746
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(453)	
Investment income received		17,281		6,720	
Net cash generated from investing activities			17,281		6,267
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			100,140		580,013
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,424,652		844,639
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,524,792		1,424,652

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The National Academy for Social Prescribing is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 8XX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including future cash flow forecasts and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

1.4 Income

Income from government grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Expenditure relating to charitable activities is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

Support costs include amounts incurred in respect of the running of the charity as an organisation, including general management, administration and the finance function. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

Governance costs include staff costs incurred to support governance and legal and professional fees. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures and fittings	25% reducing balance per annum
Computer equipment	33% straight line per annum

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are measured at transactions price and are subsequently measured at their settlement value.

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

1.10 Retirement benefits

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

1.11 Prior period adjustment

The financial statements include a restatement for the comparative period which has been made to correct the allocation of staff costs between direct charitable activities, support costs, and governance costs.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

3 Grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	-	2,155	2,155	12,596
Grants receivable	369,977	2,621,294	2,991,271	2,607,235
	369,977	2,623,449	2,993,426	2,619,831

Grant and donations income received in the comparative period all related to restricted funds.

Grants receivable for core activities				
Department of Health and Social Care	-	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,900,000
Sport England	-	113,502	113,502	42,675
Lego Company Ltd	-	-	-	(2,450)
Independent Age	-	95,039	95,039	140,227
The Utley Foundation	-	332,000	332,000	352,000
Arts Council England	-	-	-	91,020
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	51,915
Arts Council England - Power of Music fund	-	97,500	97,500	30,000
DEFRA	369,977	-	369,977	-
Worwin UK Foundation	-	126,378	126,378	-
Other	-	156,875	156,875	1,848
	369,977	2,621,294	2,991,271	2,607,235

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Natural England						
Services provided under contract	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
NHSEI						
Services provided under contract	-	-	-	-	14,256	14,256
Local Trust						
Services provided under contract	41,000	-	41,000	37,400	-	37,400
International Social Prescribing Conference						
Services provided under contract	30,547	-	30,547	-	-	-
Other						
Services provided under contract	55,099	-	55,099	43,761	-	43,761
	126,646	-	126,646	81,161	24,256	105,417

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	17,281	6,720

6 Charitable activities

	Promotion of social prescribing	Sports England	Total	Promotion of social prescribing	Thriving communities programme	Sports England	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024	2024
				As restated	As restated	As restated	As restated
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	1,021,633	59,488	1,081,121	1,139,712	66,540	58,006	1,264,258
Other costs	487,406	17,218	504,624	324,239	323,045	17,865	665,149
	1,509,039	76,706	1,585,745	1,463,951	389,585	75,871	1,929,407
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	714,611	-	714,611	52,500	-	-	52,500
Share of support costs (see note 8)	445,182	787	445,969	444,431	-	16,000	460,431
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	85,439	-	85,439	93,957	-	-	93,957
	2,754,271	77,493	2,831,764	2,054,839	389,585	91,871	2,536,295
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	247,147	-	247,147	83,301	-	-	83,301
Restricted funds	2,507,124	77,493	2,584,617	1,971,538	389,585	91,871	2,452,994
	2,754,271	77,493	2,831,764	2,054,839	389,585	91,871	2,536,295

For further detail of the prior period restatement, refer to note 20,

7 Grants payable

	Promotion of social prescribing 2025	Promotion of social prescribing 2024
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
Age UK - Power of Music	158,000	-
Social Finance	83,441	-
University College London	62,670	-
Manchester Camerata - Power of Music	243,500	-
Reaching People	15,000	25,000
Hastings Voluntary Action	-	27,500
Small grants to various institutions under Power of Music programme	152,000	-
	714,611	52,500

8 Support costs

	Support costs	**Governance costs**	**2025**	**2024**	**Basis of allocation**
				As Restated	
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	
Staff costs	151,995	50,391	202,386	234,895	Time spent
Other costs	286,746	35,048	321,794	300,287	Direct
Depreciation and impairment	7,228	-	7,228	19,206	Direct
	445,969	85,439	531,408	554,388	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	445,969	85,439	531,408	554,388	

For further detail of the prior period restatement, refer to note 20,

Governance costs includes fees to the auditors of £13,500 (2024 - £13,100) (net of VAT) for audit fees.

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

During the year ended 31 March 2025, two trustees (2024 - two) were reimbursed for travel expenses, or had travel expenses paid by the charity on their behalf, totaling £231 (2024 - £488).

10 Employees

Average number of employees for the year were 18 (2024: 22).

Included within wages and salaries are employment costs associated with staff seconded to the charity from other organisations. The payroll for such staff remains with their substantive employer, therefore while the charity is liable for the costs of their employment, it does not pay social security or pension contributions to or on behalf of the seconded staff. The analysis below separates only the social security costs and pension contributions related to direct employees of the charity, with the full employment cost of seconded staff being included within wages and salaries.

Employment costs	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
Wages and salaries	1,167,248	1,367,713
Social security costs	91,811	104,637
Other pension costs	24,448	26,803
	1,283,507	1,499,153

The aggregate remuneration of key management personnel during the year amounted to £195,641 (2024 - £174,205).

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	2025	**2024**
	Number	**Number**
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-
£100,001 - £110,000	1	1

11 Taxation

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

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	6,805	57,587	64,392
Disposals	-	(19,265)	(19,265)
At 31 March 2025	6,805	38,322	45,127
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2024	3,142	48,730	51,872
Depreciation charged in the year	916	6,312	7,228
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	(19,265)	(19,265)
At 31 March 2025	4,058	35,777	39,835
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	2,747	2,545	5,292
At 31 March 2024	3,663	8,857	12,520

13 Debtors

	2025	2024
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Trade debtors	36,443	31,652
Other debtors	16,145	-
Prepayments and accrued income	25,741	44,746
	78,329	76,398

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
Other taxation and social security		21,462	28,413
Deferred income	**15**	52,173	98,541
Trade creditors		142,344	276,860
Other creditors		4,408	4,978
Accruals		127,888	150,229
		348,275	559,021

15 Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Arising from government grants	-	33,502
Arising from other grants	52,173	65,039
	52,173	98,541

Deferred grant income relates to grants where the income has been received but it is to be used in future periods. All of the deferred income brought forward from the comparative period have been released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year to 31 March 2024.

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	52,173	98,541
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	98,541	266
Released from previous periods	(98,541)	(266)
Resources deferred in the year	52,173	98,541
Deferred income at 31 March 2025	52,173	98,541

16 Restricted funds

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

		Movement in funds				Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Department of Health and Social Care	31,273	1,900,000	(1,918,753)	-	12,520	1,700,000	(1,707,228)	-	5,292
Sport England	64,306	42,675	(75,871)	(16,000)	15,110	113,502	(77,492)	(16,000)	35,120
DEFRA	10,000	-	(8,000)	(2,000)	-	-	-	-	-
Independent Age	-	140,227	(118,227)	(22,000)	-	95,039	(95,039)	-	-
Natural England	51,990	10,000	(53,423)	(8,567)	-	-	-	-	-
NHSEI	135,134	14,255	(43,340)	(12,413)	93,636	-	-	-	93,636
The Lego Company Ltd	122,328	(2,450)	(101,097)	(18,781)	-	-	-	-	-
Power of Music	20,000	396,445	-	(94,889)	321,556	518,655	(553,500)	(103,498)	183,213
Arts Council England (ACE)	-	91,020	(91,020)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Worwin UK Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	126,378	(68,770)	(19,750)	37,858
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	51,915	(43,263)	(8,652)	-	-	-	-	-
SP - EU Research	-	-	-	-	-	4,875	(4,875)	-	-
CYP - Linbury Trust & Sam West Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	65,000	(77,713)	12,713	-
Other	14,825	-	-	(14,825)	-	-	-	-	-
	449,856	2,644,087	(2,452,994)	(198,127)	442,822	2,623,449	(2,584,617)	(126,535)	355,119

16 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)
This grant is to support the continuation of the core work of the charity in 2024/25. Broadly, this funding is to increase the numbers of people able to access social prescribing, the range, availability and quality of community-based activities, and to support people to connect to these activities in order to improve people's health and wellbeing, in line with the charity's strategic plan.

Sport England
This grant is a multi-year funding agreement to support the charity's Physical Activity programme, including funding a National Lead for Physical Activity role within the charity. This funding is to support the Thriving Communities programme, in addition to the wider NASP/Sport England partnership.

DEFRA
This grant was provided to support the charity's contribution to the Green Social Prescribing scheme. The grant was fully utilised in the prior period.

Independent Age
This grant has been provided to support the charity's work promoting better outcomes for older people through social prescribing. The grant also funds a National Lead for Older People role within the charity.

Natural England
This grant is for a package of work to support Green Social Prescribing (Social Prescribing in Natural Environments) through the development and provision of evidence, sector engagement and best practice in Green Social Prescribing.

NHSEI
This funding is from commissioned work from NHSEI via Capita, to develop Link Worker resources, support social prescribing Champions, and to refresh and review guides and other resources, as well as a comms campaign.

The Lego Company
This funding represents a grant to develop, implement and evaluate a feasibility pilot for 'Prescription for Play' in the UK.

Power of Music
The Power of Music Fund aims to support people living with dementia and their carers through music. We launched the fund in November 2023, in partnership with the Utley Foundation, Arts Council England, Music for All and Universal Music.

Arts Council England
This grant has been provided to support the charity's Art and Culture programme.

16 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

The National Lottery Community Fund
We worked with more than 100 organisations to develop new models for shared investment funds for community groups and services providing socially prescribed support. *Envisioning a Social Prescribing Fund*, our report funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, will be published later in 2024.

Worwin UK Foundation
This grant is being used to continue integrating Social Prescribing throughout the health care system, ensuring continued investment from government and the NHS, and creating a transformative impact, especially for older people experiencing loneliness.

SP EU Research
This is a major Horizon Europe funded initiative aimed at improving health and care services for vulnerable populations across Europe.

Children and Young People (CYP) – Linbury Trust and Sam West Foundation
These grants support NASP's work to develop and promote a vision for the future of children and young people's social prescribing, to employ a National Lead for CYP mental health and social prescribing, and develop resources, share evidence, build partnerships, provide training and education and shape policy to ensure social prescribing is valued and scaled as an effective solution to the CYP mental health crisis.

Other
These represent unspent monies on various commissioned projects.

17 Unrestricted funds

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

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	511,727	513,904	(247,147)	126,535	905,019

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	309,020	87,881	(83,301)	198,127	511,727

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	-	5,292	5,292	-	12,520	12,520
Current assets/(liabilities)	905,019	349,827	1,254,846	511,727	430,302	942,029
	905,019	355,119	1,260,138	511,727	442,822	954,549

19 Related party transactions

Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with directors/trustees:

a) Ms S. Metcalfe is CEO of The Utley Foundation. During the year, NASP entered into a funding arrangement with The Utley Foundation in relation to the Power of Music ("POM") Project. During the year ended 31 March 2025, NASP received £332,000 (2024 - £352,000) of income including a management fee of £103,498 (2024 - £94,889). These funds, excluding the management fee, have been paid out by NASP to organisations since the year end that have successfully applied for funds as part of the POM programme.

b) During the year ended 31 March 2025, two trustees (2024 - two) were reimbursed for travel expenses, or had travel expenses paid by the charity on their behalf, totaling £231 (2024 - £488).

20 Prior period adjustment

The financial statements include a restatement of the comparative period which has been made to correct the allocation of staff and other costs between direct charitable activities and support and governance costs.

The effect of the restatement has been:

1. To increase staff costs within direct charitable activities by £287,627, of which £275,322 relates to the charitable activity "Promotion of Social Prescribing" and £12,305 relates to the charitable activity "Thriving Communities Programme";
2. To increase other costs within direct charitable activities by £262,870, of which £245,005 relates to the charitable activity "Promotion of Social Prescribing" and £17,865 relates to the charitable activity "Sport England";
3. To increase governance costs by £11,560, which relates to the charitable activity "Promotion of Social Prescribing"; and
4. To decrease support costs by £562,057, of which £544,192 relates to the charitable activity "Promotion of Social Prescribing" and £17,865 relates to the charitable activity "Sport England".

There is no net impact on total charitable expenditure, surplus, or net assets for the year to 31 March 2024.

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the current or comparative periods.

22 Cash generated from operations

	2025	2024
	£	£
Surplus for the year	305,589	195,673
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(17,281)	(6,720)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	7,228	19,206
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,931)	325,693
(Decrease) in creditors	(164,378)	(58,381)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(46,368)	98,275
Cash generated from operations	82,859	573,746

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191145

Accounts

Charity registration number 1191145

Company registration number 12275770 (England and Wales)

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair	
	Mr J Badyal	
	Dr H O Brunjes	
	Ms P Dimond	
	Mr B Gudger	
	Ms P R Hitchcox	
	Ms S Metcalfe	
	Ms G A Palmer	
	Ms C A Fyfe	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
	Dr D M Deniszczyc	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
	Lady A P Ellingworth	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
Charity number	1191145	
Company number	12275770	
Principal address	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Registered office	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Auditor	PKF Littlejohn LLP 15 Westferry Circus London E14 4HD	
Solicitors	DAC Beachcroft LLP Portwall Place Portwall Lane Bristol BS1 9HS	

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

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THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

FOREWORD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

It is now almost five years since the formation of the National Academy for Social Prescribing, and since the NHS Long Term Plan committed to rolling out social prescribing across England.

During that time, there has been huge progress across the social prescribing movement. There are now more than 3,600 Social Prescribing Link Workers in post across England, and social prescribing has been enshrined in national policy, from the Loneliness Strategy to Suicide Prevention Strategy to the NHS Long Term Workforce Plan. There are an extraordinary range of innovative projects across the country, many of which we have supported over the last year.

The success of the cross-Government **Green Social Prescribing** programme and our own **Thriving Communities** programme highlight what can be achieved when we connect the health system more effectively with well-designed local projects. The second round of the **Art by Post** project, in partnership with the Southbank Centre, has demonstrated the impact that creativity can have on mental health.

Through the **Power of Music Fund**, we are showing the value of bringing together public, private and philanthropic funders to invest in music-based activities for people living with dementia. As well as directly supporting grassroots groups, we have established a Centre of Excellence, which will provide the evidence and resources needed to operate at a larger scale.

Through out **Champions programme**, our **webinars** and our **resources**, we have continued to support health workers, voluntary sector professionals and others, and to help Primary Care Networks and Integrated Care Systems to make social prescribing a priority. We have also worked on toolkits for **Nature Buddies**, **Heritage Buddies** and **Connectors**, based on successful pilot programmes, which outline how volunteers can identify and support people who would most benefit.

Across the world, we have **worked with more than 30 countries** to develop social prescribing programmes, learning from what has been achieved in the UK. And we continue to work hard to **raise the profile of social prescribing** through our Social Prescribing & Me campaign and the annual Social Prescribing Day.

As new plans emerge for the next ten years of health and care policy in England, this is a crucial time to highlight the role that social prescribing can play in helping people to live well for longer. Our **'Future of Social Prescribing in England'** report sets out what has been achieved, and also what could happen next. Our **evidence reviews** show that social prescribing can support people in many different ways, that it benefits our economy, and that it reduces unnecessary pressure on the health system.

In the face of changes, we remain optimistic about the power of social prescribing. By working together, we can strengthen communities and support people facing a wide range of challenges that affect their health.

Helen Stokes-Lampard, Chair

Charlotte Osborn-Forde, Chief Executive

This is a time of change - with a new Government and also new leadership at NASP. Through our first five years, Professor Dame Helen Stokes-Lampard has become our Chair of Trustees, establishing and growing the charity with wisdom, clarity and kindness. As she moves to New Zealand, we are hugely grateful for everything she has done, both for NASP and for the health of our country more widely. As the first full-time CEO for NASP, I have just completed my first year in post and I am proud to lead this remarkable team and to work with our diverse and innovative range of stakeholders. Thank you all for helping make this organisation the huge success that it is, and I look forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Charlotte Osborn-Forde, Chief Executive

Dated: 8 October 2024

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

Social prescribing is the practice of linking healthcare to community-based activities to address individual and community mental and physical health and wellbeing.

The charity's objects are to advance the study and practice of social prescribing for the public benefit, in particular, but not exclusively, by:

1. Make some noise - raising the profile of social prescribing

In order to expand social prescribing, we need to get the message out there - that connecting people for wellbeing is vital for people and communities.

2. Find resources - develop innovative funding partnerships

We recognise the challenges faced by social prescribing link workers, the local voluntary, community, social enterprise and arts sector and will seek to improve resources to realise their social prescribing goals.

3. Build relationships - broker and build relationships across all sectors

Social prescribing relies on strong, mature relationships at national and local levels across multiple sectors.

4. Improve the evidence - shape and share the evidence base

There is already an evidence base for social prescribing, but it is not comprehensive. We need to build a consensus about what we know and don't know, improve accessibility and visibility of evidence.

5. Spread what works - promote learning on social prescribing

We will share what is good, what has been learnt and draw from multiple sources to ensure continued development of social prescribing.

The National Academy For Social Prescribing ("NASP") works with key partners - such as Arts Council England, Historic England, Money and Pensions Service, Natural England, NHS, Sport England, and Independent Age - to administrate and manage grants allowing greater reach and deeper engagement in relation to social prescribing. All grant making/giving partners are issued NASP's partnership agreement detailing key governance, project management and risk mitigation points. All grant making/giving strands of activity must be signed off at Board level too.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Our vision

Our vision is to help people live the best lives they can through social prescribing.

Our strategy for 2023-26 focuses on five key ambitions.

Connection

A connected social prescribing system enabling easier access to activities and information.

Partnership

Local, national and international partnerships driving innovative ideas and approaches.

Investment

Boosted investment in community activities directly supporting people's health and wellbeing.

Evidence
The best evidence shaping social prescribing policy, practice and research.

Profile
A raised profile of how social prescribing changes lives and strengthens communities.

In 2023, we published our Future of Social Prescribing in England report, which builds on this vision and sets out recommendations for the future.

Highlights from 2023-24

- Launched the Power of Music Fund, announcing a Centre of Excellence for Music and dementia and grants for music-based support;
- Supported thousands of Link Workers and voluntary sector professionals through webinars, toolkits and resources;
- Increased visitors to the NASP website by 235% since 2022-23;
- Published The Future of Social Prescribing in England report, setting out an ambitious plan for the next five years;
- Launched the second iteration of Art by Post, supporting thousands of people through art and poetry projects for health and wellbeing;
- Visited and presented on Social Prescribing in South Korea, Hong Kong, Australia, Singapore and Japan; and
- Launched the Innovation Network.

Connection

We are continuing to create a **connected social prescribing system**, enabling easier access to activities and information. We do this by supporting the social prescribing workforce - including Link Workers, NHS clinical staff and voluntary sector organisations - and providing advice and support to improve social prescribing systems.

Thriving Communities

In 2023-24, we celebrated the completion of our **Thriving Communities** programme. Highlights of the programme included:

- Establishing the £1.8million Thriving Communities Fund, an innovative programme of grants dedicated to supporting social prescribing activities in local communities, working in partnership with Arts Council England, Historic England, Money & Pensions Service, Natural England, NHS Charities Together, Sport England and NHS England. The fund supported more than 10,000 people through 37 projects and left a legacy of new programmes and improved connections between health systems and community organisations.
- The Thriving Communities Regional Programme. This included delivering *Learning Together*, which brought together local voluntary sector organisations to develop skills, learn and network. Our Regional Leads also delivered a wide range of webinars, workshops and conferences, and created reports and resources based on local needs.

The programme has played a crucial role in connecting organisations at a regional level. We are building on its success through the work of our National Leads (see Partnership section below) and by creating resources and webinars for voluntary sector organisations across the country. We are also continuing to support voluntary organisations through our Power of Music Fund (see Investment section below).

Social Prescribing patient Outi's story

When social prescribing is successfully embedded in a medical setting, patients like Outi benefit. Having lost her business and home in quick succession, she experienced physical health issues caused by stress, and initially visited her GP. Following some medical investigations, she was referred to mental health support and then a Link Worker. She says the impact has been profound: "when I felt like I'd lost everything, it was social prescribing that helped me turn my life around. The support I received through my Link Worker helped me see there was a life still out there for me at a time when I was so low and couldn't see a way out. Now things are much better."

Through a social prescribing pilot programme, that focused on reintegrating people who had been isolated during the pandemic back into their communities, Outi began to leave the house again, meet new people and regain her confidence.

Workforce and Healthcare Integration

In 2023-24 we engaged with 37 Integrated Care Partnerships/Boards, out of the 42 Integrated Care Systems, supporting the development of their social prescribing platforms. We published ten guides focused on integrating social prescribing into the health and care system. These included guides on children and young people, older people and population health management.

In October 2023 we launched the Link Worker Advisory Group, consisting of 28 practising Link Workers with representation across England. The group meets monthly and covers a variety of discussion topics- including the opportunity to discuss national developments, be part of workshops to inform our developing workforce programme and offer advice, support and skills across NASP's work.

Social Prescribing Link Worker Reuben's story

Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard supports vulnerable individuals through its specialised social prescribing service. Reuben, a social prescriber at the charity, assists TNBI (trans, non-binary, and intersex) people and LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer) migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. These groups can face significant challenges in healthcare, mental health, education, employment, and social connections. Founded in the mid-1970s, Switchboard still operates its original helpline and collaborates with other services to offer comprehensive care. Funded by NHS England via Together Co Brighton, their social prescribing services are unique in the UK. Reuben explains, "It's a privilege to see an issue through to resolution or support clients with other services." He adds, "We meet people where they feel comfortable, emphasising our 'by and for' LGBTQ+ service to ensure clients feel accepted and understood."

Champions

Social prescribing champions are NHS staff members in England (clinical and non-clinical) working across community, primary, and secondary care to raise awareness of social prescribing within their workplace or profession. Since 2022, they have been supporting Social Prescribing Link Workers, promoting good practice, and helping busy practitioners to consider social, emotional and practical support needs alongside biomedical interventions for patients.

In 2023-24, a review of the programme in the previous year showed that 96% of participants felt that NASP's workshops had had a significant positive impact on their ability to champion social prescribing. They had hosted webinars and workshops to raise awareness, engaged thousands of fellow professionals on social media, and in some cases redesigned local systems to increase the use of social prescribing. While the programme is no longer funded by NHS England, we have continued to welcome new champions across a range of disciplines and support them to increase awareness and good practice.

We also continue to support the Student Social Prescribing Champions scheme. Over seven years, 782 student champions from 87 universities have delivered 1,500 peer-teaching sessions. The scheme has also led to social prescribing being included in the medical training curricula across the country.

NASP Student Champion, John Wells's story

John, a student nurse at Liverpool John Moores University, said:
"I initially joined NASP's Student Champion scheme as I was very interested in social prescribing after completing a module on it in my university course. I've been helping spread the word to residents across Merseyside at various events but the most enjoyable was an event with Liverpool Libraries, where I spent time with residents. It was an event that was advertised on Twitter and a local radio station and had stalls from various charities to help local people. I felt so proud to represent nurses and midwives within the scheme, especially as this was a brand-new role. I want to spread the word across all multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs) about how amazing social prescribing is, and the dramatic changes in our patients that it can make."

NASP Student Champion, Emily Dean's story

"I initially joined the scheme because after hearing about social prescribing, I recognised it would have helped me in my struggles with an eating disorder. Structured activity with like-minded people would have helped me so much because the activity itself and the associated friendships positively impact mental and physical wellbeing and loneliness. Also, my experience volunteering with adults with learning disabilities through activities such as gardening, cooking, art and sports also showed me that community built through shared experiences changes people's lives. My aim when joining the scheme was to introduce other healthcare students to the role of social prescribing link workers and how they provide access to activities, support and volunteering opportunities for patients. It's essential that we can utilise this amazing resource to benefit individual patients."

The Future of Social Prescribing

In November 2023, we published the Future of Social Prescribing in England, a report focused on what has been achieved since the NHS Long Term Plan in 2019 and on priorities for the future. This was based on consultation with partners across the social prescribing system, and sets out priorities for the next five years.

Our recommendations:

1. Ensuring that every GP practice in England has a Social Prescribing Link Worker, by almost doubling the number of link workers to 6,500.
2. Supporting frontline community organisations through Shared Investment Funds for social prescribing.
3. Improving data through a national hub to ensure social prescribing becomes business as usual in the NHS.
4. Establishing a world-class training and development programme for Social Prescribing Link Workers and social prescribing leaders working in the NHS and beyond.
5. Making prevention a priority by embedding social prescribing in wider civic and community services - including in workplaces.

Partnerships

National leads

Natural Environment
This year we have made significant strides in the Green Social Prescribing (GSP) Test and Learn pilot, collaborating closely with national programme partners on the next steps for scaling and spreading the programme. The GSP toolkit, a key output from the pilot programme, has been promoted on the NASP website, resulting in 1,957 downloads over the financial year.

Nature Buddies emerged from the GSP pilot programme to help address barriers individuals face in accessing nature-based activities and support. Through a co-design process with local partners and Natural England, different models for Nature Buddies were scoped, leading to pilot projects that explored how buddies can support people experiencing social isolation and anxiety. The learning from these projects and stakeholder discussions was compiled into the Nature Buddies toolkit, which organisations and providers can use to set up their own Nature Buddies programmes.

The Nature Buddies toolkit, resource pack, webinar recording, and animations are hosted on our website and have had high engagement, with the toolkit being visited by 2,000 users and downloaded 378 times in 2023-24.

In addition, we successfully submitted a bid to the Treasury to extend the GSP Test and Learn pilot programme. The bid outcome extends the programme until March 2025 with a £2.846 million grant from the Treasury Shared Outcomes Fund. The national evaluation report, set for publication,will provide insights into the programme's impact.

In collaboration with Natural England, we have also updated the Nature Connections evidence note, enhancing the dissemination of evidence-based benefits of nature connection and nature-based activities, which have been downloaded 1,168 times over the financial year 2023/24

Social prescribing patient, Beks' story

Beks was in the depths of depression and PTSD, and was struggling with financial issues, when she was referred to her Social Prescribing Link Worker at Devon Mind.

When offered a place on a two-night hiking residential led by Mind Over Mountains team of professional coaches and counsellors, she was able to embrace her deep connection to nature to begin to shift the way she felt about herself and her place in the world.

Beks said: "The group as a whole was so positive and there was no judgment, which was really important to me. Everyone had such different backgrounds, with difference experiences and varying levels of support, but it worked well and there were plenty of opportunities for me to feel safe, included and supported."

Historic Environment

Working with Historic England this year, we have successfully completed two pilot projects. The Heritage Connectors pilot delivered by Frome Medical Practice showed how heritage can be used in a local NHS-based social prescribing service. The Heritage Buddies pilot delivered by Nottingham Community and Volunteer Service showed how heritage volunteering can be linked to buddying and befriending to help people in need and maximise the potential of local heritage assets.

Both pilots produced toolkits, case studies and evidence reports, in collaboration with local and national partners (Historic England, Natural England and Wavehill Ltd), while two webinars on Heritage and Nature Buddies and Community Connectors helped share the results and learning widely.

The other heritage and wellbeing pilots include Project Rejuvenate (focused on heritage and archaeological therapeutic interventions for disadvantaged young people), HerWelNHS (looking at ways to improve wellbeing for NHS staff at Queen Alexandra’s Hospital in Portsmouth via engagement with local heritage) and Heritage Link Worker (developing social prescribing pathways for supporting people with ill mental health in Great Yarmouth). Each resulted in useful blueprints for future embedding of heritage in wellbeing and social prescribing initiatives.

A major highlight for the heritage sector this year was the first ever Wellbeing and Heritage Conference, organised by Historic England (and the NASP National Lead for the Historic Environment), The Council for British Archaeology and The Southampton Institute for Arts and Humanities, held at Delapré Abbey. It was a huge success, attracting 140 delegates representing more than 30 organisations with 70 practitioners speaking and presenting, including local MPs and social prescribing leads from the Department of Health and Social Care.

'Heritage for Wellbeing' project, run by The Restoration Trust, has transformed the lives of many in Great Yarmouth, Gorleston and Lowestoft. By engaging participants on archaeology, ancient landscapes, historic sits and archives across East Anglia, the initiative has provided a unique avenue for mental health support.

In collaboration with local health and heritage services, the project connects individuals through social prescribing services to enriching heritage activities, and breaks down barriers that prevent those with low income and poor health from accessing them.

Participant David Ball shares, "When my wife died, I felt utterly alone. Heritage for Wellbeing became by lifeline. The group welcomed me warmly, transforming strangers into family. Learning about local heritage with them has been a joy."

Participant Kerry-Ann reflects on her journey: "Joining the group introduced me to kind, caring people. Heritage for Wellbeing has been a lifesaver, offering freedom in open spaces and alleviating my isolation. I've rediscovered laughter and curiosity about our heritage leaving little room for negative thought."

Arts and Culture
2023 saw the second iteration of the hugely successful Art by Post: Poems for our Planet. In partnership with the Southbank Centre, this postal and digital project produced a series of creative booklets, designed by artists and activists, which guided participants through activities. They used poetry, creativity and nature to inspire and support wellbeing, helping readers to make connections with the living world around them. Over 3,500 booklets were distributed by June 2023.

Karin Parkinson, who is a carer for her husband living with dementia said: “You have to feed yourself if you are a carer, if you don’t then you can’t care any longer. Resources that make you feel like you still exist – not just as a carer but as a creative person – are fantastic and I think Arts by Post really did that for me."

We undertook some rapid preliminary research on referrals to the arts and creative activities made by Link Workers and social prescribers. During this scoping exercise, we held roundtables with academics, Link Workers and creative health practitioners to test the widely held assumption that referrals to the sector are relatively low, despite evidence that creativity positively impacts wellbeing. We concluded that this perception is broadly true, although the reasons are complex, pointing to the need to do more to understand why before designing effective solutions.

Along with advocacy, webinars, podcasts and speaking engagements to raise the profile of social prescribing in the arts sector we also worked closely with Libraries Connected, Public Libraries Health Group and the Reading Agency to further develop and embed the social prescribing offer in libraries as part of their universal health offer. This included initiating a bid for a pilot social prescribing hub in Suffolk next year.

Physical Activity
Over the last year, our work has continued to grow and embed physical activity within primary and secondary care. We have been working with Link Workers and multi-disciplinary teams across the country to explore how to embed physical activity into their working practice. We have recruited areas around the country, interested in developing links with the local physical activity infrastructure to work in collaboration to address their local populations’ needs via groups and developing local collaborations.

In September, we brought a number of national sports and physical activity organisations together with integrated care systems across Yorkshire and Humber to explore how physical activity and sports could work together in collaboration to share resources to address local health priorities. It was a successful day, with 50 people in attendance, all committed to exploring ways to work better together. This became a springboard for us to work with a number of national organisations exploring collaboration and shared investment for children and young people’s social prescribing for mental health, which will be a major focus for next year.

Older People
In partnership with Independent Age, we commissioned Reaching People Leicester (RP) and Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA) in April 2023 to better understand the needs of older people not currently accessing social prescribing, and to co-design local, asset-based social prescribing offers that respond to their priorities. Engagement of local people in Hastings took place, for example, in foodbanks and community larders. In Leicester, RP identified that the highest priority groups according to local ICB deprivation data were three sets of older people - those facing financial hardship, those socially isolated and those for whom English is a second language. They used positive psychology coaching in the engagement activities, which were delivered in English and Gujarati.

As a result of the engagement, social prescription initiatives were co-designed. In Hastings, several co-designed Healthy Hastings sessions and one Community Marketplace took place before the end of March. Through the Community Marketplace, HVA were able to provide access to activities, information, advice and guidance on health and wellbeing and financial wellbeing by a range of local services and organisations. In Leicester, activities included draught excluders being made with Adult Learning in the Knit and Natter sessions, and individuals helped to apply for Attendance Allowance and move benefits into their own accounts. Building on their experiences of co-design with local older people, the two sites produced a toolkit to share their learning and tips.

Through engaging older people, the sites identified a lack of relevant information, so they collated demographic data, and mapped community resources and social prescribing services. This insight is written up in a blog published by the King's Fund. Another blog was published by the Oxford Social Prescribing Research Network about Leicester's dual in person and online provision as well as developing volunteers to take on running groups.

Brenda and Janet's story: Making connections through social prescribing

In January 2022, Brenda's life took a drastic turn after a heart attack and severe COVID-19, leaving her debilitated and depressed. "I went into a deep depression. Carers had to help me as I was so far down," she recalls. Her recovery began when a carer urged her to see a doctor, who referred her to social prescriber, Janet. "Janet listened to me and offered to take me to a Talkin' Table," Brenda says.

Janet, a Social Prescribing Link Worker at Chorley Council, said: "Helping and supporting people is gratifying. Social Prescribing connects people to the community, which is why I fully support initiatives like Talkin' Tables that combat social isolation."

Brenda was initially nervous about attending Talkin' Tables. "I was too nervous, but I knew I had to go," she says. Janet accompanied her to the first session. "I couldn't have gone in without Janet." Brenda says, when talking about how the experience revived her. "It has brought me back to life. Without it, I wouldn't be here now." Brenda now enjoys social gatherings and has made new friends. Brenda's sons are thrilled to see their mother thriving again. "I've recommended Janet to friends. She changed my life," Brenda says.

Children and young people

Social prescribing has enormous potential to support children and young people. We were delighted to begin partnerships with the Linbury Trust and the Sam West Foundation to develop a vision for social prescribing for children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing. Working with a wide range of partners across the UK, and learning from successful projects, we will publish a report in 2024 outlining a plan for the future.

Global

International visits & speaking engagements

We have hosted a series of ministerial delegations in person at NASP as well as delivering several presentations in person in South Korea, Hong Kong, Australia, Singapore, and Japan. For example, our Global Lead Healthcare Integration Lead visited Singapore to deliver a Social Prescribing Masterclass to over 400 people and was part of a ministerial roundtable organised by the Department of Health.

In November we hosted delegations from Canada and Australia, including a political roundtable. We arranged comprehensive site visits for our guests, offering firsthand insights into innovative care models at Bromley-by-Bow and Frome Medical Practice.

We have been part of multiple international conferences including keynote speeches at the launch of the Lisbon Social Prescribing network, Nigerian Arts in Health Week, a presentation for the Department of Health in Germany, a keynote presentation for a social prescribing conference in New York and several others. We hope to use existing NASP assets to secure larger consultancies that would enable NASP's long term sustainability.

International Social Prescribing Collaborative

During the Autumn, we spent some time clarifying the governance structure and relationships between the Global Social Prescribing Alliance (GSPA LTD), NASP and the global network of international partners which reformed as the International Social Prescribing Collaborative (ISPC) in late 2023.

This community of practice – the International Social Prescribing Collaborative - is thriving and continues to meet on a six-weekly basis. The group has grown to include representatives from 34 countries around the world. This group enables NASP to learn about best practice taking place across the world and facilitates shared learning on a global scale.

We continue to provide secretariat support to the group and see high engagement, fostering a dynamic exchange of knowledge and experiences. These gatherings have proven invaluable in strengthening international relationships and facilitating shared learning amongst peers, reaffirming our position as leaders in this community.

We have secured two co-chairs for the group to spread ownership and responsibility, as well as some subgroups on Children and Young People, Evidence, and Green Social Prescribing, to allow members to explore more in-depth conversations and collaboration with each other.

In early 2024, we presented an update of the Global Social Prescribing Map, extending it from 24 to 30 countries. This was published in June 2024 at the International Social Prescribing Conference.

Partnerships
In partnership with Harvard University, for the third consecutive year, NASP hosted two students between June and August. Both students collaborated with international partners and led key work on the development of case studies in social prescribing for children and young people, and the development of an international training programme for Link Workers.

We supported NASP's workforce lead with developing an Accredited International Link Worker Training Programme as well as working closely with our evidence team to join efforts in developing the International Evidence Collaborative.

Innovation

In 2023-24 we evolved from the 'Accelerating Innovation Programme' into a new culture of embedding innovation across all our programmes, supporting the delivery of a truly connected social prescribing system. At the heart of our innovation work, we aim to amplify voices across the social prescribing system, to develop effective practice, support opportunities for collaboration and drive forward quality delivery of social prescribing to those who need it most.

In August 2023, we launched our new Innovation Network, which supports those delivering social prescribing to build the knowledge, connections and skills they need to apply innovation in their organisation/sector. A recent survey showed that the network provides members with:

- opportunities for peer learning and networking
- new knowledge direct from practice
- understanding of the wider system
- learning from regional and national examples.

Across the year, we have also:
Launched the Innovation Network - 186 active members, bringing together national and regional voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) organisations, public sector bodies and Link Workers from across the UK.

Developed a Knowledge Gateway – A digital training and development offer for charities and social enterprises, with 60 VCFSE organisations interested in undertaking the training when launched later this year. The Gateway will provide organisations with the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively deliver quality social prescribing activity.

Launched the Innovation Hub – An online resource, offering simplified access to case studies that demonstrate innovative social prescribing initiatives across a wide range of sectors and communities. We have so far showcased over 30 innovative examples that aim to inspire and inform individuals from across the social prescribing system.

Supported new research – We provided insights and support to increase the evidence base of social prescribing, particularly focusing on research that demonstrates the impact and scalability of innovative approaches. This includes our work on the NIHR Work & Health, research which aims to address key challenges in supporting workplace health, including long-term conditions.

Led learning exchanges – Working with emerging areas of social prescribing, including the prison and probation system, and the business sector, we have hosted a series of learning exchanges where experts in social prescribing come together with leaders in underdeveloped areas of social prescribing to share learning, make recommendations and advocate for developing social prescribing within these sectors/communities.

Investment

Power of Music Fund (POM)

The Power of Music Fund aims to support people living with dementia and their carers through music. We launched the fund in November 2023, in partnership with the Utley Foundation, Arts Council England, Music for All and Universal Music. The launch event included speeches from Sir John Whittingdale, Minister of State for DCMS, and arts leaders, and led to significant press coverage.

The fund was designed after research and co-design sessions with colleagues from across the sector, including the Utley Foundation. The sessions brought a breadth of participants – from academics to groups providing support to people living with dementia at a hyper-local level, to funders.

In 2024, 70 grantees were selected to receive funding in the first round of Small Grants for community organisations providing music activities and groups for people with dementia. This is multiyear funding of up to £7,000 across three years and will enable over 4,500 people to benefit. The organisations have been selected as best practice and innovators in the field developing new models and approaches or gathering evidence and data which is strategically useful. They were selected from 380 applications – a demonstration of how much excellent work is already taking place at local levels across the country.

We also developed plans to launch the UK's first Centre of Excellence for Music and Dementia, with bids submitted at the start of 2024. The Centre of Excellence will directly support thousands of people living with dementia and their carers, but also provide evidence of the impact that music-based support can have on health, wellbeing and NHS service use.

The fund has been highlighted with government departments including DEFRA, DCMS and DHSC as a pilot for a shared investment approach to resourcing social prescribing. It was featured as an exemplar in the DCMS Creative Industries Vision.

Shared Investment Funds for social prescribing

We worked with more than 100 organisations to develop new models for shared investment funds for community groups and services providing socially prescribed support. *Envisaging a Social Prescribing Fund*, our report funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, will be published later in 2024.

The report recognises that funding for community organisations and activities is too often short term and fragmented. However, by combining different sources of investment – including from national funders, NHS, Local Authorities, businesses and philanthropists – there is an opportunity to develop new longer term funds, aligned with local health needs.

This work builds on previous shared investment initiatives, like The Power of Music Fund, The Thriving Communities Fund and the cross-Government Green Social Prescribing programme. Endorsed by a wide range of organisations, it sets out an ambitious plan for the future of social prescribing investment.

Evidence

New evidence published in 2023-24

During 2023-24, we continued to work with our evidence collaborative to produce accessible evidence products on a range of identified evidence gaps for policy and practice in the UK. We have built on our existing library of published briefings and rapid evidence reviews to add reviews on:

Children and young people's social prescribing - There is emerging evidence around the benefits of social prescribing for young people, particularly for those aged over 17, on personal and mental wellbeing, including loneliness. There is also preliminary evidence to suggest there is a potential favourable return on investment. However, to strengthen the evidence base, more robust research is needed.

Supporting the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector to evaluate social prescribing - The review helped to identify and collate existing resources that aim to support the evaluation of social prescribing activities. The review found a need for clear signposting to trusted resources and identified potential solutions to shared challenges when evaluating social prescribing activities.

Building the economic case for social prescribing – Evidence suggests that social prescribing can save money, with findings from studies using five different methods showing that social prescribing can have a positive economic impact through reduced pressure on the NHS. This includes reduced GP appointments, reduced hospital admissions and reduced A&E visits for people who have been referred to social prescribing. Studies suggest that social prescribing schemes can deliver between £2.14 and £8.56 in economic and social value for every £1 invested.

Profile

Communications

We have continued to raise the profile of social prescribing, among both the public and health and care professionals. According to our YouGov survey in March 2024, 20% of adults in England have heard of the term "social prescribing" – a rise from 13% in March 2022.

While recognition of the phrase "social prescribing" is still growing, 65% of adults in the UK are now aware that health workers can refer people to non-medical activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Most respondents also agreed that there should be someone available in every GP surgery who can get to know patients, understand their needs, and refer them to non-medical services in their area.

Our activity to raise awareness of social prescribing over the last year has included:

The **Social Prescribing & Me campaign**. Showcasing the stories of Linda, Evrill and Shiv, the campaign reached more than one million people on social media through NASP channels, with more than 30,000 views of the campaign films. Six social media influencers also supported the campaign (with more than 700,000 combined followers).
We secured **media coverage** about social prescribing on BBC 6 and 10 o'clock news, The Today Programme (Radio 4), the Guardian, Telegraph, Sunday Times, Independent, Express, Evening Standard, Pulse PCN and BMJ – and a wide range of local and regional media.

We **coordinated # SocialPrescribingDay**, producing a wide range of editable resources for organisations across the country to use. The hashtag had a potential reach of 6.8 million people on the day, with more than 30 events taking place across the UK. We also supported NHS England's Help Us To Help You campaign.

Overall, the number of **unique visitors to our website** has more than doubled in the last year: from around 60,000 in 2022-23 to more than 136,000 in 2023-24.

Webinars

NASP continues to offer a programme of free webinars covering a range of topics from a broad spectrum of industries and backgrounds. Examples across the year include: men's mental health, social prescribing across the life course, how care navigation can improve access to social prescribing and supporting Link Workers in their role and induction.

We held **12 webinars aimed at the social prescribing workforce** over the year 2023-2024, with an average attendance of 260 people at each one. In post-webinar surveys, the average rating for usefulness of our webinars is 8.06/10 and satisfaction with our webinars is 8.1/10.

Our partners

We would like to thank our national partners, including:
Arts Council England
Historic England
Money and Pensions Service
The National Lottery Fund
Natural England
NHS Charities Together
NHS England
Indepedent Age
LEGO Group
Music for Dementia
Sport England
The Utley Foundation
Universal Music
Music for All
UK Music
The Linbury Trust
Sam West Foundation
The Social Prescribing Network
Business for Health

And our regional partners, including:
Active Dorset
Burnley, Pendle & Rossendale CVS
Communities 1st
Community Action Derby
Crawley Community Action
London Plus
Voluntary Organisations Network North East (VONNE)

Financial review

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the Charity received total income of £2,731,968 (2023: £3,897,979) and incurred expenditure on charitable activities of £2,536,295 (2023: £3,372,410) resulting in a surplus position for the year of £195,673 (2023: £525,569). During the year the Charity received a grant of £1.9m from The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and has secured funding from DHSC of £1.7m for 2024/25.

At 31 March 2024 the Charity had cash of £1,424,652 (31 March 2023: £844,639), restricted funds of £442,822 (31 March 2023: £449,856) and unrestricted funds of £511,727 (31 March 2023: £309,020).

Reserves policy

NASP's Reserves policy is designed to ensure financial stability for NASP as a registered charity with between 3-6 months of operational costs held in a designated Reserves Account which can only be used with Board authorisation.

NASP's main source of income continues to be grant funding from DHSC but one of its objectives over the next 2-3 years is to derive more income from other sources. The current funding agreement with DHSC means that any underspend of grant monies received from DHSC is carried over into the following year and offset against new grant monies due from DHSC.

Based on its current levels of expenditure NASP has set a minimum target of £450,000 to hold as reserves as recommended by the Charities Commission to cover 3 months of operating costs. As noted above NASP has exceeded this target.

Risk management

NASP management regularly reviews the Risk Register on a bi-monthly basis and reports this to our Trustees and on a quarterly basis to the Finance, Audit, Investment and Risk Committee (FAIRCO). At present the main highlights are around diversifying our income streams and ensuring we have robust processes and staffing structures and levels to meet our programme requirements. As the Risk Register is reviewed across the Senior Management Team and Board every 8 weeks this ensure that the leadership team are very aware of the risk and related mitigations in daily business operations.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the impact or likelihood of occurrence of its major risks.

Plans for future periods

We have developed five longer term goals which will shape our priorities and outcomes for 2023-2026:

- Raise the profile of how social prescribing changes lives and strengthens communities.
- Boost investment in community activities directly supporting people's health and wellbeing.
- Strenghten the whole social prescribing system to enable easier access to activities and information.
- Build the evidence so the best information shapes social prescribing policy, practice and research.
- Forge local, national & international partnerships to drive new ideas and approaches.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The charity is governed by its memorandum and articles adopted on 25 February 2020 as amended by special resolution on 1 September 2020.

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

Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair	
Mr C R T Askew	(Resigned 25 January 2024)
Mr J Badyal	
Dr H O Brunjes	
Ms P Dimond	
Baroness T C D Grey-Thompson	(Resigned 18 May 2023)
Mr B Gudger	
Ms P R Hitchcox	
Ms S Metcalfe	
Ms G A Palmer	
Ms C A Fyfe	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
Dr D M Deniszczyc	(Appointed 16 August 2024)
Lady A P Ellingworth	(Appointed 16 August 2024)

The appointment of new trustees is performed through national advertising when the positions become available. Trustees are offered induction training when they first join allowing them to understand and connect to the business fully. Regular meetings with respective staff members take place with Board expertise in specific areas being utilised.

Alongside NASP's Remuneration Committee (REMCo), NASP's Remuneration Policy clearly states that the policy and any changes in remuneration must support NASP's vision, purpose and values. A robust process around renumeration changes (e.g. acting up allowance, additional responsibilities), is in place which involves sign off at both Senior Management Team and Trustee level with a yearly review of all salaries scheduled in Q4. Annual benchmarking of salaries and reviews of internal bandings are completed in Q4.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Charity is governed by the trustees with day-to-day activities managed by an operational committee which is headed by our Chief Executive Officer, Charlotte Osborn-Forde, who commenced in April 2023.

Auditor

PKF LIttlejohn LLP were appointed as first auditors to the company during 2020/21 by the Trustees. The Company is not required under its Articles to hold an Annual General Meeting. Accordingly, PKF Littlejohn LLP are re-appointed auditors to the Company.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

In preparing this report the trustees have taken advantage of the small company exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

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Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair

Trustee

Dated: 8 October 2024

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors of The National Academy for Social Prescribing for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of the National Academy for Social Prescribing (the 'charitable company') for the year ending 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities including the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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

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

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

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

Other information
The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the trustees' annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the strategic report and the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial period for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the charitable company and the sector in which it operates to identify laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a direct effect on the financial statements. We obtained our understanding in this regard through discussions with management, industry research, application of cumulative audit knowledge and experience of the sector.
- We determined the principal laws and regulations relevant to the charitable company in this regard to be those arising from Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

- We designed our audit procedures to ensure the audit team considered whether there were any indications of non-compliance by the charitable company with those laws and regulations. These procedures included, but were not limited to, enquiries of management and review of minutes.
- We also identified the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud. We considered, in addition to the non-rebuttable presumption of a risk of fraud arising from management override of controls, that there was potential for management bias in the timing of recognition of income from grants. We addressed this through review of all material grant agreements to ensure correct treatment under the Charities SORP, including consideration of the accounting period in which income should be recognised.
- As in all of our audits, we addressed the risk of fraud arising from management override of controls by performing audit procedures which included, but were not limited to: the testing of journals; reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alastair Duke (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP
Statutory Auditor

14 October 2024

15 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
London E14 4HD

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:							
Grants and donations	**3**	-	2,619,831	2,619,831	-	3,471,951	3,471,951
Charitable activities	**4**	81,161	24,256	105,417	-	117,008	117,008
Investments	**5**	6,720	-	6,720	-	-	-
Other income	**6**	-	-	-	309,020	-	309,020
Total income		87,881	2,644,087	2,731,968	309,020	3,588,959	3,897,979
Charitable activities	**7**	83,301	2,452,994	2,536,295	-	3,372,410	3,372,410
Net income		4,580	191,093	195,673	309,020	216,549	525,569
Transfers between funds		198,127	(198,127)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		202,707	(7,034)	195,673	309,020	216,549	525,569
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		309,020	449,856	758,876	-	233,307	233,307
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		511,727	442,822	954,549	309,020	449,856	758,876

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

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

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**13**		12,520		31,273
Current assets					
Debtors	**14**	76,398		402,091	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,424,652		844,639	
		1,501,050		1,246,730	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(559,021)		(519,127)	
Net current assets			942,029		727,603
Total assets less current liabilities			954,549		758,876
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**17**		442,822		449,856
Unrestricted funds			511,727		309,020
			954,549		758,876

For the year ended 31 March 2024, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 8 October 2024

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Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair
Trustee

Company Registration No. 12275770

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**22**		573,746		235,101
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(453)		(8,960)	
Investment income received		6,720		-	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			6,267		(8,960)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			580,013		226,141
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			844,639		618,498
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,424,652		844,639

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

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The National Academy for Social Prescribing is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 8XX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including future cash flow forecasts and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

1.4 Income

Income from government grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Expenditure relating to charitable activities is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

Support costs include amounts incurred in respect of the running of the charity as an organisation, including general management, administration and the finance function. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

Governance costs include staff costs incurred to support governance and legal and professional fees. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures and fittings	25% reducing balance per annum
Computer equipment	33% straight line per annum

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are measured at transactions price and are subsequently measured at their settlement value.

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

1.10 Retirement benefits

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

3 Grants

	Restricted funds	Restricted funds
	2024	**2023**
	£	**£**
Donations and gifts	12,596	-
Grants receivable	2,607,235	3,471,951
	2,619,831	3,471,951
Grants receivable for core activities		
Department of Health and Social Care	1,900,000	3,077,789
Sport England	42,675	85,350
Lego Company Ltd	(2,450)	183,500
Independent Age	140,227	109,560
The Utley Foundation	352,000	-
Arts Council England	91,020	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	51,915	-
Arts Council England - Power of Music fund	30,000	-
Other	1,848	15,752
	2,607,235	3,471,951

4 Charitable activities

	Natural England 2024	NHSEI 2024	Local Trust 2024	Other 2024	Total 2024	Natural England 2023	NHSEI 2023	Other 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Services provided under contract	10,000	14,256	37,400	43,761	105,417	33,071	26,000	57,937	117,008
Analysis by fund									
Unrestricted funds	-	-	37,400	43,761	81,161	-	-	-	-
Restricted funds	10,000	14,256	-	-	24,256	33,071	26,000	57,937	117,008
	10,000	14,256	37,400	43,761	105,417	33,071	26,000	57,937	117,008

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	6,720	-

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Other income	-	309,020

Other income generated in the previous year related to grants issued by the charity to other entities, where at the conclusion of the grant period, the recipients of the grant held funds unspent which were therefore returned to the charity.

7 Charitable activities

	Promotion of social prescribing	Thriving communities programme	Sports England	Total	Promotion of social prescribing	Thriving communities programme	Sports England	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	864,390	54,235	58,006	976,631	595,467	105,079	57,993	758,539
Other costs	79,234	323,045	-	402,279	502,909	657,585	-	1,160,494
	943,624	377,280	58,006	1,378,910	1,098,376	762,664	57,993	1,919,033
Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	52,500	-	-	52,500	10,000	-	-	10,000
Share of support costs (see note 9)	988,623	-	33,865	1,022,488	1,279,583	-	40,713	1,320,296
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	82,397	-	-	82,397	123,081	-	-	123,081
	2,067,144	377,280	91,871	2,536,295	2,511,040	762,664	98,706	3,372,410
Analysis by fund								
Unrestricted funds	83,301	-	-	83,301	-	-	-	-
Restricted funds	1,983,843	377,280	91,871	2,452,994	2,511,040	762,664	98,706	3,372,410
	2,067,144	377,280	91,871	2,536,295	2,511,040	762,664	98,706	3,372,410

8 Grants payable

	Promotion of social prescribing 2024	Promotion of social prescribing 2023
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
College of Medicine	-	10,000
Reaching People	25,000	-
Hastings Voluntary Action	27,500	-
	52,500	10,000

9 Support costs

	Support costs	**Governance costs**	**2024**	**2023**	**Basis of allocation**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	
Staff costs	498,712	23,810	522,522	617,372	Time spent
Other costs	504,570	58,587	563,157	807,047	Direct
Depreciation and impairment	19,206	-	19,206	18,958	Direct
	1,022,488	82,397	1,104,885	1,443,377	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	1,022,488	82,397	1,104,885	1,443,377	

Governance costs includes fees to the auditors of £15,717 (2023 - £16,200) (net of VAT) for audit fees.

10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

11 Employees

Average number of employees for the year were 22 (2023: 20).

Included within wages and salaries are employment costs associated with staff seconded to the charity from other organisations. The payroll for such staff remains with their substantive employer, therefore while the charity is liable for the costs of their employment, it does not pay social security or pension contributions to or on behalf of the seconded staff. The analysis below separates only the social security costs and pension contributions related to direct employees of the charity, with the full employment cost of seconded staff being included within wages and salaries.

11 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,367,713	1,212,247
Social security costs	104,637	131,339
Other pension costs	26,803	32,325
	1,499,153	1,375,911

The aggregate remuneration of key management personnel during the year amounted to £174,205 (2023 - £121,509).

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-

12 Taxation

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

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	6,352	60,177	66,529
Additions	453	-	453
Disposals	-	(2,590)	(2,590)
At 31 March 2024	6,805	57,587	64,392
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2023	1,979	33,277	35,256
Depreciation charged in the year	1,163	18,043	19,206
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	(2,590)	(2,590)
At 31 March 2024	3,142	48,730	51,872
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	3,663	8,857	12,520
At 31 March 2023	4,373	26,900	31,273

14 Debtors

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Trade debtors	31,652	357,411
Prepayments and accrued income	44,746	44,680
	76,398	402,091

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	**£**
Other taxation and social security		28,413	15,604
Deferred income	**16**	98,541	266
Trade creditors		276,860	390,212
Other creditors		4,978	4,754
Accruals		150,229	108,291
		559,021	519,127

16 Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	**£**
Arising from government grants	33,502	-
Arising from other grants	65,039	266
	98,541	266

Deferred grant income relates to grants where the income has been received but it is to be used in future periods. All of the deferred income brought forward from the comparative period have been released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year to 31 March 2024.

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	**£**
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	98,541	266
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	266	198,694
Released from previous periods	(266)	(198,694)
Resources deferred in the year	98,541	266
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	98,541	266

17 Restricted funds

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

		Movement in funds			Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Department of Health and Social Care	-	3,044,561	(3,013,288)	31,273	1,900,000	(1,918,753)	-	12,520
Sport England	79,458	85,350	(100,502)	64,306	42,675	(75,871)	(16,000)	15,110
DEFRA	10,000	-	-	10,000	-	(8,000)	(2,000)	-
Independent Age	-	109,560	(109,560)	-	140,227	(118,227)	(22,000)	-
Natural England	29,915	33,071	(10,996)	51,990	10,000	(53,423)	(8,567)	-
NHSEI	111,734	26,000	(2,600)	135,134	14,255	(43,340)	(12,413)	93,636
The Lego Company Ltd	-	183,500	(61,172)	122,328	(2,450)	(101,097)	(18,781)	-
Power of Music	-	20,000	-	20,000	396,445	-	(94,889)	321,556
Arts Council England (ACE)	-	28,980	(28,980)	-	91,020	(91,020)	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-	51,915	(43,263)	(8,652)	-
Other	2,200	57,936	(45,311)	14,825	-	-	(14,825)	-
	233,307	3,588,958	(3,372,409)	449,856	2,644,087	(2,452,994)	(198,127)	442,822

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)
This grant is to support the continuation of the core work of the charity in 2023/24. Broadly, this funding is to increase the numbers of people able to access social prescribing, the range, availability and quality of community-based activities, and to support people to connect to these activities in order to improve people's health and wellbeing, in line with the charity's strategic plan.

Sport England
This grant is a multi-year funding agreement to support the charity's Physical Activity programme, including funding a National Lead for Physical Activity role within the charity. This funding is to support the Thriving Communities programme, in addition to the wider NASP/Sport England partnership.

17 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

DEFRA
This grant has been provided to support the charity's contribution to the Green Social Prescribing scheme.

Independent Age
This grant has been provided to support the charity's work promoting better outcomes for older people through social prescribing. The grant also funds a National Lead for Older People role within the charity.

Natural England
This grant is for a package of work to support Green Social Prescribing (Social Prescribing in Natural Environments) through the development and provision of evidence, sector engagement and best practice in Green Social Prescribing.

NHSEI
This funding is from commissioned work from NHSEI via Capita, to develop Link Worker resources, support social prescribing Champions, and to refresh and review guides and other resources, as well as a comms campaign.

The Lego Company
This funding represents a grant to develop, implement and evaluate a feasibility pilot for 'Prescription for Play' in the UK.

Power of Music
The Power of Music Fund aims to support people living with dementia and their carers through music. We launched the fund in November 2023, in partnership with the Utley Foundation, Arts Council England, Music for All and Universal Music.

Arts Council England
This grant has been provided to support the charity's Art and Culture programme.

The National Lottery Community Fund
We worked with more than 100 organisations to develop new models for shared investment funds for community groups and services providing socially prescribed support. *Envisioning a Social Prescribing Fund*, our report funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, will be published later in 2024.

Other
These represent unspent monies on various commissioned projects.

18 Unrestricted funds

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

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	309,020	87,881	(83,301)	198,127	511,727

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	-	309,020	-	-	309,020

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	-	12,520	12,520	-	31,273	31,273
Current assets/(liabilities)	511,727	430,302	942,029	307,268	420,335	727,603
	511,727	442,822	954,549	307,268	451,608	758,876

20 Related party transactions

Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with directors/trustees:

a) Ms S. Metcalfe is CEO of The Utley Foundation. During the year, NASP entered into a funding arrangement with The Utley Foundation in relation to the Power of Music ("POM") Project. During the year ended 31 March 2024, NASP received £352,000 of income including a management fee of £66,000 (2023 - £20,000 fund received, being a management fee). These funds, excluding the management fee, have been paid out by NASP to organisations since the year end that have successfully applied for funds as part of the POM programme.

20 Related party transactions **(Continued)**

During the year ended 31 March 2024, £nil (2023 - £298) was paid by NASP to The Utley Foundation in respect of venue hire costs.

b) During the year ended 31 March 2024, two trustees (2023 - two) were reimbursed for travel expenses totalling £488 (2023 - £23).

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the current or comparative periods.

22 Cash generated from operations

	2024	2023
	£	£
Surplus for the year	195,673	525,569
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(6,720)	-
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	19,206	18,959
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	325,693	(7,236)
(Decrease) in creditors	(58,381)	(103,763)
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	98,275	(198,428)
Cash generated from operations	573,746	235,101

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191145

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1191145

Company Registration No. 12275770 (England and Wales)

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair Mr C R T Askew Mr J Badyal Dr H O Brunjes Ms P Dimond Mr B Gudger Ms P R Hitchcox Ms S Metcalfe Ms G A Palmer
Charity number	1191145
Company number	12275770
Principal address	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX
Registered office	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX
Auditor	PKF Littlejohn LLP 15 Westferry Circus London E14 4HD
Solicitors	DAC Beachcroft LLP Portwall Place Portwall Lane Bristol BS1 9HS

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

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THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

FOREWORD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

This report showcases the incredible breadth, diversity and impact of our work over the last year to develop social prescribing. As a relatively new organisation, operating in very challenging times and championing an innovative approach, the achievements outlined are remarkable, and reflect the significant benefits of working collaboratively. Everything we do at NASP is with others; global, national, regional and local partners, individuals and organisations.

Our NHS Social Prescribing Champion Programme has been a catalyst for change, empowering multi-disciplinary clinical and non-clinical staff to take significant actions that positively impact the health and wellbeing of communities. The breadth of examples, from personal practice changes to service redesigns, and the diversity of activities, from professional development events to public engagement, are truly inspiring. Moving forward, we will continue to identify, connect and support Champions across the NHS and beyond, so that social prescribing becomes 'business as usual' in healthcare.

We worked closely with the Utley Foundation to support over 100 local community choirs and singing groups, reaching many thousands of people living with dementia. Our next phase of the work will see more partners join as we launch 'The Power of Music' fund aiming to distribute £5 million over the next few years, not just channelling resource to local organisations but ensuring that they are connected to healthcare systems and can operate sustainably. Our focus is on system transformation and culture change; that means not just short-term support and grants for social prescribing and local groups, but changing structures, commissioning and policy so that community led provision is valued, funded and integrated with wider healthcare structures. The Power of Music will generate the data, evidence and knowledge needed to enable this.

England has undoubtedly led the way for social prescribing; we were the first in the world to resource and embed social prescribing as a universal offer in primary care, and there have been 1.6 million referrals by March 2023. But the rest of the world is quickly catching up, and interest in social prescribing as a solution to complex challenges in modern healthcare is rapidly growing. Our Global Alliance for Social Prescribing now has more than 30 different countries engaged, and 18 of these were represented at our international study day event in March to share best practice and discuss mutual issues and opportunities. We are privileged to be able to share the learning and innovation from our global partners, especially because it shapes our own approach, ensuring social prescribing continues to develop at pace in England.

This year we also secured a major project with a private sector partner, Lego. This innovative corporate partnership helped us test new approaches to working with the private sector to develop social prescribing (focusing on children and play) and we hope is just the start of a strategic approach to engaging with businesses. The benefits of partnership with businesses include not only investment into social prescribing, but also the opportunity to influence employee health and wellbeing. This will be a priority for us next year, as we seek to embed social prescribing in an even wider range of sectors from the business workplace, to higher education and prisons.

Lastly, we're proud to continue to work closely with national partners to progress developments in key areas including arts and culture, physical activity, natural environment, heritage and older people. These partnerships may be diverse, but they all seek to better connect assets and resources in communities to healthcare and ultimately to the people who could most benefit from activities to improve wellbeing. Moving forward, we hope to fully establish social prescribing as a core priority for a wide range of national partners, and continue to convene and lead this incredibly powerful movement.

James Sanderson stepped down as CEO in 2022 and we would like to express our thanks to him for all of his work, and for leading NASP through our first few years. WE would also like to recognise and thank Jim Burt and Sunita Pandya for acting as joint interim CEO until March 2023.

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Prof Dame Helen Stokes Lampard - Chair
Dated: 21 October 2023

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are to advance the study and practice of social prescribing for the public benefit, in particular, but not exclusively, by:

1. Make some noise - raising the profile of social prescribing

In order to expand social prescribing, we need to get the message out there - that connecting people for wellbeing is vital for people and communities.

2. Find resources - develop innovative funding partnerships

We recognise the challenges faced by social prescribing link workers, the local voluntary, community, social enterprise and arts sector and will seek to improve resources to realise their social prescribing goals.

3. Build relationships - broker and build relationships across all sectors

Social prescribing relies on strong, mature relationships at national and local levels across multiple sectors.

4. Improve the evidence - shape and share the evidence base

There is already an evidence base for social prescribing, but it is not comprehensive. We need to build a consensus about what we know and don't know, improve accessibility and visibility of evidence.

5. Spread what works - promote learning on social prescribing

We will share what is good, what has been learnt and draw from multiple sources to ensure continued development of social prescribing.

Social prescribing is the practice of linking healthcare to community-based activities to address individual and community mental and physical health and wellbeing.

The National Academy For Social Prescribing ("NASP") works with key partners - such as Arts Council England, Historic England, Money and Pensions Service, Natural England, NHS, Sport England, and Independent Age - to administrate and manage grants allowing greater reach and deeper engagement in relation to social prescribing. All grant making/giving partners are issued NASP's partnership agreement detailing key governance, project management and risk mitigation points. All grant making/giving strands of activity must be signed off at Board level too.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Our strategy for 2023-2026 builds upon the work that we have already been doing and focuses on five key ambitions:

1. Connection - a connected social prescribing system enabling access to activities and information;
2. Partnership - local, national and international partnerships driving innovative ideas and approaches;
3. Investment - boosted investment in community activities directly supporting people's health and wellbeing;
4. Evidence - the best evidence shaping social prescribing policy, practice and research; and
5. Profile - a raised profile of how social prescribing changes lives and strengthens communities.

Highlights during the year ended 31 March 2023 include:

- Over 10,000 people participated in social prescribing projects through the Thriving Communities Fund;
- 102 Social Prescribing Champions representing 22 clinical and non-clinical disciplines worked across all 7 NHS regions in England;
- £100,000 of small grants were distributed to 100 dementia choirs, in partnership with The Utley Foundation;
- We hosted over 40 international guests from 18 countries for Social Prescribing Day 2023;
- Connected 135 voluntary organisations through the Accelerating Innovation Community of Practice; and
- Published 9 new evidence reports.

1. Connection

1a Thriving Communities

The Thriving Communities programme has continued to be a fundamental part of our work, with a focus on building a connected, place-based social prescribing system. The work is delivered by a core group of seven regional teams, made up of members of the local voluntary sector as well as representatives from our national partners. The programme is committed to supporting the voluntary sector and those organisations who are receiving social prescribing referrals.

The Thriving Communities Fund supported over 10,000 people across the country, and strengthened links between the health and care system, activity providers and the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sectors.

The Learning Together programme continues to form a primary part of the Thriving Communities regional work, offering voluntary and community sector partners and social prescribers information and connection through themed webinars, networking meetings, Action Learning Sets, group contact and one-to-one meetings.

1b Regional Leads

NASP commissioned a host organisation in each region to develop and deliver work under The Thriving Communities Programme. The selected highlights below provide a snapshot of the broad range of work and initiatives undertaken by these teams.

North East & Yorkshire – Voluntary Organisations Network North East (VONNE)
Local partnerships - We worked strategically with the North East and North Cumbria (NENC) Alliance (called the Partnership Programme), which enables VCFSE organisations to engage and collaborate with health and care system structures at all levels; we also worked closely with the regional Personalised Care team, Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) colleagues and other Integrated Care System (ICS) workstreams.
Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing workstream - We secured investment from the NENC ICS to facilitate a cross-sector social prescribing network for the North East and North Cumbria.
Reading for Wellbeing project - Through a project founded by author Anne Cleeves and supported by libraries and local authorities, we worked with a network of libraries to host Community Reading Workers within libraries in disadvantaged communities across the region which supported access to reading and books to improve wellbeing.

North West – Burnley, Pendle & Rossendale CVS
Partnership working - We worked as a partnership of four infrastructure organisations across the region; this brought localised knowledge and experience, allowing us to develop a connected social prescribing system.
System level work - We worked as core members of the VCFSE leadership in the development and delivery of the ICS / Integrated Care Board's social prescribing plans.
Place level work - Building upon a sustainable local social prescribing system, we worked to deliver Integrated Health and Care Neighbourhoods, and champion exemplars in our region.

Midlands – Community Action Derby
Midlands Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIO) Partnership – We worked with more than ten local infrastructure organisations (LIO) across the Midlands, meeting weekly to cover key themes of Communication, VCFSE support, ICS updates, and developments in social prescribing. The partnership drives sharing of ideas, developments, and approaches.

Derbyshire Investment Resource – We supported the development of an 'investment resource' for, run, and led by the VCFSE sector on a local ICS level, to support local development with national investment opportunities.
ICS Strategy – We responded to specific Integrated Care System areas, working with the Integrated Care Board and cross-sector for the development of social prescribing in Birmingham & Solihull and Leicestershire & Rutland (particularly within the city of Leicester).

East of England – Communities 1st
Pilot Working - We developed a Financial Literacy Pilot in partnership with Bank of England and the Money & Pensions Service, to improve the local wellbeing offer.
Arts & Culture – We delivered writing workshops in partnership with the Royal Literary Fund for VCFSE and Link Workers, providing skills and activities, and building connections.
Regional Social Prescribing Conference - We held an extremely successful event to bring together regional social prescribing leaders, enabling us to build local partnerships.

London – London Plus
Reporting - We worked with the Ubele Initiative, an African diaspora-led infrastructure plus organisation, to produce a report on *Reimagining Social Prescribing: Perspectives and Experiences from Black and Racially Minoritised Communities*; this aimed to identify and understand some of the gaps and barriers preventing access and take-up of social prescribing within these communities.
Social Prescribing Connected - We created a database of cross-sector organisations involved in social prescribing including local authorities, housing associations, social prescribing services and NHS key contacts per borough; this was important to drive local partnerships and connection.

South East – Crawley Community Action
Children & Young People – We allied to peer network groups and worked on the Community of Interest in the region, including making a connection to the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities; in addition, we ran a peer network and hosted two NASP webinars on the subject.
Mapping Social Prescribing Link Worker Host Organisations - In the South East we began a project to map all of the Social Prescribing Link Worker Host Organisations, working closely with social prescribing leads in the region. This is important to improve the connectivity of social prescribers with each other when people move between services, with other professionals such as hospital discharge teams and with the local voluntary and community sector.
Whole Community Approach: Crawley- We worked with Living Healthier Lives, an outreach projects to support diverse communities' engagement in social prescribing and work on developing a whole community approach to social prescribing.

South West – Active Dorset
Investment - We provided match funding to establish two park yoga sites in areas of deprivation in Cornwall. On average, each week 44 participants are attending Bodmin and 93 are attending the site at Par. Residents have been delighted with the yoga sessions as opportunities in their local areas are limited.
Knowledge and Understanding - There have been over 1,300 views of the South West Social Prescribing Services Map since publication earlier this year, which displays organisations who host a Social Prescribing Link Worker as well as other Local Infrastructure Organisations who support social prescribing. There has been hugely positive feedback from users who mention the map helps them to make sense of their system. We supported two Acute settings (Dorset & Devon) to explore the role social prescribing can play within their hospitals. Of particular interest was the potential for social prescribing to enable more collaboration between primary and secondary care.

1c Supporting the workforce
Our work this year has included the development of practical resources for Primary Care Networks (PCNs), including Link Worker Advisory Group (LWAG), which has been instrumental in the delivery of our forthcoming Link Worker Induction Guide. The LWAG are a group of seasoned link workers with a wide range of backgrounds. NASP intends to expand the group for a wider reach to include regional representation and specialisms.

We co-designed a guide for primary care decision makers to using ARRS funding to recruit Advice Link Workers, with our partners Money and Pensions Service. This will enable PCNs to maximise the ARRS funding to support communities experiencing poor health due to their financial issues.

We worked with NHS England to support the delivery of the NHS England Social Prescribing Workforce Development Framework. This included our commissioned work, the Portfolio of Evidence, for Social Prescribing Link Workers to evidence their skills and practice in line with the NHS England competency Framework.

We intend to continue to codesign practical resources for workforce, healthcare infrastructure and voluntary sector providers. We also have a growing global portfolio of international workforce development, where we support workforce implementation support offers.

1d Champions

Social Prescribing Champions are NHS staff members in England (clinical and non-clinical) working across community, primary, and secondary care to raise awareness of social prescribing within their workplace or profession. Participants in the programme were offered a range of opportunities to connect with their peers and to develop their skills in championing change. These were coordinated by NASP, with input from NHS England, alongside influencers and experts.

Applications to join the programme were received by over 200 people. After an eligibility review, 70 were appointed as champions in May 2022 and supported by an additional 32 champions previously involved in the 2021-2022 pilot. Champions represented 22 different disciplines and all 7 regions of the country.

Champions were asked to report briefly on up to three significant actions they had taken directly, because of their participation in the programme, demonstrating the success of the programme in building connections, partnerships and elevating the profile of social prescribing.

2. Partnerships

2a National Leads

We continue to drive innovative ideas and approaches through national partnerships; this work is delivered by a core team of National Leads across Physical Activity, Arts and Culture, Heritage, Older People, and the Natural Environment.

Older People

- *3 evidence products published*
- *2 pilot projects commissioned*
- 2 Skill share workshops delivered
- 1 Advisory group convened

In partnership with Independent Age, we commissioned two pilot projects to better understand the needs of older people not currently accessing social prescribing, and to co-design local, asset-based social prescribing offers that respond to their priorities. These projects in Hastings and Leicester will help to create more connected social prescribing systems for older people, particularly those experiencing financial hardship and those from marginalised communities.

Working with academic partners, we commissioned a rapid evidence review of social prescribing initiatives supporting older people experiencing poverty or financial hardship. Stakeholders were also surveyed to produce a snapshot of social prescribing for older people, identifying enablers, barriers, gaps and opportunities. All these findings are available on our website and informed the development of the older people's work programme, including the pilot projects.

Older People was a theme of the SkillShare programme which focussed on supporting the needs of older people.

Historic Environment

- Four social prescribing pilots underway, supported by funding from Historic England for 2022-2023
- 27 heritage organisations are members of the Heritage and Social Prescribing Community of Practice, with 12 actively delivering social prescribing
- Four major presentations given as part of conferences and workshops across the country, raising the profile of NASP and social prescribing

This year saw the publication of Historic England's Wellbeing and Heritage strategy, which has paved the way for more health and wellbeing work in the sector as well as collaboration opportunities on social prescribing. We have supported Historic England on the development and evaluation of two social prescribing pilot projects: one testing the concept of heritage connectors in Frome and the other testing the concept of heritage buddies in Nottingham. These projects will contribute to growing evidence on the health and wellbeing benefits of heritage as well as the testing the connectivity infrastructure in social prescribing systems.

We led and facilitated the work of the Heritage and Social Prescribing Community of Practice, enabling heritage organisations across the sector to further their understanding of social prescribing and access resources and support. Working with those organisations, *Heritage and Social Prescribing Guidance* is now in development to offer information and support to heritage professionals, social prescribing link workers and the public.

We also participated in the Heritage and Wellbeing conference at the University of Bournemouth in March 2022 to raise the profile of social prescribing within the sector and to facilitate further innovative collaborations.

Natural Environment

- 1 toolkit developed
- 4 evidence infographics developed

This year we have continued to support the national Green Social Prescribing Test and Learn programme to tackle and prevent mental ill health to its conclusion in March 2023. Working with NHS England and other partners, a green social prescribing toolkit has been developed and is now available on our website. We are continuing to work with partners to explore and maximise options to support the scale and spread of the learning.

We have also been working with Natural England to design and test the concept of Nature Buddies to support people to connect to social prescribing activities and we have provided expertise on the development of green community hubs. Four evidence infographics were also produced on the benefit and role of nature and the natural environment in social prescribing.

A webinar on health inequalities and wellbeing through food was delivered to highlight the opportunities for social prescribing in growing food, flowers and other plants.

Arts and Culture

- Over 3,300 people participated in Art by Post: Poems for our Planet in 2022/23.
- Distributed £100,000 worth of small grants to 100 choirs in partnership with The Utley foundation, for those living with dementia.

With the support of Arts Council England, this year we appointed a new National Lead for Arts and Culture to understand the needs and develop stronger social prescribing systems within the creative health sector. We have built relationships across the sector, particularly with libraries to support their current provision of health and wellbeing activities and to enable them to support the expansion of the social prescribing offer in these settings.

Working with the SouthBank Centre, NASP rolled out the second iteration of Art by Post. 'Poems for our Planet' combined the benefits of arts and culture activities with green social prescribing, using nature connectedness to inspire the participants' creative writing, drawing and painting.

Physical Activity

More Than a Game was formally launched this year, a programme designed to improve collaboration between the health system and the sport and physical activity sector. At the launch event, we brought partners together from NHS England and football community trusts to better understand the needs of each sector and enable place-based collaboration. This has led to successful integration in a number of areas across the country.

Working with the Department for Transport, we have also supported the development of active travel social prescribing pilots. This is a three-year pilot programme to provide a wide range of cycling and walking interventions to improve physical health and mental wellbeing through social prescribing.

We worked with the health workforce to understand their needs and build supportive trusted pathways to local sport and physical activity provision. In response to this a social prescribing physical activity blueprint is being

built, linked to the Royal College of GPs' Active Practice Charter to support those working in primary care.

2b Global

On a global scale, NASP, The World Health Innovation Summit and The World Health Organisation work in partnership with international partners from over 32 countries to form the Global Social Prescribing Alliance.

The Alliance aims to build this global community to work collaboratively to raise awareness of social prescribing, build capability, infrastructure and evidence.

Together with Worth Health Organisation (WHO) colleagues an international partners, NASP published the Social Prescribing Around the World Report in March 2023. This report explores social prescribing in 24 countries.

An in-person international learning trip was also hosted for over 40 international partners from 18 different countries. This was a first of its kind convening of key stakeholders interested in accelerating social prescribing efforts across the globe hosted by the Global Social Prescribing Alliance in collaboration with NASP.

2c Accelerating Innovation

The Accelerating Innovation Programme – established by NASP, Royal Voluntary Service and NHS England – ended in March 2023. It helped national voluntary organisations work together alongside local communities to increase the scale and impact of social prescribing activities.

The programme's achievements include:

- Forming a Community of Practice with 135 members from charities, social enterprises, umbrella bodies and others. Many members are formed of a handful of staff and volunteers who support people with unique needs, while others are large national charities that support many thousands of people across the country;
- Hosting webinars covering topics such as financial wellbeing, health inequalities, evaluation and evidence, as well as other informal catch-ups;
- Deep-dive working groups which cut across sectors and organisations, where members of the Community of Practice worked together with others in the social prescribing movement to share learning and make recommendations for developing new initiatives. This led to the publication of three resources co-produced with members and sector partners;
- Publication of a 'Volunteering for Wellbeing' guide, to help volunteer-involving organisations support people who may come to volunteering as part of a social prescribing journey. This was co-produced with 100 people (Community of Practice members, volunteer managers, volunteers, link workers, and sector experts);
- 'How to get started with Co-Production in Social Prescribing' was published, in partnership with the Co-Production Collective and the NASP Co-production group of over 30 people from large and small charities, link workers, commissioners, academics, and people who have experienced social prescribing
- Publication of 'Innovations in social prescribing: the role of social housing', in partnership with HACT and Housing LIN, and members of the Community of Practice
- Social Prescribing Skillshare: a pilot programme to support organisations to increase their skills and confidence to enable them to provide quality social prescribing activities.

We are continuing to prioritise innovation across the organisation, including through the Skillshare Programme and the development of a new innovation network.

3. Investment

3a Thriving Communities Fund

2022-23 saw the completion of projects delivered under the £1.8 million Thriving Communities Fund, an innovative programme of grants dedicated to supporting social prescribing activities in local communities, working in partnership with Arts Council England, Historic England, Money & Pensions Service, Natural England, NHS Charities Together, Sport England, and NHS England.

The Fund supported 37 projects across England, delivering 3,772 sessions. 414 volunteers participated,

contributing an average of 300 volunteer hours per project.

The evaluation shows the life-changing impact of social prescribing, with activities supported by the fund reaching over 10,000 people.

The programme was successful in reaching groups more likely to experience poor health and less likely to get the health support they need:

- 45% had a long-standing health condition or disability - nearly twice the national rate
- 39% lived within the top 30% of the most deprived communities in England
- 35% were from Black and global majority backgrounds

Another success of the programme was building new and better connections between healthcare networks and the voluntary sector:

- 88% of projects said that Thriving Communities Fund had led to improved pathways to community support
- 91% said it had made alternative support more accessible in their community
- 88% of projects said that Thriving Communities Fund had improved links between link workers and Voluntary Community Faith and Social Enterprise organisations
- 82% said it had improved the local social prescribing offer
- Two-thirds of the projects involved volunteers

3b Power of Music Fund

Following the publication of the Power of Music report, this year saw the rapid development of the Power of Music Fund. Working with a wide range of partners including The Utley Foundation, we distributed £100,000 worth of small grants to 100 dementia choirs and singing groups in response to the cost-of-living increases.

The next phase is a new Power of Music Fund which aims to provide a single funding stream for music and dementia social prescribing provision. By developing a mixed economy of funding, kickstarted through an initial £1 million grant from The Utley Foundation, we have used our unique place at the intersection of health and community to establish this programme.

Throughout 2022-23 we have been developing the aims and outcomes of the funds seeking further investment to launch the fund in the 2023-24 financial year.

4. Evidence

New evidence published in 2022-23

During 2022-2023, we worked to identify and address key evidence gaps for social prescribing policy and practice in the UK. We have done this through collaboration, being convenors of evidence, and increasing NASPs own capabilities for evidence-based activities. We have developed our cross sector International Evidence Collaborative, including the delivery of a programme of webinars and the creation of three International Coordinator roles in Portugal, Canada and Australia. We have worked with our evidence collaborative to produce accessible evidence products on a range of identified evidence gaps for policy and practice in the UK, with published briefings and rapid evidence reviews on:

- **Older people:** Evidence shows that social prescribing can support older people with poverty in five main ways: supporting food insecurity; supporting fuel poverty; supporting financial management; supporting digital inclusion; supporting social vulnerability.

- **Arts, culture and creativity:** The evidence consistently shows a positive link between better health and wellbeing and time spent taking part in arts, heritage and cultural activities. The UK is considered a leader in 'Arts on Prescription' and there is a growing demand for home and community-based arts and culture related activities.

- **Physical activity:** A referral to take part in physical activity can lead to a wide range of benefits, including improvements in physical and mental health, increased patient empowerment, and a reduction in health service use and costs.

- **Financial, social and legal social prescribing:** A key part of social prescribing is to help people deal with practical issues. Support with finance, social welfare and legal advice has been shown to have a positive impact on health and wellbeing.

- **Nature:** Nature-based social prescribing can have positive effects on health and wellbeing. The reduction in loneliness and development of a nature connection was particularly found in people likely to be experiencing health inequalities.

Our academic partners also delivered four evidence reviews on health, wellbeing and the natural environment, published by Natural England.

5. Profile

Communications

The public profile of social prescribing has continued to rise. We carried out a survey with UK adults in March 2023, and 17% had heard of the term "social prescribing" – a rise from 12% in March 2022. In England, 10% of respondents were aware that there was a Social Prescribing Link Worker available through their GP practice, a rise from 6% the previous year.

While these numbers remain relatively low, they appear to be growing fast. And many people understand that social prescribing exists, even if they are not familiar with the term. In a separate survey commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Care, 61% of people said that they were aware that healthcare professionals can refer people to non-medical support for their mental health (e.g. support groups or community activities)

In 2022/23, our Communications work has included:

- Developing a **new website.** This launched in January 2023, and is intended as a one-stop shop for all things social prescribing. NASP saw 26% more users on the website in 2022-3 compared to 2021-2.
- Growing our **s**ocial media following by 48% between 2021 and 2022.
- NASP was mentioned 677 times in **UK media**, and supported a range of features about social prescribing in the national press.
- NASP made 10 new **films about social prescribing**, including about Green Social Prescribing, music and dementia and the role of link workers.
- Dr Radha Modgil has led on work with **Ambassadors** and presented our popular Podcast on Prescription.
- This year's **Social Prescribing Show** sold out within days of tickets going on sale – and **# SocialPrescribingDay** had a potential reach of more than 16 million people on social media.
- We also developed the Social Prescribing & Me campaign, to raise public awareness about social prescribing, which launched in Spring 2023.

Financial review

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the Charity received total income of £3,897,979 (2022: £3,159,464) and incurred expenditure on charitable activities of £3,372,410 (2022: £3,014,057) resulting in a surplus position for the year of £525,569 (2022: £145,407). During the year the Charity received a grant of £3m from The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and has secured funding from DHSC of £1.9m for 2023/24 and £1.7m for 2024/25.

At 31 March 2023 the Charity had cash of £844,649 (31 March 2022: £618,498), restricted funds of £449,856 (31 March 2022: £233,307) and unrestricted funds of £309,020 (31 March 2022: £Nil).

Reserves policy

NASP's Reserves policy is designed to ensure financial stability for NASP as a registered charity with between 3-6 months of operational costs held in a designated Reserves Account which can only be used with Board authorisation.

NASP's main source of income continues to be grant funding from DHSC but one of its objectives over the next 2-3 years is to derive more income from other sources. The current funding agreement with DHSC means that any underspend of grant monies received from DHSC is carried over into the following year and offset against new grant funding monies due from DHSC.

Based on its current levels of expenditure NASP has set a minimum target of £350,000 to hold as reserves as recommended by the Charities Commission to cover 3 months of operating costs. As noted above NASP has exceeded this target.

Risk management

NASP management regularly reviews the Risk Register on a bi-monthly basis and reports this to our Trustees and on a quarterly basis to the Finance, Audit, Investment and Risk Committee (FAIRCO). At present the main highlights are around diversifying our income streams and ensuring we have robust processes and staffing structures and levels to meet our programme requirements. As the Risk Register is reviewed across the Senior Management Team and Board every 8 weeks this ensures that the leadership team are very aware of the risk and related mitigations in daily business operations.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the impact or likelihood of occurrence of its major risks.

Plans for future periods

We have developed five longer term goals which will shape our priorities and outcomes for 2023-2026:

- Raise the profile of how social prescribing changes lives and strengthens communities.
- Boost investment in community activities directly supporting people's health and wellbeing.
- Strengthen the whole social prescribing system to enable easier access to activities and information.
- Build the evidence so the best information shapes social prescribing policy, practice and research.
- Forge local, national & international partnerships to drive new ideas and approaches.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The charity is governed by its memorandum and articles adopted on 25 February 2020 as amended by special resolution on 1 September 2020.

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

Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair
Mr C R T Askew
Mr J Badyal
Dr H O Brunjes
Ms P Dimond
Baroness T C D Grey-Thompson (Resigned 18 May 2023)
Mr B Gudger
Ms P R Hitchcox
Ms S Metcalfe
Ms G A Palmer

The appointment of new trustees is performed through national advertising when the positions become available. Trustees are offered induction training when they first join allowing them to understand and connect to the business fully. Regular meetings with respective staff members take place with Board expertise in specific areas being utilised.

Alongside NASP's Remuneration Committee (REMCo), NASP's Remuneration Policy clearly states that the policy and any changes in remuneration must support NASP's vision, purpose and values. A robust process around renumeration changes (e.g. acting up allowance, additional responsibilities), is in place which involves sign off at both Senior Management Team and Trustee level with a yearly review of all salaries scheduled in Q4. Annual benchmarking of salaries and reviews of internal bandings are completed in Q4.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Charity is governed by the trustees with day-to-day activities managed by an operational committee which is headed by our Chief Executive Officer, Charlotte Osborne-Forde, who commenced in April 2023. During 2022/23 the CEO was James Sanderson until he stepped down in September 2022, after which Jim Burt and Sunita Pandya (existing members of SMT) took up the post a joint interim CEO until 31 March 2023.

Auditor

PKF Littlejohn LLP were appointed as first auditors to the company during 2020/21 by the Trustees. The Company is not required under its Articles to hold an Annual General Meeting. Accordingly, PKF Littlejohn LLP are re-appointed auditors to the Company.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

In preparing this report the trustees have taken advantage of the small company exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

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Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair

Trustee

Dated: 21 October 2023

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors of The National Academy for Social Prescribing for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the National Academy for Social Prescribing (the 'charitable company') for the year ending 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities including the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the trustees' annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the strategic report and the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial period for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the charitable company and the sector in which it operates to identify laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a direct effect on the financial statements. We obtained our understanding in this regard through discussions with management, industry research and experience of the sector.
- We determined the principal laws and regulations relevant to the charitable company in this regard to be those arising from Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

- We designed our audit procedures to ensure the audit team considered whether there were any indications of non-compliance by the charitable company with those laws and regulations. These procedures included, but were not limited to, enquiries of management and review of minutes.
- We also identified the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud. We did not consider there to be any other area, in addition to the non-rebuttable presumption of a risk of fraud arising from management override of controls.
- As in all of our audits, we addressed the risk of fraud arising from management override of controls by performing audit procedures which included, but were not limited to: the testing of journals; reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alastair Duke (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP
Statutory Auditor

31 October 2023

15 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
London E14 4HD

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from:					
Grants	3	-	3,471,951	3,471,951	2,909,180
Charitable activities	4	-	117,008	117,008	250,284
Other income	5	309,020	-	309,020	-
Total income		309,020	3,588,959	3,897,979	3,159,464
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	-	3,372,410	3,372,410	3,014,057
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		309,020	216,549	525,569	145,407
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		-	233,307	233,307	87,900
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		309,020	449,856	758,876	233,307

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		31,273		41,272
Current assets					
Debtors	**12**	402,091		394,855	
Cash at bank and in hand		844,639		618,498	
		1,246,730		1,013,353	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**13**	(519,127)		(821,318)	
Net current assets			727,603		192,035
Total assets less current liabilities			758,876		233,307
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**15**		449,856		233,307
Unrestricted funds			309,020		-
			758,876		233,307

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21 October 2023

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Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair
Trustee

Company Registration No. 12275770

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	18		235,101		(1,920,197)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(8,960)		(17,222)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(8,960)		(17,222)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			226,141		(1,937,419)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			618,498		2,555,917
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			844,639		618,498

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The National Academy for Social Prescribing is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 8XX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including future cash flow forecasts and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

1.4 Income

Income from government grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure relating to charitable activities is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

Support costs include amounts incurred in respect of the running of the charity as an organisation, including general management, administration and the finance function. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

Governance costs include staff costs incurred to support governance and legal and professional fees. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures and fittings	33% straight line per annum
Computer equipment	25% straight line per annum

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are measured at transactions price and are subsequently measured at their settlement value.

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

1.10 Retirement benefits

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

3 Grants

	2023 £	2022 £
Grants receivable	3,471,951	2,909,180
Grants receivable for core activities		
Department of Health and Social Care	3,077,789	2,854,706
Sport England	85,350	42,675
Lego Company Ltd	183,500	-
Independent Age	109,560	-
Other	15,752	11,799
	3,471,951	2,909,180

4 Charitable activities

	Natural England 2023	NHSEI 2023	Other 2023	Total 2023	Natural England 2022	NHSEI 2022	Other 2022	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Services provided under contract	33,071	26,000	57,937	117,008	97,000	151,084	2,200	250,284

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Other income	309,020	-

Other income relates to grants issued by the charity to other entities, where at the conclusion of the grant period, the recipients of the grant held funds unspent which have therefore been returned to the charity.

6 Charitable activities

	Promotion of social prescribing	Thriving communities programme	Sports England	Total	Promotion of social prescribing	Thriving communities programme	Sports England	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	595,467	105,079	57,993	758,539	517,823	117,306	44,698	679,827
Other costs	502,909	657,585	-	1,160,494	499,547	546,818	-	1,046,365
	1,098,376	762,664	57,993	1,919,033	1,017,370	664,124	44,698	1,726,192
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	10,000	-	-	10,000	230,000	-	-	230,000
Share of support costs (see note 8)	1,279,583	-	40,713	1,320,296	862,112	-	6,000	868,112
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	123,081	-	-	123,081	189,753	-	-	189,753
	2,511,040	762,664	98,706	3,372,410	2,299,235	664,124	50,698	3,014,057

7 Grants payable

	Promotion of social prescribing 2023	Promotion of social prescribing 2022
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
World Health Innovation Summit CIC	-	90,000
Royal Voluntary Service	-	100,000
English National Opera	-	40,000
College of Medicine	10,000	-
	10,000	230,000

Grants made to individuals in the comparative period related to the NHS England Social Prescribing Student Champion Scheme.

8 Support costs

	Support costs	**Governance costs**	**2023**	**2022**	**Basis of allocation**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	
Staff costs	578,579	38,793	617,372	528,621	Time spent
Other costs	722,759	84,288	807,047	514,964	Direct
Depreciation and impairment	18,958	-	18,958	14,280	Direct
	1,320,296	123,081	1,443,377	1,057,865	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	1,320,296	123,081	1,443,377	1,057,865	

Governance costs includes fees to the auditors of £16,200 (2022 - £12,090) (net of VAT) for audit fees.

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year. None of the trustees received any reimbursement for expenses.

10 Employees

Average number of employees for the year were 20 (2022: 6).

Included within wages and salaries are employment costs associated with staff seconded to the charity from other organisations. The payroll for such staff remains with their substantive employer, therefore while the charity is liable for the costs of their employment, it does not pay social security or pension contributions to or on behalf of the seconded staff. The analysis below separates only the social security costs and pension contributions related to direct employees of the charity, with the full employment cost of seconded staff being included within wages and salaries.

Employment costs	**2023**	**2022**
	£	**£**
Wages and salaries	1,212,247	1,160,087
Social security costs	131,339	37,840
Other pension costs	32,325	10,521
	1,375,911	1,208,448

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	2023	**2022**
	Number	**Number**
£60,000 - £70,000	1	-
£70,000 - £80,000	1	-

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	**Computer equipment**	**Total**
	£	**£**	**£**
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	6,215	51,354	57,569
Additions	137	8,823	8,960
At 31 March 2023	6,352	60,177	66,529
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2022	532	15,765	16,297
Depreciation charged in the year	1,447	17,512	18,959
At 31 March 2023	1,979	33,277	35,256
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2023	4,373	26,900	31,273
At 31 March 2022	5,683	35,589	41,272

12 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	357,411	288,424
Other debtors	-	3,190
Prepayments and accrued income	44,680	103,241
	402,091	394,855

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security		15,604	-
Deferred income	14	266	198,694
Trade creditors		390,212	508,404
Other creditors		4,754	3,953
Accruals		108,291	110,267
		519,127	821,318

14 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Arising from Department of Health and Social Care grant	-	198,694
Arising from other grants	266	-
	266	198,694

Deferred grant income relates to grants where the income has been received but it is to be used in future periods. All of the deferred income brought forward from the comparative period have been released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year to 31 March 2023.

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds			Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Department of Health and Social Care	-	2,851,330	(2,851,330)	-	3,044,561	(3,013,288)	31,273
Sport England	87,900	42,675	(51,117)	79,458	85,350	(100,502)	64,306
DEFRA	-	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Independent Age	-	5,174	(5,174)	-	109,560	(109,560)	-
Natural England	-	97,000	(67,085)	29,915	33,071	(10,996)	51,990
NHSEI	-	151,084	(39,350)	111,734	26,000	(2,600)	135,134
The Lego Company Ltd	-	-	-	-	183,500	(61,172)	122,328
The Utley Foundation	-	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Arts Council England (ACE)	-	-	-	-	28,980	(28,980)	-
Other	-	2,200	-	2,200	57,936	(45,311)	14,825
	87,900	3,159,463	(3,014,056)	233,307	3,588,958	(3,372,409)	449,856

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)
This grant is to support the continuation of the core work of the charity in 2021/22. Broadly, this funding is to increase the numbers of people able to access social prescribing, the range, availability and quality of community-based activities, and to support people to connect to these activities in order to improve people's health and wellbeing, in line with the charity's strategic plan.

Sport England
This grant is a multi-year funding agreement to support the charity's Physical Activity programme, including funding a National Lead for Physical Activity role within the charity. This funding is to support the Thriving Communities programme, in addition to the wider NASP/Sport England partnership.

15 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

DEFRA
This grant has been provided to support the charity's contribution to the Green Social Prescribing scheme.

Independent Age
This grant has been provided to support the charity's work promoting better outcomes for older people through social prescribing. The grant also funds a National Lead for Older People role within the charity.

Natural England
This grant is for a package of work to support Green Social Prescribing (Social Prescribing in Natural Environments) through the development and provision of evidence, sector engagement and best practice in Green Social Prescribing.

NHSEI
This funding is from commissioned work from NHSEI via Capita, to develop Link Worker resources, support social prescribing Champions, and to refresh and review guides and other resources, as well as a comms campaign.

The Lego Company
This funding represents a grant to develop, implement and evaluate a feasibility pilot for 'Prescription for Play' in the UK.

The Utley Foundation
These monies resent a one-off grant to employ a consultant to support the establishment of the Music Investment Partnership.

Arts Council England
This grant has been provided to support the charity's Art and Culture programme.

Other
These represent unspent monies on various commissioned projects.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023	Restricted funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	-	31,273	31,273	41,272
Current assets/(liabilities)	(53,836)	781,439	727,603	192,035
	(53,836)	812,712	758,876	233,307

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the period.

18 Cash generated from operations

	2023	2022
	£	£
Surplus for the year	525,569	145,407
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	18,959	14,280
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(7,236)	(314,794)
(Decrease) in creditors	(103,763)	(286,541)
(Decrease) in deferred income	(198,428)	(1,478,549)
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	235,101	(1,920,197)

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the current or comparative periods.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191145

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1191145

Company Registration No. 12275770 (England and Wales)

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair	
	Mr C R T Askew	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Mr J Badyal	
	Dr H O Brunjes	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Ms P Dimond	(Appointed 11 November 2021)
	Baroness T C D Grey-Thompson	
	Mr B Gudger	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Ms P R Hitchcox	
	Ms S Metcalfe	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Ms G A Palmer	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Charity number	1191145	
Company number	12275770	
Principal address	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Registered office	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Auditor	PKF Littlejohn LLP 15 Westferry Circus London E14 4HD	
Solicitors	DAC Beachcroft LLP Portwall Place Portwall Lane Bristol BS1 9HS	

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

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THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

FOREWORD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The past year has continued to be a challenging one for all organisations, not least those working in fields which seek to improve the health and wellbeing of people and communities. Within this challenging context we are incredibly proud of what we've achieved at NASP during 2021-22.

Through our Thriving Communities programme, we've supported thousands of grassroots organisations and funded 35 truly amazing local partnerships. From walking football to aerial silks, bicycle-powered Shakespeare to art lessons, financial wellbeing workshops to cooking classes, these projects have changed the lives of people experiencing loneliness, mental health problems or those people living with long-term health conditions.

One person who took part in a Thriving Communities project in Sunderland told us: "This is the only time in the week I laugh. I don't know what I would do without this group." Crucially, the fund has also provided a blueprint for how social prescribing initiatives cannot just work but also thrive in practice, which should open the door for future investment opportunities.

Through our Accelerating Innovation programme, we've brought together more than 90 national and regional organisations to focus on how social prescribing can tackle health inequalities. Together, we want to connect the voluntary sector more effectively to the health system, and explore the best new ways of working collaboratively.

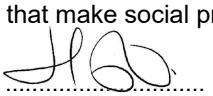
We've recruited Social Prescribing Champions to spread the word about social prescribing across the NHS, and we've supported a remarkable network of Student Champions in medical colleges to harness support from future health leaders. We've worked with Social Prescribing Link Workers - the people at the heart of the NHS social prescribing process - to create resources to evaluate and demonstrate the impact of what they do.

Of course, it's vital that the growth of social prescribing is informed by evidence. That's why we've worked with some of the country's leading academics to collate the most robust research and to identify where the gaps are. The evidence briefings we've published show that social prescribing can have a positive impact on a very wide range of outcomes and that it can save costs for the NHS. We've also drawn up a roadmap for future research.

We've also raised the profile of social prescribing. In the media, on social media and through our Ambassadors, we've spread the word that social activities and advice services can have a major impact on health and wellbeing. This has created a huge interest in social prescribing across communities, industry and Government at both a national and local level.

Social prescribing is fast becoming an international movement, and we've brought together colleagues in more than 20 countries to grow the Global Social Prescribing Alliance. From Canada to Brazil to Singapore, we're joining forces across the world to help people live the best lives they can.

With growing cost-of-living challenges which we know will impact on health and wellbeing, we know that there's far more to do. But we firmly believe that social prescribing can play an important role in preventing health problems, in combating loneliness and in ensuring people can get the practical support they need with the long-term health conditions that they are living with. As we continue to mature as an organisation, we want to champion the people that make social prescribing thrive and to make a lasting difference to communities across the country.



Prof Dame Helen Stokes Lampard - Chair
Dated: 23 January 2023

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities
The charity's objects are to advance the study and practice of social prescribing for the public benefit, in particular, but not exclusively, by:

1. Make some noise - raising the profile of social prescribing
In order to expand social prescribing, we need to get the message out there - that connecting people for wellbeing is vital for people and communities.

2. Find resources - develop innovative funding partnerships
We recognise the challenges faced by social prescribing link workers, the local voluntary, community, social enterprise and arts sector and will seek to improve resources to realise their social prescribing goals.

3. Build relationships - broker and build relationships across all sectors
Social prescribing relies on strong, mature relationships at national and local levels across multiple sectors.

4. Improve the evidence - shape and share the evidence base
There is already an evidence base for social prescribing, but it is not comprehensive. We need to build a consensus about what we know and don't know, improve accessibility and visibility of evidence.

5. Spread what works - promote learning on social prescribing
We will share what is good, what has been learnt and draw from multiple sources to ensure continued development of social prescribing.

Social prescribing is the practice of linking healthcare to community based activities to address individual and community mental and physical health and wellbeing.

Below are the 7 core projects for the charity. Each project strand has an SMT lead who reports regularly to the CEO and Board.

Our work on the following core projects of the Charity are explained in the next section:

- Thriving Communities
- Accelerating Innovation
- Global Social Prescribing Alliance
- Supporting the NHS workforce and infrastructure
- Social Prescribing Champions
- Evidence
- National Leads for;
  - The natural environment
  - Physical activity
  - Arts and culture
  - Heritage.

NASP works with key partners - such as Arts Council England, Historic England, Money and Pensions Service, Natural England, NHS, Sport England, and Independent Age - to administrate and manage grants allowing greater reach and deeper engagement in relation to social prescribing. All grant making/giving partners are issued NASP's partnership agreement detailing key governance, project management and risk mitigation points. All grant making/giving strands of activity must be signed off at Board level too.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance
Thriving Communities

The work of the Thriving Communities programme over the past year has been instrumental in creating an active, connected and high performing social prescribing ecosystem at a place-based level. Building on the formation of seven regional teams made up of members of the local voluntary sector as well as representatives from our national partners, the programme is committed to supporting the voluntary sector and those organisations who are receiving social prescriptions.

The Thriving Communities Network has connected with over 10,000 people working for Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) organisations to support their work in multiple ways. This included a very successful webinar series, with 12 webinars attended by an average of 395 people each. Topics have included innovative ways of finding funding, wellness and movement in social prescribing, and how to navigate the social prescribing ecosystem to build effective relationships with link workers.

Practical learning sessions have also been popular, with our Learning Together programme attracting over 1,200 participants. This regionally run programme reacts to the needs of the sector at a local level and offers support on bespoke topics and subjects, using a co-production model with the communities it serves.

While this work supporting the sector remains incredibly important and very much at the core of the programme, the impact the Thriving Communities Fund has had on local communities is a lasting legacy of the past year. The £1.8 million fund has supported 35 place-based partnerships between VCFSE organisations and made a real difference to the lives of thousands of people. Most of these projects have been able to use the initial investment to secure future funding and continue their good work. We published a full evaluation of the Thriving Communities Fund in October 2022.

Accelerating Innovation in Social Prescribing - Supporting national organisations and championing new approaches.

This year we launched the Accelerating Innovation Programme. This new partnership between NASP, The Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) and NHS England and Improvement, aims to bring together national delivery organisations across the UK to develop new approaches that make the best use of their knowledge, assets and reach.

The programme builds upon the incredible social prescribing that is already taking place across the country. By connecting national and regional voluntary organisations to each other and to local partners, it promotes shared learning and helps grow new and more effective partnerships that can help reduce health inequalities and support Covid-19 recovery plans.

At the heart of the programme is our Community of Practice. This group of organisations from across sectors comes together to learn from each other and build new partnerships. In the first six months we have welcomed over 90 organisations to the community, and built a programme of webinars and workshops around their learning goals.

Our Community of Practice identified several areas of work that had important innovation potential in social prescribing, and we built working groups around these. This year we focused on two of these areas:
• Housing and social prescribing. Working in partnership with HACT and HousingLIN, we brought together a working group of housing providers, voluntary organisations, and people working in local health systems to explore how social prescribing could be embedded in housing.
• Volunteering and wellbeing through social prescribing. Volunteering expertise links all of our Community of Practice members together. Working with these national organisations, as well as NAVCA members, experts from the Richmond Group of charities, link workers, and volunteers themselves, we are bringing together guidance on how volunteering can provide health and wellbeing benefits through social prescribing.

In the next year we hope to continue to offer opportunities for learning and joint working, as well as nurturing emerging new partnerships that can reach across the UK to support people's health and wellbeing.

Global Social Prescribing Alliance

The Global Social Prescribing Alliance was established in 2021 to support the development and growth of social prescribing on a global scale. Alongside international partners from more than 20 countries, we are working with the World Health Innovation Summit (WHIS), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Global Sustainability Index Institute (UNSGII) to scale up social prescribing globally and link this to the implementation of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We have successfully developed an international community of practice involving representatives from more than 20 countries including Australia, Canada, Japan, Singapore, Finland, Portugal, Wales, Scotland, Brazil, US and the Netherlands. Seven sessions have been delivered to date, and our work has culminated in a joint article in BMJ Global Health Journal providing an overview of social prescribing models around the world.

We have proudly taken part in international conferences and webinars in collaboration with our global partners, including the International Longevity Centre Japan Conference on Social Prescribing, hosting a Danish Embassy Ministerial Visit, as well as presenting our work at the SDG Cities event in Davos. Our partners from the WHO and WHIS have spotlighted our work at the World Urban Forum in Poland and several other high-profile events across the world.

This year we have also launched the International Social Prescribing Student Framework through a webinar with speakers representing 10 countries, including Singapore, Japan, USA and Australia.

Our ambition is to collaborate with international partners to continue building our global community. In the coming year, we aim to develop a global map of social prescribing across the world, as well as an online platform which includes an international membership to facilitate knowledge exchange and collaboration between our global partners.

Supporting the NHS workforce and infrastructure - Providing resources for Social Prescribing Link Workers.

We are proud to work closely with the Personalised Care team at NHS England and Improvement (NHSE&I) with a particular focus on workforce development and infrastructure.

In 2021/2022 NHSE&I commissioned us to develop a portfolio of evidence for link workers to demonstrate their skills and practice in line with the draft link worker competency framework. We recruited more than 60 link workers and supervisors across the seven regions to test and feedback on portfolio resources. The portfolio is now available as part of the NHSE&I workforce development framework for social prescribing.

We are keen to develop the support for link workers and we remain committed to working in collaboration with partners and stakeholders to continue this work.

We also developed a series of case studies and videos showcasing the work of link workers for NHSE&I, as well a detailed briefing on social prescribing models for children and young people.

We also contribute to a wide range of groups developing the infrastructure for social prescribing, including:
- NHSE&I Social Prescribing Workforce and Training Advisory Group
- Personalised Care Institute steering group
- Social Prescribing cross government taskforce.

Social prescribing champions

In partnership with NHSE&I we piloted and launched the Social Prescribing Champions programme, bringing together clinical and non-clinical NHS staff to promote social prescribing.

The programme was co-designed with support from policy makers and clinicians, individuals with lived experience, and community and voluntary sector organisations, and tested over four months, before being launched in March 2022.

With over 250 applications in March 2022, we have appointed 120 Social Prescribing Champions to date. They are a highly diversified group covering all regions in England and including receptionists, consultants, managers, nurses, pharmacists, occupational therapists, GPs and junior doctors.

To meet the aims of the programme and support newly appointed champions, we have worked with our partners to develop two support streams for champions to choose between, including a regular six-weekly community of practice and four-weekly workshops helping champions build key skills.

Building on previous years, we have supported the expansion of the Social Prescribing Student Champion scheme which now includes allied healthcare professional students as well as nursing and midwife students.

This year, we sponsored a total of 22 studentships, acknowledging medical and allied healthcare professional students at the forefront of championing social prescribing within their university and wider region. This national student committee has been able to appoint a total of 116 Student Champions, representing all medical schools in the UK and several universities delivering allied healthcare professional courses.

The students have delivered 97 presentations engaging with an estimated 6,540 healthcare students. In the five years since the establishment of the Social Prescribing Student Champion scheme there have been over 750 presentations at all medical schools in the country and we are proud to say that the subject is part of the core curriculum in most universities within England.

The success of the student scheme has expanded beyond England, with new student schemes being set up in Canada, Portugal, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Singapore, the USA, and Australia.

Evidence - Using evidence to advice policy and practice in social prescribing.

This year we brought together a unique and collaborative academic partnership to work with us to deliver our evidence aims. We asked people involved in social prescribing what evidence they wanted to understand better, and published our first six evidence summaries on those themes. We also published a set of shorter plain-English briefing versions.

We also established a new International Evidence Collaborative – a network for anyone with an interest in helping us to better understand, share and advance the evidence for social prescribing, both in the UK and globally. There are currently over 260 people from 12 Countries registered.

In an ambitious Evidence Programme, we have developed four strands:
- Identifying priority evidence needs for advancing policy and practice in social prescribing
- Sharing the existing evidence more effectively
- Encouraging collaboration in advancing the evidence base and addressing the gaps
- Providing an evidence service that helps NASP achieve all its aims.

National Leads

Our National Leads focus on specific aspects of social prescribing, including links with the natural environment, physical activity, arts and culture and heritage sectors. Their work has been instrumental in co-developing, testing and promoting social prescribing initiatives and the infrastructure needed to connect people to activities in their communities.

Highlights include the Green Social Prescribing Test and Learn pilots; Art by Post, which brought free creative art to thousands of people across the UK; developing the potential for connectors and buddies in the historic and natural environments; and the inception of More Than a Game, an initiative to develop better social prescribing pathways between Integrated Care Systems and community football trusts.

Towards the end of the year, we appointed a National Lead for Older People to develop social prescribing approaches to improve the health and wellbeing of this specific demographic. We also appointed a Head of National Partners to bring the national leads together as a team and better align the team’s collective work with that of our programmes.

Corporate affairs

During the financial year 21/22, NASP saw an increase in staffing from 12 to over 30 including key strategic roles such as a Director of Communications and Heads of our Thriving Community programme, Accelerating Innovation programme, Evidence programme and Global programme. We also appointed a Head of Link Worker Infrastructure and Workforce and expanded our Fundraising, Revenue Generation and Communications teams. Such an expansion not only reflected our growth but also marked a milestone in contracting staff as employees and completing our first payroll in Autumn 2021.

During this year we also expanded our Board with six new members joining – Dr Harry Brunjes, Patty Dimond, Gay Palmer, Brad Gudger, Chris Askew and Sarah Metcalfe. In addition to this, we have developed new subcommittees to ensure a further level of governance and risk mitigation. These committees were created to support NASP's governance as the charity continues to grow; we now have a Finance, Audit, Investment and Risk Committee chaired by Patty Dimond, and a Renumeration Committee chaired by Sarah Metcalfe. Both subcommittees are made up of Board members.

Continuing with the theme of Governance, we completed a major policy review this year in conjunction with our legal advisors Beachcrofts, which resulted in a comprehensive and robust Staff Handbook Policy being published. We are very proud of our working culture approach and being a truly 21st Century employer by supporting all staff to be "the best versions of themselves".

Another key milestone in 21/22 was moving into our Southbank Centre office on 11th November 2021 – a palpable outcome of our strategic partnership with Southbank Centre and a reflection of the social prescribing pillar around Arts and Culture. Finally, we commenced the scoping and delivery of a new CRM system which will ultimately support use to collate, analyse and use data in a more sophisticated and informed way.

Financial review

For the year ended 31 March 2022 the Charity received total income of £3,159,464 (17 month period to March 2021: £3,410,657) and incurred expenditure on charitable activities of £3,014,057 (17 month period to March 2021: £3,322,757) resulting in a surplus position for the year of £145,407 (17 month period to March 2021: £87,900). During the year the Charity received a grant of £3m from The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and has secured funding from DHSC of £3m for 2022/23.

At 31 March 2022 the Charity had cash of £618,498 (31 March 2021: £2,555,917) and Restricted funds of £233,307 (31 March 2021: £87,900). The higher cash resources of the Charity at 31 March 2021 of £2,555,917 was mainly due to unspent grant monies of £1,677,243 received from DHSC in 2019/20 that were treated as a payment on account of 2021/22 grant monies.

The cash resources of the Charity at 31 March 2022 include £101,283 of unspent DHSC grant monies that will be treated as a payment on account of the £3m grant for 2022/23.

Reserves policy

NASP's Reserves policy is designed to ensure financial stability for NASP as a registered charity with between 3-6 months of operational costs held in a designated Reserves Account which can only be used with Board authorisation.

NASP's main source of income continues to be grant funding from DHSC but one of its objectives over the next 2-3 years is to derive more income from other sources. The current funding agreement with DHSC means that any underspend of grant monies received from DHSC is carried over into the following year and offset against new grant funding monies due from DHSC.

Based on its current levels of expenditure NASP has set a minimum target of £350,000 to hold as reserves. In relation to income received during this financial year, the surplus of £145,407 arising during the year will be carried forward in reserves towards this £350,000 target.

NASP aims to transfer future surpluses into this Reserves Account until its minimum 'Reserve Target' has been met.

Risk management
NASP management regularly reviews the Risk Register on a bi-monthly basis and reports this to our Trustees and on a quarterly basis to the Finance, Audit, Investment and Risk Committee (FAIRCO). At present the main highlights are around diversifying our income streams and ensuring we have robust processes and staffing structures and levels to meet our programme requirements. As the Risk Register is reviewed across the Senior Management Team and Board every 8 weeks this ensures that the leadership team are very aware of the risk and related mitigations in daily business operations.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the impact or likelihood of occurrence of its major risks.

We will continue to deliver on our core 7 products as well starting to develop a strand of work around Link Workers and their needs. We are also looking to expand our global footprint alongside scoping our function as a grant giver.

Plans for future periods
Work has begun on the development of NASP's next strategy. Since our inception in 2019 we have worked quickly to establish and grow the organisation. As we transition out of this rapid growth phase we are thinking about where we want to be beyond 2023 and the outcomes we want to see for people and communities.

We are proposing a three-year strategy set against a ten-year horizon, which will drive better integration across our existing work programmes; consider the whole social prescribing system and our unique role within it and inspire our partners to work with us towards a shared longer-term vision for social prescribing.

We have developed five longer term goals which will shape our priorities and outcomes for 2023-2026:

- Raise the profile of how social prescribing changes lives and strengthens communities.
- Boost investment in community activities directly supporting people's health and wellbeing.
- Strengthen the whole social prescribing system to enable easier access to activities and information.
- Build the evidence so the best information shapes social prescribing policy, practice and research.
- Forge local, national & international partnerships to drive new ideas and approaches.

Structure, governance and management
The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The charity is governed by its memorandum and articles adopted on 25 February 2020 as amended by special resolution on 1 September 2020.

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

Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair	
Mr C R T Askew	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Mr J Badyal	
Dr H O Brunjes	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Ms P Dimond	(Appointed 11 November 2021)
Baroness T C D Grey-Thompson	
Mr B Gudger	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Ms P R Hitchcox	
Ms S Metcalfe	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Ms G A Palmer	(Appointed 13 May 2021)

The appointment of new trustees is performed through national advertising when the positions become available. Trustees are offered induction training when they first join allowing them to understand and connect to the business fully. Regular meetings with respective staff members take place with Board expertise in specific areas being utilised.

Alongside NASP's Remuneration Committee (REMCo), NASP' Remuneration Policy clearly states that the policy and any changes in remuneration must support NASP's vision, purpose and values. A robust process around renumeration changes (eg acting up allowance, additional responsibilities), is in place which involves sign off at both Senior Management Team and Trustee level with a yearly review of all salaries scheduled in Q4. Annual benchmarking of salaries and reviews of internal bandings are completed in Q4.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Charity is governed by the trustees with day-to-day activities managed by an operational committee which was headed by our Chief Executive Officer, James Sanderson. James Sanderson then stepped down as CEO in September 2022, after which Jim Burt and Sunita Pandya (existing members of SMT) took up the post a joint interim CEO. Charlotte Osborn-Forde will take up the permanent CEO post from April 2023.

Auditor

PKF Littlejohn LLP were appointed as first auditors to the company during 2020/21 by the Trustees. The Company is not required under its Articles to hold an Annual General Meeting. Accordingly, PKF Littlejohn LLP are re-appointed auditors to the Company.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

In preparing this report the trustees have taken advantage of the small company exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

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Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair

Trustee

Dated: 23 January 2023

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors of The National Academy for Social Prescribing for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of the National Academy for Social Prescribing (the 'charitable company') for the year ending 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities including Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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

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

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

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

Other information
The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the trustees' annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the strategic report and the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial period for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the charitable company and the sector in which it operates to identify laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a direct effect on the financial statements. We obtained our understanding in this regard through discussions with management, industry research and experience of the sector.
- We determined the principal laws and regulations relevant to the charitable company in this regard to be those arising from Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

- We designed our audit procedures to ensure the audit team considered whether there were any indications of non-compliance by the charitable company with those laws and regulations. These procedures included, but were not limited to, enquiries of management and review of minutes.
- We also identified the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud. We did not consider there to be any other area, in addition to the non-rebuttable presumption of a risk of fraud arising from management override of controls.
- As in all of our audits, we addressed the risk of fraud arising from management override of controls by performing audit procedures which included, but were not limited to: the testing of journals; reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alastair Duke (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP
Statutory Auditor

15 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
London E14 4HD

27 January 2023

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 17m period to March 2021 £
Income from:			
Grants	**3**	2,909,180	3,410,657
Charitable activities	**4**	250,284	-
Total income		3,159,464	3,410,657
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	**5**	3,014,057	3,322,757
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		145,407	87,900
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		87,900	-
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		233,307	87,900

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**10**		41,272		38,330
Current assets					
Debtors	**11**	394,855		80,061	
Cash at bank and in hand		618,498		2,555,917	
		1,013,353		2,635,978	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**12**	(821,318)		(2,586,408)	
Net current assets			192,035		49,570
Total assets less current liabilities			233,307		87,900
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**14**		233,307		87,900
Unrestricted funds			-		-
			233,307		87,900

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 23 January 2023.

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Prof Dame H J Stokes-Lampard - Chair
Trustee

Company Registration No. 12275770

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022		17m period to March 2021	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	**17**		(1,920,197)		2,596,264
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**10**	(17,222)		(40,347)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(17,222)		(40,347)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(1,937,419)		2,555,917
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			2,555,917		-
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			618,498		2,555,917

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The National Academy for Social Prescribing is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 8XX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including future cash flow forecasts and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

1.4 Income

Income from government grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure relating to charitable activities is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

Support costs include amounts incurred in respect of the running of the charity as an organisation, including general management, administration and the finance function. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 7.

Governance costs include staff costs incurred to support governance and legal and professional fees. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 7.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures and fittings	33% straight line per annum
Computer equipment	25% straight line per annum

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are measured at transactions price and are subsequently measured at their settlement value.

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

1.10 Retirement benefits

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

3 Grants

	2022	17m period to March 2021
	£	£
Grants receivable	2,909,180	3,410,657
Grants receivable for core activities		
Department of Health and Social Care	2,854,706	3,322,757
Sport England	42,675	87,900
Other	11,799	-
	2,909,180	3,410,657

4 Charitable activities

	Natural England	NHSEI	Other	Total	Total
	2022	2022	2022	2022	17m period to March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Services provided under contract	97,000	151,084	2,200	250,284	-

5 Charitable activities

	Promotion of social prescribing 2022	Thriving communities programme 2022	Sports England 2022	Total 2022	Promotion of social prescribing 17m period to March 2021	Thriving communities programme 17m period to March 2021	Total 17m period to March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	517,823	117,306	44,698	679,827	167,117	-	167,117
Other costs	499,547	546,818	-	1,046,365	432,306	1,942,894	2,375,200
	1,017,370	664,124	44,698	1,726,192	599,423	1,942,894	2,542,317
Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	230,000	-	-	230,000	468,000	-	468,000
Share of support costs (see note 7)	862,112	-	6,000	868,112	208,631	-	208,631
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	189,753	-	-	189,753	103,809	-	103,809
	2,299,235	664,124	50,698	3,014,057	1,379,863	1,942,894	3,322,757

6 Grants payable

	Promotion of social prescribing 2022	Promotion of social prescribing 17 month period to March 2021
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
World Health Innovation Summit CIC	90,000	90,000
The Utley Foundation - Music for Dementia 2020	-	100,000
Royal Voluntary Service	100,000	248,000
English National Opera	40,000	-
	230,000	438,000
Grants to individuals	-	30,000
	230,000	468,000

Grants made to individuals in the comparative period related to the NHS England Social Prescribing Student Champion Scheme.

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	17m period to March 2021	Basis of allocation
	£	£	£	£	
Staff costs	432,496	96,125	528,621	196,374	Time spent
Other costs	421,336	93,628	514,964	114,049	Direct
Depreciation and impairment	14,280	-	14,280	2,017	Direct
	868,112	189,753	1,057,865	312,440	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	868,112	189,753	1,057,865	312,440	

Governance costs includes fees to the auditors of £12,090 (17 month period to March 2021 - £8,000) (net of VAT) for audit fees.

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year. None of the trustees received any reimbursement for expenses.

9 Employees

Average number of employees for the year were 6 (17 month period to March 2021: 0).

Included within wages and salaries are employment costs associated with staff seconded to the charity from other organisations. The payroll for such staff remains with their substantive employer, therefore while the charity is liable for the costs of their employment, it does not pay social security or pension contributions to or on behalf of the seconded staff. The analysis below separates only the social security costs and pension contributions related to direct employees of the charity, with the full employment cost of seconded staff being included within wages and salaries.

	2022	17 month period to March 2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,160,087	363,491
Social security costs	37,840	-
Other pension costs	10,521	-
	1,208,448	363,491

No employees received employee benefits exceeding £60,000.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2021	-	40,347	40,347
Additions	6,215	11,007	17,222
At 31 March 2022	6,215	51,354	57,569
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2021	-	2,017	2,017
Depreciation charged in the year	532	13,748	14,280
At 31 March 2022	532	15,765	16,297
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2022	5,683	35,589	41,272
At 31 March 2021	-	38,330	38,330

11 Debtors

	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Trade debtors	288,424	-
Other debtors	3,190	-
Prepayments and accrued income	103,241	80,061
	394,855	80,061

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	**£**
Deferred income	**13**	198,694	1,677,243
Trade creditors		508,404	335,240
Other creditors		3,953	-
Accruals		110,267	573,925
		821,318	2,586,408

13 Deferred income

	2022	2021
	£	**£**
Arising from Department of Health and Social Care grant	145,668	1,677,243
Arising from other grants	53,026	-
	198,694	1,677,243

Deferred grant income relates to grants where the income has been received but it is to be used in future periods. All of the deferred income brought forward from the comparative period have been released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year to 31 March 2022.

14 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds			Movement in funds		
	Balance at 22 October 2019	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Department of Health and Social Care	-	3,322,757	(3,322,757)	-	2,851,330	(2,851,330)	-
Sport England	-	87,900	-	87,900	42,675	(51,117)	79,458
DEFRA	-	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
Independent Age	-	-	-	-	5,174	(5,174)	-
Natural England	-	-	-	-	97,000	(67,085)	29,915
NHSEI	-	-	-	-	151,084	(39,350)	111,734
Other	-	-	-	-	2,200	-	2,200
	-	3,410,657	(3,322,757)	87,900	3,159,463	(3,014,056)	233,307

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)
This grant is to support the continuation of the core work of the charity in 2021/22. Broadly, this funding is to increase the numbers of people able to access social prescribing, the range, availability and quality of community-based activities, and to support people to connect to these activities in order to improve people's health and wellbeing, in line with the charity's strategic plan.

Sport England
This grant is a multi-year funding agreement to support the charity's Physical Activity programme, including funding a National Lead for Physical Activity role within the charity. This funding is to support the Thriving Communities programme, in addition to the wider NASP/Sport England partnership.

DEFRA
This grant has been provided to support the charity's contribution to the Green Social Prescribing scheme.

Independent Age
This grant has been provided to support the charity's work promoting better outcomes for older people through social prescribing. The grant also funds a National Lead for Older People role within the charity.

Natural England
This grant is for a package of work to support Green Social Prescribing (Social Prescribing in Natural Environments) through the development and provision of evidence, sector engagement and best practice in Green Social Prescribing.

14 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

NHSEI
This funding is from commissioned work from NHSEI via Capita, to develop Link Worker resources, support social prescribing Champions, and to refresh and review guides and other resources, as well as a comms campaign.

Other
Other restricted funds include monies received from the Southbank Centre towards the Social Prescribing Show in March 2022, and monies relating to a speaking engagement at the Conservative Party Conference.

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2021
	£	£
Fund balances are represented by:		
Tangible assets	41,272	38,330
Current assets/(liabilities)	190,283	49,570
	231,555	87,900

16 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the period.

17 Cash generated from operations	**2022**	**2021**
	£	**£**
Surplus for the year	145,407	87,900
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	14,280	2,017
Movements in working capital:		
Increase in debtors	(314,794)	(80,061)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(286,541)	909,165
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(1,478,549)	1,677,243
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	(1,920,197)	2,596,264

18 **Analysis of changes in net funds**
The charity had no debt during the current or comparative periods.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191145

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1191145

Company Registration No. 12275770 (England and Wales)

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Baroness T C D Grey-Thompson	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
	Ms P R Hitchcox	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
	Mr J Badyal	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
	Prof H J Stokes-Lampard	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
	Mr C R T Askew	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Ms S Metcalfe	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Mr B Gudger	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Ms G A Palmer	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
	Dr H O Brunjes	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Charity number	1191145	
Company number	12275770	
Principal address	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Registered office	Southbank Centre Belvedere Road London SE1 8XX	
Auditor	PKF Littlejohn LLP 15 Westferry Circus London E14 4HD	
Solicitors	DAC Beachcroft LLP Portwall Place Portwall Lane Bristol BS1 9HS	

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

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THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

FOREWORD

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Just over a year ago, at the start of the financial period, we launched our first strategy, A Social Revolution In Wellbeing, setting out our ambitious agenda to help social prescribing thrive across the UK. A few days later we entered our first national 'lockdown' as a whole country, due of course to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The tumultuous past year has also clearly demonstrated the vital role social prescribing can play in supporting people to maintain their health and wellbeing, even in the most challenging of circumstances. Social prescribing has continued to provided hope and connection, and meaningful activities that have transformed lives and enabled people to achieve their health and wellbeing goals.

We are very pleased by what we have achieved during our first period of activity, articulated in this report. In August we were delighted to become the first registered charity in the world dedicated to the advancement of social prescribing. We have put together the organisational process and infrastructure needed to function, and made rapid progress on a number of major strategic programmes.

We launched our Thriving Communities Programme in October 2020, creating a vibrant network of partners, a learning together hub and regional representatives who have undertaken some truly amazing local work. Working in close partnership with Arts Council, Sport England, Natural England, the Money and Pensions Advisory Service, NHS England and Improvement, and Historic England, the programme seeks to to celebrate, champion and support the work of thriving community groups, to ensure they're able to unlock the potential of social prescribing.

In February 2021 we launched a ground breaking Academic Partners Collaborative, with the aim of improving the evidence basis for social prescribing and making existing evidence more accessible for those working in primary care.

We also worked with partners the World Health Innovation Summit (WHIS), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Global Sustainability Index Institute (UNSGII) to establish a Global Social Prescribing Alliance which aims to spread the word of social prescribing globally.

In March 2021, we celebrated Social Prescribing Day, which trended on Twitter, reaching over 12 million people. This amazing impact demonstrated the sheer power the social prescribing community can have when it comes together to raise awareness.

To mark the day, we also announced the outcome of our £1.8m Thriving Communities Fund, which will support 37 community projects with up to £50,000 to further advance social prescribing and support communities as they recover from COVID-19. We look forward to seeing how they come together to unlock the power of social prescribing in their local areas, and support their communities.

To get the message about the power of social prescribing, our new podcast, 'Podcast on Prescription' showcases the opportunities available through social prescribing through interviews with influential people. We're also supporting the Southbank Centre to support their brilliant 'Art by Post' initiative, reaching thousands of people – and we will be helping them tour this uplifting concept later this year.

None of this work would have been possible without the brilliant support of all of our partners and stakeholders. We are grateful to Government Ministers, and the Department for Health and Social Care, for their support us through our first year and to the individual people who have worked closely with us and partner organisations who have supported the delivery of our objectives. We are especially grateful to our fabulous team of staff, trustees and contractors for their tireless and resilient work in helping us get established during such a challenging time.

To all the link workers and others within the amazing and vibrant voluntary community faith and social enterprise sectors supporting social prescribing – thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all of your amazing work and commitment to enabling people to live their best life.

We look forward to continuing this further in the near future.

Chair
Dated: 14 July 2021

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2021. The charity was incorporated on 22 October 2019 and the trustees present their report and the financial statements for the first period, being from incorporation to 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities
The charity's objects are to advance the study and practice of social prescribing for the public benefit, in particular, but not exclusively, by:

1. Make some noise - raising the profile of social prescribing
In order to expand social prescribing, we need to get the message out there - that connecting people for wellbeing is vital for people and communities.

2. Find resources - develop innovative funding partnerships
We recognise the challenges faced by social prescribing link workers, the local voluntary, community, social enterprise and arts sector and will seek to improve resources to realise their social prescribing goals.

3. Build relationships - broker and build relationships across all sectors
Social prescribing relies on strong, mature relationships at national and local levels across multiple sectors.

4. Improve the evidence - shape and share the evidence base
There is already an evidence base for social prescribing, but it is not comprehensive. We need to build a consensus about what we know and don't know, improve accessibility and visibility of evidence.

5. Spread what works - promote learning on social prescribing
We will share what is good, what has been learnt and draw from multiple sources to ensure continued development of social prescribing.

Social prescribing is the practice of linking healthcare to community based activities to address individual and community mental and physical health and wellbeing.

Below are the 6 core projects for the charity. Each project strand has an SMT lead who reports regularly to the CEO and Board.

Academic Partners Collaborative
- Creating a library of resources
- Producing evidence summaries
- Identifying future research needs

Global Alliance
- Working with key partners
- Forming alliances, working with others, and sharing innovative approaches
- Aims to raise awareness of social prescribing

Innovation Accelerator
- Support programme
- Help national voluntary organisations spread their community activity offers across England

Social Prescribing Ambassadors
- Spread the word and demonstrate the benefits of social prescribing
- 20 high profile people, clinicians, social prescribing link workers, community representatives and inspiring individuals

Social Prescribing Clinical Champions

- Clinical champions across professionals
- Expanding network of student clinical champions
- Developing communities of practice and clinical resources

Thriving Communities

- Thriving Communities Fund
- National network, webinars and ideas hub
- Learning Together development programme

NASP works with key partners - such as Arts Council England, Historic England, Money and Pensions Service, Natural England, NHS Charities Together, NHS, Sport England, the Utley Foundation and the Royal Voluntary Service - to administrate and manage grants allowing greater reach and deeper engagement in relation to social prescribing. All grant making/giving partners are issued NASP's partnership agreement detailing key governance, project management and risk mitigation points. All grant making/giving strands of activity must be signed off at Board level too.

Through this work, we have been able to:

- broker multi-sector relationships including between health, local government, justice, arts and culture, environment and the outdoors, welfare, housing, legal debt and financial advice, and other sectors to maximise the profile of, and support for, social prescribing.
- explore and develop new models and sources of non-statutory and statutory funding for community-based activities and support greater collaboration between existing funding sources.
- continue to raise awareness of social prescribing with the public through the development of a compelling narrative; increasing demand for support which is additional to traditional NHS services and the building of stronger, more resilient communities.
- seek to promoting education, training and accreditation, such as publishing a music for dementia guide with Music For Dementia.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

In March 2020 we launched our first strategy, A Social Revolution In Wellbeing, setting out our hugely ambitious agenda to help social prescribing thrive across the UK. A few days later we entered our first national 'lockdown' as a whole country, due of course to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Therefore, the past year has not presented ideal circumstances to establish a dynamic new charity, with all of the inevitable challenges that major start-ups bring. Like most organisations, we have needed to adapt quickly to changing circumstances, and embrace innovative ways to achieve our objectives rather than simply pursue those envisaged when we started out.

The tumultuous past year has clearly demonstrated the vital role social prescribing can play in supporting people to maintain their health and wellbeing, even in the most challenging of circumstances. The impact that the disease itself and the lockdowns and restrictions has had on people and communities has also clarified the need to better equip individuals and society with the tools to face future challenges and to tackle health inequalities with greater urgency and focus.

We are very pleased by what we have achieved during our first year. We have recruited a brilliant staff team – without the opportunity to even meet in person. We have put together the organisational process and infrastructure needed to function, and made rapid progress on a number of major strategic programmes.

In August 2020 we were delighted to become the first registered charity in the world dedicated to the advancement of social prescribing.

We launched our Thriving Communities Programme in October 2020, creating a vibrant network of partners, a learning together hub and regional representatives who have undertaken some truly amazing local work. Working in close partnership with Arts Council, Sport England, Natural England, the Money and Pensions Advisory Service, NHS England and Improvement, and Historic England, we also launched our Thriving Communities Fund, which will see £1.8m worth of grants distributed to innovative local community programmes imminently.

In November 2020, we worked with ukactive and NHS England and Improvement to support a programme that will see the sports and leisure industry support our primary care networks with half a million hours of free sports and exercise provision for those in need.

We supported the Southbank Centre to support their brilliant 'Art by Post' initiative, reaching thousands of people – and we will be helping them tour this uplifting concept later in the year.

To get the message about the power of social prescribing, we've worked with high profile individuals to launch our new # OneGoodThing microcampaign, highlighting the power social prescribing activities can have on our wellbeing. Our new podcast, 'Podcast on Prescription' showcases the opportunities available through social prescribing through interviews with influential people – please do check out the first episodes featuring actor Tanya Franks and presenter David Lindo.

In February 2021 we launched a ground breaking Academic Partners Collaborative, with the aim of improving the evidence basis for social prescribing and making existing evidence more accessible for those working in primary care. We worked with partners the World Health Innovation Summit (WHIS), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Global Sustainability Index Institute (UNSGII) to establish a Global Social Prescribing Alliance which aims to spread the word of social prescribing globally, linking this to the implementation of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals.

We are so very fortunate to work with many amazing people who have continued to deliver social prescribing over the course of the past year to individuals and communities across the country. To all the link workers, health care staff, and people within the amazing and vibrant voluntary community faith and social enterprise sectors supporting social prescribing – thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all of your amazing work and commitment to enabling people to live their best life. We look forward to working with you all to take this even further in the near future.

Corporate affairs

The Academy grew at an accelerated rate during the financial period. From starting off with just a few members of seconded staff, we ended the period with over 20 team members across both secondments and freelancers. This mixed approach to engagements has allowed us to strengthen our partnership working where we have taken secondments from NHS England and Improvement, National England, Historic England, and Arts Council England. This element of our organisation will continue to grow further as we look to engage roles going forward by setting up our own payroll offering competitive employment opportunities as we seek to be a truly 21st century employer.

This first period has also seen us deliver on key infrastructure from IT provision, legal support and financial management. These partnerships with third party providers continues to develop as the business evolves and expands alongside ensuring robust processes and procedures are core to our corporate affairs function.

A real focus of our first period has also been around good governance. Due diligence in relation to signing off key policies has been crucial in developing partnership working for example with our three-year funding partnership with Sports England. Expanding our Board was also an objective for the period. We led an open recruitment for new Trustees, independently chaired by Dr. Michael Dixon, which led to an additional five trustees being appointed in Spring 2021.

Finally as the business grows, the Business Support and Corporate Affairs team has sought to deliver essential project management tools and processes to help manage the range of our products and deliverables.

Financial review

For the period ended 31 March 2021 the Charity received income from grants of £3,410,657 and incurred expenditure on charitable activities of £3,322,757 resulting in a surplus position for the period. During the period the Charity received a grant of £5m from The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and since 31 March 2021 has secured two further years of funding from DHSC of £3m for 2021/22 and £3m for 2022/23. The unspent monies of £1,677,243 on this grant that arose at 31 March 2021 have been deferred into 21/22 as a payment on account of funding to be received for 21/22 from DHSC.

Reserves policy

Whilst NASP's ambition is to have the equivalent of 3 months of operating costs as our free-reserves, the reality of NASP's funding agreement with DHSC means that any underspend within a financial year either is returned to DHSC or carried over into the following financial year. This ultimately means that NASP is now developing a Revenue Generation strategy and plans to increase the opportunity of earned income contributing to the free-reserves policy. This policy and plan will be reviewed at each Board Meeting.

Risk management

NASP management regularly reviews the Risk Register on a bi-monthly basis and reports this to our Trustees. At present the main highlights are around diversifying our income streams and ensuring we have robust processes and staffing structures and levels to meet our programme requirements. As the Risk Register is reviewed across the Senior Management Team and Board every 8 weeks this ensures that the leadership team are very aware of the risk and related mitigations in daily business operations.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the impact or likelihood of occurrence of its major risks.

We will continue to deliver on our core 6 products as well starting to develop a strand of work around Link Workers and their needs. We are also looking to expand our global footprint alongside scoping our function as a grant giver.

Plans for future periods

Academic Partners Collaborative

Having established a new Academic Partners Collaborative for social prescribing, we will work closely with NHS England and Improvement and other partners to start to share existing evidence more effectively, with focus on local systems and local communities.

In addition, now we understand the evidence priorities, the team will create authoritative and accessible evidence summaries to address the top priorities, which will be included in a new open-access evidence platform. This work will also identify a roadmap of future evidence gaps/ needs and recommendations.

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Health and the Natural Environment

In 2021-22, meetings will be held in summer, autumn and spring and will cover themes such as evidence, transforming delivery, and building resilience in local communities.

Green Social Prescribing programme

The £5.77m programme will run from April 2021 to May 2023. We will be continue to contribute and be a key member of the partnership which also includes NHS England and Improvement, Natural England, Public Health England, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Sport England.

Global Social Prescribing Alliance

Following the successful launch of the Global Social Prescribing Alliance, we want to establish a global working group and an online platform dedicated to the advancement of social prescribing through promotion, collaboration, and innovation. Using the recently published Social Prescribing Playbook, we aim to support leaders across the world to plan how they can work with community groups, voluntary organisations, and civic society to increase the number of community activities available including across physical activity, financial wellbeing, arts and culture, and nature.

The Alliance will serve as fertile ground for innovation, providing the opportunity to share learning and best practice in an international setting especially in a world operating beyond the pandemic. in 2021-2022, we will work with partners, including WHIS, the World Health Organisation and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Inclusion Index, to provide regular online learning events and create resources.

Social Prescribing Clinical Champions

The Social Prescribing Clinical Champions programme will launch in Autumn 2021, in collaboration with our partners. It will be open to all healthcare professionals regardless of seniority or year of training. We will be recruiting enthusiastic clinicians (including wider multidisciplinary team and allied healthcare professionals) with a passion for teaching others, for strengthening the ongoing momentum towards social prescribing.

Social Prescribing Champions

We will be supporting NHS England and Improvement and partners, working collaboratively to launch a Social Prescribing Champions programme across England.

This programme will encourage all clinicians and leaders who want to learn more and help their peers to understand the power of social prescribing. This programme will build on the successful Social Prescribing Student Champion movement which has developed hundreds of social prescribing champions in medical schools across the UK and throughout the world in Portugal and Australia.

And finally, we will continue to develop the Corporate Affairs strand of NASP which will range from implementing HR and governance policies to expanding our staff unit.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The charity is governed by its memorandum and articles adopted on 25 February 2020 as amended by special resolution on 1 September 2020.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the period and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Baroness T C D Grey-Thompson	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
Ms P R Hitchcox	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
Mr J Badyal	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
Prof H J Stokes-Lampard	(Appointed 22 October 2019)
Mr J Marron	(Appointed 22 October 2019 and resigned 18 December 2019)
Mr J Sanderson	(Appointed 22 October 2019 and resigned 18 December 2019)
Mr C R T Askew	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Ms S Metcalfe	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Mr B Gudger	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Ms G A Palmer	(Appointed 13 May 2021)
Dr H O Brunjes	(Appointed 13 May 2021)

The appointment of new trustees is performed through national advertising when the positions become available. Trustees are offered induction training when they first join allowing them to understand and connect to the business fully. Regular meetings with respective staff members take place with Board expertise in specific areas being utilised.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Charity is governed by the trustees with day to day activities managed by an operational committee which is headed by our Chief Executive Officer, James Sanderson.

Auditor

PKF Littlejohn LLP were appointed as auditor to the company and a resolution proposing that they be re-appointed will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

In preparing this report the trustees have taken advantage of the small company exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Prof H J Stokes-Lampard
Trustee
Dated: 14 July 2021

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees, who are also the directors of The National Academy for Social Prescribing for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the National Academy for Social Prescribing (the 'charitable company') for the period 22 October 2019 to 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities including Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the trustees' annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the strategic report and the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial period for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the charitable company and the sector in which it operates to identify laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a direct effect on the financial statements. We obtained our understanding in this regard through discussions with management, industry research and experience of the sector.
- We determined the principal laws and regulations relevant to the charitable company in this regard to be those arising from Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

- We designed our audit procedures to ensure the audit team considered whether there were any indications of non-compliance by the charitable company with those laws and regulations. These procedures included, but were not limited to, enquiries of management and review of minutes.
- We also identified the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud. We did not consider there to be any other area, in addition to the non-rebuttable presumption of a risk of fraud arising from management override of controls.
- As in all of our audits, we addressed the risk of fraud arising from management override of controls by performing audit procedures which included, but were not limited to: the testing of journals; reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alastair Duke (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP
Statutory Auditor

15 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
London E14 4HD

19 July 2021

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Restricted funds 2021 £
Income from:		
Grants	3	3,410,657
Expenditure on:		
Charitable activities	4	3,322,757
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		87,900
Fund balances at 22 October 2019		-
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		87,900

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9		38,330
Current assets			
Debtors	10	80,061	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,555,917	
		2,635,978	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,586,408)	
Net current assets			49,570
Total assets less current liabilities			87,900
Income funds			
Restricted funds			87,900
Unrestricted funds			-
			87,900

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 14 July 2021

Prof H J Stokes-Lampard
Trustee

Company Registration No. 12275770

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	**15**		2,596,264
Investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(40,347)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(40,347)
Net cash used in financing activities			-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			2,555,917
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period			-
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period			2,555,917

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The National Academy for Social Prescribing is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 8XX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

The charity was incorporated on 22 October 2019 and therefore these financial statements cover the 17 month period from the date of incorporation.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. The Trustees have considered relevant information, including the budget for the year to 31 March 2022, subsequent cash flow forecasts to 31 July 2022 and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment. Since the year end the charity has received confirmation of two further years of funding from the Department of Health and Social Care (£3m in 2021/22 and £3m in 2022/23).

The COVID-19 pandemic and economic shutdown has had a significant impact on the charity's operations but it has also created an even greater need for the charity. The trustees have performed a robust analysis of future cash flows taking into accounting the potential impact on the charity of various funding scenarios as well as the continued potential effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

1.4 Income

Income from government grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure relating to charitable activities is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

Support costs include amounts incurred in respect of the running of the charity as an organisation, including general management, administration and the finance function. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 6.

Governance costs include staff costs incurred to support governance and legal and professional fees. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 6.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Computer equipment	33% straight line per annum

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are measured at transactions price and are subsequently measured at their settlement value.

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

3 Grants

	2021 £
Grants receivable	3,410,657
Grants receivable for core activities	
Department of Health and Social Care	3,322,757
Sport England	87,900
	3,410,657

4 Charitable activities

	Promotion of social prescribing 2021 £	Thriving communities programme 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Staff costs	167,117	-	167,117
Other costs	432,306	1,942,894	2,375,200
	599,423	1,942,894	2,542,317
Grant funding of activities (see note 5)	468,000	-	468,000
Share of support costs (see note 6)	208,631	-	208,631
Share of governance costs (see note 6)	103,809	-	103,809
	1,379,863	1,942,894	3,322,757

5 Grants payable

	Promotion of social prescribing 2021 £
Grants to institutions:	
World Health Innovation Summit CIC	90,000
The Utley Foundation - Music for Dementia 2020	100,000
Royal Voluntary Service	248,000
	438,000
Grants to individuals	30,000
	468,000

Grants made to individuals relate to the NHS England Social Prescribing Student Champion Scheme.

6 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £	Basis of allocation
Staff costs	133,022	63,352	196,374	Time spent
Other costs	73,592	40,457	114,049	Direct
Depreciation and impairment	2,017	-	2,017	Direct
	208,631	103,809	312,440	
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	208,631	103,809	312,440	

Governance costs includes fees to the auditors of £8,000 (net of VAT) for audit fees.

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the period. None of the trustees received any reimbursement for expenses.

8 Employees

There were no employees during the period. Wages and salaries relate to those employment costs associated with employees seconded to the charity from other organisations.

	2021 £
Wages and salaries	363,491

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
Additions	40,347
At 31 March 2021	40,347
Depreciation and impairment	
Depreciation charged in the period	2,017
At 31 March 2021	2,017
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2021	38,330

10 Debtors

	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:	
Prepayments and accrued income	80,061

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2021 £
Deferred income	12	1,677,243
Trade creditors		335,240
Accruals		573,925
		2,586,408

12 Government grants

	2021 £
Arising from government grants	1,677,243

Deferred grant income relates to grants where the income has been received but it is to be used in future periods.

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds 2021 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:	
Tangible assets	38,330
Current assets/(liabilities)	49,570
	87,900

14 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the period.

15 Cash generated from operations

	2021 £
Surplus for the period	87,900
Adjustments for:	
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	2,017
Movements in working capital:	
Increase in debtors	(80,061)
Increase in creditors	909,165
Increase in deferred income	1,677,243
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	2,596,264

16 Analysis of changes in net funds/(debt)

The charity had no debt during the period.