

Create Strength Group CIO

Charity number 1193551

Annual Report and Financial Statements **for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021**



CREATE STRENGTH GROUP
RECOVERY SOLUTIONS



West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Create Strength Group CIO

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Create Strength Group CIO

Trustees' report for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates	Resigned
Gabriel Gert Frederick Stoltz	Chair		
Melva Burton	Vice chair		
Rosemary Anne Phillips	Secretary		
Wayne Redmond			Resigned June 2022
Craig Chambers			Resigned April 2022
Abi Fox			Resigned August 2021

Charity number 1193551 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

35 Salem Street,
Bradford
BD1 4QH

Bankers

Charities Aid Foundation
25 Kings Hill Ave
Kings Hill
West Malling ME19 4TA

Independent examiner

Simon Bostrom ACIE

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) foundation formed on 16 February 2021 and is governed by a constitution.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the by the trustees at a duly convened meeting.

Create Strength Group CIO

Trustees' report (continued) for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

- Provide services
- Provides advocacy/advice/information
- Sponsors or undertakes research

The charity's main activities

Create Strength Group provides support to chronic users of cannabis, spice and legal highs and their families. We host mutual aid support groups across West Yorkshire and online, where experience and advice are shared in a safe, non-judgemental, abstinence-based user led environment. The group's services also include training and research.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular

- 1 The provision of mutual aid group support and the distribution of information, guidance and assistance to those close to or with an interest in such addictions, their families and concerned others;
- 2 Delivering a series of local meetings to promote abstinence from drug use, share best practise and provide support information and advice;
- 3 Working with groups of a similar nature and exchange information, advice and knowledge with them, including cooperation with other voluntary bodies, charities, statutory and non-statutory organisations to achieve our objects;
- 4 Supporting social interaction / inclusion and awareness of; the reasons, symptoms and consequences of contemporary drug use, particularly regarding the three main specialist knowledge bases found within our membership; namely cannabis, spice and legal highs;
- 5 Promoting a range of transferable skills within our membership and the community, such as; employability skills, confidence and social skills, IT and media skills and responsibility and organisational skills. To encourage, develop and support the pursuit of education and training within our membership.

Achievements and performance

Milestones include:

- Exceeding the hosting of 1,000 support meetings since our formation
- Transforming from a constituted community group to a registered charity
- Increasing membership to 414
- Securing 2,355 instances of attendances in 2021
- Securing core funding to 2024
- Increasing income by 95%
- Consolidating our substance awareness training programme

In 2015 the percentage of our associates citing spice as their first drug of choice was 2%, this figure on 31 December 2021 stands at 11%.

As a group we have responded to this increase in demand by increasing our 1:1 provision for spice users (spice users typically do not respond well to group therapy treatments and require personalised interventions) and by continuing to promote our Unit 101 Cannabis and Spice Awareness training to front line workers.

Our tenancy at Bridge's headquarters at 35 Salem Street has seen increased referrals from the Bridge services that operate from this location, with spice interventions and consultation filling the majority of demand.

Create Strength Group CIO

Trustees' report (continued) for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021

Achievements and performance continued

The transition from a constituted community group to a registered charity and the securing of National Lottery Reaching Communities (NLRC) funding are two stand out milestones of the year. A third milestone was the appointment of a second staff member. The NLRC funding allowed us to employ a Project Assistant to help with the development and consolidation of our organisational evolution, doubling our workforce and strengthening our diversity. A fourth major milestone saw the occupation of office space at 29 Salem Street. This move allowed us a physical base to store, plan and manage our resources from in addition to hosting 1-to-1 support sessions.

2021 also saw the consolidation of our project based model. This year saw the successful completion of the National Lottery Covid 19 project (26 weeks £23,740) in addition to National Lottery variation funding (extending the project a further 8 weeks £5,480) We also delivered the ABCD C9 Project (1 week £500) and completed the CNET administered Mental Health Project (14 weeks £3,650). We are currently in the advanced planning stage of our Nitrous Oxide Project, funded by the Bradford Council Cleaner Streets Campaign (16 weeks £2,000) and will deliver our ABCD CP8 project in early 2022 (2 weeks £1032).

The decision to develop commercial training some years ago is beginning to reap rewards. Our unit 101 Cannabis and Spice Awareness course is proving particularly popular with front line workers throughout the Bradford district and beyond. Enquiries are at an all-time high with training income accounting for the majority of non-grant revenue.

With the exception of our walk and talk events, all our support meetings in 2021 were hosted on the zoom platform. Furthermore we ran 6 online training sessions and a number of 1-to-1 interventions. Zoom has now been established as a proven delivery tool for our organisation and moving forward into 2022 it is likely to be implemented further in meetings, hybrid working and interventions.

Social Media:

- We currently host a public Facebook Page which is managed by the Project Administrator and is designed to allow contact, information enquiries and networking outside of normal support hours.
- The Project Administrator also manages and maintains our Twitter account. We use this account to promote our meetings and to engage in conversations that are relevant to the group. There is a strict non-political policy associated with this account.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £16,619, including net receipts of £291 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £16,328 on restricted funds after transfers.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £291.

The charity does not have a reserves policy.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees on 24/10/2022

Gabriel GF Stoltz (Trustee)

Create Strength Group CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Create Strength Group CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom ACIE

24/10/2022

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Create Strength Group CIO

Receipts and payments account

for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Receipts				
Grants and donations	(2)	67	44,963	45,030
Training income		999	-	999
Other income		11	-	11
Transfer on incorporation		1,214	8,025	9,239
Total receipts		<u>2,291</u>	<u>52,988</u>	<u>55,279</u>
Payments				
Salaries NI and pensions		-	18,099	18,099
Freelance workers		2,000	4,000	6,000
Staff expenses		-	603	603
Project expenses		-	816	816
Volunteer expenses		-	1,955	1,955
Travel and accommodation		-	43	43
IT and software		-	2,076	2,076
Materials and resources		-	3,756	3,756
Food and refreshments		-	227	227
Advertising and publicity		-	2,029	2,029
Printing and stationery		-	84	84
Equipment		-	1,228	1,228
Subscriptions		-	264	264
Insurance		-	30	30
Phone		-	100	100
Meeting costs		-	1,202	1,202
Other services		-	63	63
Bank charges		-	85	85
Total payments		<u>2,000</u>	<u>36,660</u>	<u>38,660</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		291	16,328	16,619
Fund balances brought forward		-	-	-
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	<u>291</u>	<u>16,328</u>	<u>16,619</u>

Create Strength Group CIO
Statement of assets and liabilities
as at 31 December 2021

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £
Cash funds			
Cash at bank	291	16,328	16,619
Cash in hand	-	-	-
Total cash funds	<u>291</u>	<u>16,328</u>	<u>16,619</u>
Liabilities			£
Independent examination			480
PAYE and NI			1,722
Pensions			<u>1,050</u>
			<u>3,252</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 24/10/2022

Gabriel GF Stoltz (Trustee)

Create Strength Group CIO

Notes to the accounts

for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

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

Create Strength Group CIO

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year period 16 February 2021 to 31 December 2021

2 Grants and donations

	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF)	-	37,155	37,155
City of Bradford Met. Dist. Council (CBMDC)	-	6,275	6,275
Bradford VCS Alliance	-	1,533	1,533
Other donations	67	-	67
	<u>67</u>	<u>44,963</u>	<u>45,030</u>

3 Restricted funds

	Balance b/f £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
NLCF Development	-	8,025	8,025	-	-
NLCF Covid 19	-	5,480	5,174	-	306
NLCF Reaching Communities	-	31,675	19,000	-	12,675
CBMDC MH project	-	4,275	3,984	-	291
CBMDC Cleaner streets	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
BVCS Alliance	-	1,533	477	-	1,056
	<u>-</u>	<u>52,988</u>	<u>36,660</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,328</u>

Fund name

Purpose of restriction

NLCF Development	Developmental grant to enable the charity to plan and administer operational projects in preparation for an application to the Reaching Communities Fund.
NLCF Covid 19	To support delivery due to the extension of the lockdown.
NLCF Reaching Communities	Towards the ongoing Create Strength Foundation Project.
CBMDC MH project	Towards the costs of mental health workshops and social events.
CBMDC Cleaner streets	Towards the costs of the nitrous oxide project, litter picking and awareness raising.
BVCS Alliance	Towards the costs of taster sessions.

Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.