

Carers Together CIO
Appendix to Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

TRUSTEE INDUCTION AND TRAINING

Most prospective Trustees are already familiar with the work of the Charity, however, they are normally invited to attend a minimum of one Trustee Committee meeting as observers before agreeing to be co-opted to the committee and/or standing for election at the AGM.

All new Trustees are invited, encouraged and supported to attend a comprehensive induction programme. A Trustee Induction Pack is distributed to all new Trustees along with a copy of the Constitution and the Essential Trustee, a guide published by the Charity Commission. Feedback from new Trustees is sought and changes to the programme may be made in the light of that feedback.

ORGANISATION

The Board of Trustees meets five times a year and is responsible for the overall governance of the organisation. Decisions on the day-to-day operation of the Charity are taken by the Secretary and the Finance Sub-Committee, which meets two monthly.

The finance sub-committee carries out assessments of the financial position of the Charity and monitors its resources. Specific responsibilities of the Committee include the management of the assets and liabilities of the Charity, the agreement and monitoring of the annual budget, ensuring the charity meets high and consistent levels of quality and approving levels of delegation to the operational management.

The Trustees have delegated the day-to-day management of the operation to the Charity's Secretary. The Board receives a report quarterly from the Project Managers on operational matters and from the Treasurer on financial performance. Decisions with significant implications for the organisation are brought to the Board of Trustees.

These include:

- Organisational priorities;
- All matters of risk to the organisation - in particular resources and reputation;
- Significant organisational changes;
- Major initiatives;
- Policy formation and development;
- Appointment of senior posts.

The operation's structure is robust with a full complement of committed Trustees. An experienced team of Project Workers provides the drive and hands-on approach to implementing the organisation's vision to an exceptionally high standard.

INTERNAL CONTROL

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has appropriate systems of internal control across the entire organisation.

The Charity has set up a Quality Assurance Sub-Committee which meets at least twice a year and reports to the Board of Trustees. It is responsible for providing:

- Assurance to the Trustees that the Charity operates sound systems of internal control;
- Comfort and transparency to donors and beneficiaries that there are appropriate systems in place to ensure that the resources of the Charity are effectively allocated and utilised;
- An internal audit system, which conducts an ongoing programme of review, is being introduced as part of work towards Quality Mark;
- A strategic plan and an annual budget for approval by the Trustees;
- Regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variances from budgets, forecasts and performance indicators;
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties;

RISK

The Trustees have in place a formal risk management process to assess risks and implement risk management strategies. This process includes review by Trustees and other charity staff. The process identifies the types of risks the Charity faces, prioritises them in terms of likelihood of occurrence and potential impact and identifies the means of mitigating these risks. Risk management is embedded in the day-to-day processes of the Charity.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Trustees have complied with the duty set out in S.4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The Charity's primary object is to relieve the stresses experienced by carers, as defined in The Carers (Recognition and Services) Act 1995, of people with physical, mental, or sensory impairment or illness, particularly by representatives of voluntary organisations and statutory authorities within the area of benefit. It intends to achieve this aim by continuing the good work of its predecessor charity Carers Together in Hampshire.

Specific activities, which confirm the public benefit that the charity produces by its existence, are set out below, within the sub-heading Current Projects.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Involving Service Users and Carers - a core aim of Carers Together CIO

Involvement of carers is one of the main aims of Carers Together and is reflected in both overall strategy and specific project work. The involvement has several strands, which are constantly changing to reflect the changing needs of carers and to reflect current government policy and local initiatives, as follows: -

- Involving carers/service users at all levels and in all possible ways in Carers Together so that it remains an organisation run by carers for carers;
- Encouraging carers/service recipients at all levels and in all possible ways to work with statutory/voluntary organisations countywide and in each locality to ensure their voice is heard;
- Ensuring carers/service recipients are involved at all levels and in all possible ways in co-production on service changes/development to ensure carers' views are given effective voice;
- Involving carers/service recipients, at all levels and in all possible ways, in training and awareness of professionals, volunteers and members of the public;
- Involving carers/service recipients in different ways to ensure they have informed choice and giving support to ensure their wishes are taken into account.

Information, signposting and referral - a core project of Carers Together CIO

This project aims to provide accurate information and effective signposting for all carers/service recipients and professionals who contact the office.

- The organisation fully utilises the office premises at 9 Love Lane, Romsey, by making the premises available for use by other groups and organisations. It provides a carers support group, community wellbeing and information hub, an Internet Café, training sessions for carers and others, benefits advice and a dementia drop-in centre;
- The office in Romsey is open to the public from 9.30am to 1.30pm daily and is a source of information for informal carers, the people they care for and professionals;
- Staff and volunteers deal with members of the public who call in for general information. They support people and inform them about services that may be of assistance and refer them to services provided elsewhere;
- A regular e-news bulletin is an integral part of this process and is welcomed by both carers and professionals;
- A wide range of information is made available to carers including a person-centred information pack with information about services provided by Carers Together and other groups;

Carers Network - a core project of Carers Together CIO

This is a network of carers/carer-led groups from Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton who want to meet together to communicate, share news, views, ideas and good practice, link to other carers and groups, learn from each other and tap into the knowledge and information widely available but not always easy to access locally. It is involved in the development and support of the Hampshire Carers Partnership.

Hampshire Carers Partnership

This project, working with carers and partnership organisations across Hampshire, started in 2020. It continues to grow, with several sub-groups and implementation groups working to achieve the priorities identified by carers to improve services for carers.

Carers Computer Support- a core project of Carers Together CIO

This project, based in the Romsey area, provides support to carers and older people who wish to improve their internet and e-mail skills in a friendly informal atmosphere. It is supported by a member of staff and volunteers, who are available to help carers to access the web, provide initial training and ongoing telephone support, and also the set up and use of personal laptops and mobile phones. It also provides laptops on site for free use by carers and older people.

Website, E-mail Support and Social Media - a core project of Carers Together CIO

This project provides a comprehensive website for carers to use as well as a facility to ask questions and receive responses by email.

- This project is constantly adjusting to meet changing usage. New and existing users are encouraged to use the CT website for information and support and to link to the organisation by email.
- In order for carers to keep in contact with the charity, and with each other, we have also set up a page on Facebook. Other social media presence is being investigated.

Volunteers

The volunteer policy supports Carers Together to recruit volunteers to help the organisation with a wide range of tasks and services. This is currently funded from Carers Together core funds. A voluntary peer advocacy service is available.

Carers Together has a number of volunteers who support carers and carers groups. They are an invaluable asset to the organisation and make an enormous contribution. People with caring knowledge and experience may be invited to volunteer as Trustees. In order to "give something back" some volunteers work as peer experts to carers in the community. In total approximately 30 volunteers give their time to the organisation. Many staff also gave some of their free time to further the aims of the charity and to raise funds.

Carers Advocacy and Support - a core project of Carers Together CIO

Carers Advocacy and Support is the main support provided for carers across the county. Staff are based in Romsey but employed to work across the county. They provide a range of support services, including; advocacy, information, action planning, emergency planning, administration, training and awareness, and support to take a break. We have four Carers Centres based in our charity shops to provide support in those localities. New services develop in response to carer requests, consultations and joint project work.

Carers Together CIO works with a number of other partners in a Support Planning Service which supports people in receipt of direct payments and other self-funders. The partnership provides Direct Payments advice and support to carers and service users.

Carers Together offers a payroll service to those people who employ staff.

Carers Active Listening Line (CALL) - a core project of Carers Together CIO

This is a free phone service, developed and established in January 2005, available 365 days per year, from 10am - 8pm on Monday to Friday, and from 10.00am to 4.00pm at weekends and bank holidays. This is a volunteer staffed service, which provides a listening service for carers enabling them to offload stress. The listeners also access a wide range of information about support available for carers enabling them to signpost carers to appropriate services.

Training and Awareness Programme

This programme:-

- Provides staff, trustees and volunteers training to run awareness sessions, for carers across the county.
- Supports trustees and staff to deliver training and awareness to professionals.
- Provides training on carers issues to staff of other statutory and voluntary organisations.
- Provides end-of-life care-planning and preparation.
- Provides Parent-Carer information courses around the county to provide up-to-date information to parents of children and young people aged 14 years and over about transition from Children to Adult Services.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Carers Groups are run or supported successfully across Hampshire. Each group is unique and is led by the people who attend, so that the group can be a social occasion or a learning opportunity with a wide variety of topics and speakers. Carers have an opportunity to access a wider range of information and support, which they would not have previously known about.

Presentations within the community continue to be popular, with talks delivered to older people's groups, professionals, other groups and organisations.

The information, training and outreach services receive many new referrals each year and have done since 1998. The value of the service to carers is enormous and funding is continually being sought to ensure its continuation.

Training and educational sessions for carers are regular events and are well attended.

2024/25 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Provided quality information and a website to help carers to find information they need;
- Provided a successful planning and contingency planning service that continues to be developed and expanded;
- Maintained a database of useful information that continues to grow;
- Maintaining an increasing carer membership framework;
- Working successfully with Say it Once, taking forward coproduction, culture change and information sharing;
- Working successfully with Hampshire Neurological Alliance taking forward co-production, culture change and information sharing;
- Working as an alternative office for the Department of Work and Pensions supporting people to take up relevant benefits and to be made aware of changes to the benefit system.
- We were pleased to complete the carers grant programme that was such a positive project helping carers to meet their individual needs and are looking forward to doing it again in 2024/25.

THE IMPACT OF CARERS TOGETHER CIO

Through the provision of information and support, carers are better informed about how to obtain a diagnosis, treatment, medication, funding, benefits and available services.

Carers Together CIO works closely with health and social care commissioners and providers to raise issues that need addressing and, by doing this in partnership, is able to make a difference.

The Charity has supported the Hampshire Joint Carers Partnership since 2020 and this is being continued and is growing with excellent carer involvement and input from health, social care and voluntary sector colleagues.

Family carers are supported by others in a similar situation and this also helps to avoid isolation and a feeling of helplessness.

The CALL line is much appreciated by the carers and older people who use it.

The Take-a-Break service allows carers to take a break from caring, knowing the person they care for is being looked after. Through the provision of this Carers Support service, carers maintain a degree of independence and in many cases can continue caring. Their quality of life is enhanced by one-to-one association with a trained Support Worker, who encourages them to maintain hobbies and other enjoyable activities.

Carers Together CIO/Say It Once provide carers with a range of practical support including legal, financial and end of life caring.

Carers Groups and other cafes and drop-ins are a valuable resource and are a much needed support for carers.

The Carers Peer Advocacy service enables carers to access services and better understand the system.

Carers Together CIO is committed to raising the awareness of carers' needs and supporting carers to have a voice in the changing agenda of self-directed support and personalisation.

The website has continued to develop and receives a lot of good feedback from carers, older people and professionals.

Carers and the people they care for appreciate the support provided to assist them to find their way through the health and social care systems.

The end of life care project helps carers to be prepared for the end of the life of the person they care for and helps to ensure that there are more positive outcomes from the process.

The payroll service helps people to take up direct payments by assisting in their statutory obligations as employers.

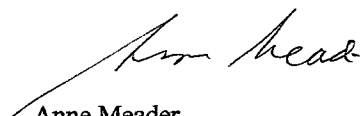
PRIORITY OBJECTIVES IN 2025/26

- To continue to provide advocacy, support and advice for carers.
- To continue to run training courses, including End of Life Care courses for carers.
- To support carers with Direct Payments and Personal Health Budgets, and to understand, run and manage their Direct Payments.
- To work with HIOW Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to provide support for carers and training for staff on carers issues.
- To expand the number and range of training and awareness opportunities for carers across Hampshire.
- To source ongoing funding for the Carers Active Listening Line.
- To produce a quality planning process for carers and older people that will make a difference to their long term plans and care.
- To work with older people and carers to increase the number who make personal plans and put in place legal plans for the future.
- To organise and work towards a high quality service across all projects.
- To ensure that Carers Together CIO services are understood and marketed by raising awareness of the organisation throughout the community.
- To establish a database for advertising publicity material and ensure timely distribution of information.
- To use social media including Facebook to reach carers who otherwise may be isolated and unrecognised.
- To produce imaginative and appropriate materials to maintain the image of and to promote Carers Together CIO.
- To work with the media to increase awareness, aiming for monthly press publicity.
- To organise and deliver a programme of public talks and presentations.
- To develop Carers Week activities and other national opportunities at major awareness raising events.
- To continue to develop our programme of activities across the area including improving end of life care.
- To continue to develop Say it Once and to influence culture change in health and social care.

- To continue to work with carers and older people to hear their voice and take forward actions and activities to improve their lives.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE - 2025/26 and beyond

- To secure long term funding arrangements for all our existing projects but in particular realistic levels of funding for single issue advocacy and carers counselling.
- To develop improved systems with the help of quality assurance experts to assist in developing the charity's procedures as part of the development of a quality process.
- To produce a service specification for carers cafes and other proposed activities.
- To monitor the demand and impact of personalisation and to make such changes to the organisation's systems that are necessary to secure maximum benefit to carers.
- To develop new services for carers based on identified gaps and needs. Including, for example, improved end of life care, better information and partnership working in localities using the Community Café Project and Community Wellbeing and Information Hub to support this.
- The Carers Together CIO Business Plan provides comprehensive details of the organisations aims and objectives.
- Developing the Hampshire Carers Partnership as an active coproduction group.
- Period of time required to re-establish income streams;
- Period of time required to downsize the Charity's operations;
- Whether there is adequate control over budgets;
- Requirement to maintain a reasonable level of working capital.



Anne Meader
Honorary Secretary

Date: 28th January 2026

Charity Number
1197548

Carers Together CIO

Report and Accounts

For the Year ended

31 March 2025

Munro's
Accountants & Business Advisors
Scots House
Scots Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP1 3TR

**Carers Together CIO
Charity Information**

Charity number

1197548

Registered office

9 Love Lane
Romsey
Hampshire
SO51 8DE

Trustees and members

Ms S Thomas
Mrs A Meader
Mr K Meader
Ms M Ward
Mrs S J Meader
Mr D W Crocker

Secretary

Mrs A Meader

Accountants

Munro's
Accountants & Business Advisors
Scots House
Scots Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire

Bank

Lloyds Bank Plc
The Square
Bishops Waltham
Hampshire
SO32 1GS

Carers Together CIO
Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The full review of the CIO's activities and future plans is set out in the Appendix to these accounts.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

Carers Together is a registered charitable organisation with a charity number 1197548. It was established on 18 January 2022 and registered with the Charity Commissioners at that time. It is governed under its constitution, which was adopted on the 18 January 2022. It took over the activities and functions of the Carers Together in Hampshire charity, charity number 1051879, which had been established in 1993.

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting. All Trustees relinquish their positions every year and are eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

Any carer or former carer may be elected to be a Trustee, excluding the paid members of staff of the organisation. It is our aim to have members from different areas of Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton, with a range of skills to enhance the work of the organisation. In the event of particular skills being lost due to retirement, individuals are approached and encouraged to offer themselves for election to the management committee.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES

The principal sources of funding for projects are the Carers Together charity shops and Hampshire County Council. Local organisations also continue to provide support. As previously reported the Charity, before switching to a CIO, had hived off its trading operations into a separate, wholly owned, company (Carers Together Trading Limited). It continues to receive significant donations from them, as shown in note 2.

During the 12 months under review the CIO saw total expenditure exceeding income by £34,775. General reserves, at £175,000 are, in the opinion of the trustees, adequate to allow for an orderly wind down of the charity should that become necessary.

It is intended to continue with the core services using some of the accumulated reserves transferred from the old charity, together the surpluses generated this year plus additional funds as they are generated through the 2025/26 year.

The charity aims to maintain a stable financial position at all times to avoid any risk to the organisation's solvency and with due consideration of the needs of current and future beneficiaries of the charity. It, therefore, retains reserves for the long-term benefit and protection of its beneficiaries. The general reserves created during previous years will cover any shortfall for the forthcoming year and will be utilised to continue the charity's core service provision in the future. Future expenditures out of reserves will be monitored closely by the trustees to ensure that steps are taken to protect core services should the need arise.

Risks and issues considered by the Finance Sub Committee in making its judgement about the levels of unrestricted reserves include:

- Over-dependence on any single source of income from external sources;
- Likelihood of a downturn in income streams;
- Period of time required to re-establish income streams;
- Period of time required to downsize the Charity's operations;
- Whether there is adequate control over budgets;
- Requirement to maintain a reasonable level of working capital.

Carers Together CIO
Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Law applicable to charities in England requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those accounts, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity, and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) 2008 Regulations and the provisions of the constitution deed. 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.

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO INDEPENDENT EXAMINER.

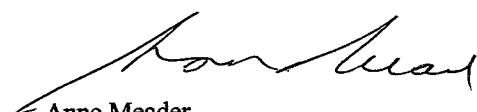
We, the trustees of the charity who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the company's reporting accountants are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as trustees in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Charity's reporting accountants are aware of that information.

REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS

Munro's were appointed as reporting accountants for the year 2024/25. They have indicated their willingness to continue in office for the forthcoming year.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Anne Meader
Honorary Secretary

Date:.....28th January 2026

Carers Together CIO

Independent examiners' report to the member of Carers Together CIO

We report on the accounts for the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024, set out on pages 5 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the independent examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under S144 Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied ourselves that the charity is not subject to an audit and is eligible for an independent examination, it is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under S145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under S145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners opinion

We conducted our examination in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales. An examination includes a detailed review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented to those accounting records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from your committee concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit and consequently we do not express an opinion as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view".

Independent Examiners Statement

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

- 1) Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with accounting requirements of the Act;have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



28.01.26

.....
Date

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Munro's
Accountants and Business Advisors
Scots House
Scots Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP1 3TR

Carers Together CIO**Statement of Financial Activities (including summary income and expenditure account)****For the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Funds 2025 £	Funds 2024 £
Incoming resources					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	77,639	69,773	147,412	163,576
Charitable activities	3	29,368	-	29,368	32,499
Investment income	4	1,351	-	1,351	883
Total		108,358	69,773	178,131	196,958
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	38,099	-	38,099	39,547
Charitable activities	6	79,285	66,859	146,144	134,527
Total		117,384	66,859	184,243	174,074
Net income (expenditure)		(9,026)	2,914	(6,112)	22,884
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(9,026)	2,914	(6,112)	22,884
Balances brought in from Charity		212,689	31,858	244,547	221,663
Balance carried forward		203,663	34,772	238,435	244,547

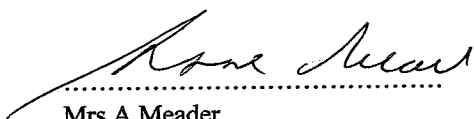
All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

Carers Together CIO
Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		3,505		1,848
Current assets					
Debtors	9	50,788		67,342	
Cash at bank and in hand		212,733		184,340	
		<u>263,521</u>		<u>251,682</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(28,591)		(8,983)	
Net current assets			<u>234,930</u>		<u>242,699</u>
Net assets			<u>238,435</u>		<u>244,547</u>
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted	11		203,663		212,689
Restricted	12		34,772		31,858
			<u>238,435</u>		<u>244,547</u>

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the FRS 102 published in 2015.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:-



 Mrs A Meader
 Honorary Secretary

Date: 28th January 2026

Carers Together CIO
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in 2015, and the Charities Act 2011.

Incoming resources

Incoming resources are accounted for on a receivable basis. Where specific grants and donations are received in respect of projects that require known expenditure to be incurred over more than one accounting period the proportion that remains unspent is carried forward as a creditor in the accounts. Where restricted fund amounts are received to cover an extended period of service provision but the expenditure timing and amount are not quantified such sums are carried forward in restricted reserves. Under the terms of various contracts to provide services, the funding organisations provide a grant in respect of the future provision of the service and, in addition, reimburse the charity for staff and other services provided in support of those services against invoices provided by the charity in arrears. The reimbursement of such costs is shown as part of the unrestricted income as fees receivable. In addition where it is agreed that the service is being provided by members of the charity as volunteers an amount equating to the value of the volunteers time and support costs is invoiced as a separate fee and is treated as an unrestricted resource.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is analysed into such categories so as to enable the user to gain an insight into the activities undertaken by the charity and the expenditure allocated to these in relation to the benefit they provide.

Costs of generating voluntary income include the costs of providing the offices in Romsey which, as well as providing a base from which the various core projects of the organisation are based, also provides income streams, from the rental of its meeting rooms, facilities and sub-offices.

Charitable activities costs include the costs of providing and staffing the charity's offices in Southampton and its outreach centres. Such costs include all premises costs, stationery, telephone and incidental costs of providing those facilities. It also includes all staff costs relating to the provision of services.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are those assets purchased and owned by the charity for its own use or for onward loan to service users. The assets are shown in the charity's balance sheet at cost less any accumulated depreciation. Fully depreciated assets are written out of the accounts in the year after they become fully depreciated.

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated

Office equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor Vehicles	25% straight line

Volunteers costs

The charity provides a number of its services with the help of volunteers who provide their services free of charge, other than for the reimbursement of incidental direct costs incurred. Expenses are reimbursed at the same rates as apply to employees of the organisation.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are those grants and other income received or generated for the objectives of the charity without a specified purpose and can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Carers Together CIO
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2025

2	Donations, grants and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Local authority grants	8,750	69,773	78,523	65,863
	Other grants	-	-	-	-
	Donations - charity shops	66,350	-	66,350	96,950
	Donations - Other	2,539	-	2,539	763
		<u>77,639</u>	<u>69,773</u>	<u>147,412</u>	<u>163,576</u>
3	Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Rents and other services provided	6,076	-	6,076	6,714
	Pacs contract income	7,248	-	7,248	9,332
	Client fees	16,044	-	16,044	16,453
		<u>29,368</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,368</u>	<u>32,499</u>
4	Investment income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Bank interest received	1,351	-	1,351	883
		<u>1,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,351</u>	<u>883</u>
5	Costs of raising funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Head Office costs	38,099	-	38,099	39,547
		<u>38,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,099</u>	<u>39,547</u>
6	Cost of charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Information and advice	468	-	468	-
	Project staffing and on costs	45,813	22,894	68,707	74,084
	Project support costs	29,928	43,965	73,893	55,356
	Depreciation	1,075	-	1,075	3,529
	Grants disbursed	-	-	-	-
	Accountancy	2,001	-	2,001	1,558
	Other professional fees	-	-	-	-
		<u>79,285</u>	<u>66,859</u>	<u>146,144</u>	<u>134,527</u>

Carers Together CIO
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2025

7 Employment costs	2025	2024
(included in Project staffing and on costs)	£	£
Staff Salaries	67,382	72,624
Employers National Insurance costs	-	-
Employers pension costs	1,325	1,310
Recruitment	-	150
	<u>68,707</u>	<u>74,084</u>

The average number of employees during the year and their full time equivalents was as follows: -

	2025	2024
Total staff	16	16
Full time equivalent	4	4

No member of staff was paid more than £60,000

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Property improvement	Motor vehicle	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	-	29,982	55,482	85,464
Additions	-	-	2,732	2,732
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>29,982</u>	<u>58,214</u>	<u>88,196</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	-	29,982	53,634	83,616
Charge for the year	-	-	1,075	1,075
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>29,982</u>	<u>54,709</u>	<u>84,691</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,505</u>	<u>3,505</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,848</u>	<u>1,848</u>

9 Debtors	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	510	3,131
Amounts owed by group undertakings and undertakings in which the company has a participating interest	18,402	18,303
Prepayments & accrued income	30,000	45,908
Other debtors	1,876	-
	<u>50,788</u>	<u>67,342</u>

Carers Together CIO
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2025

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	967	1,023
Other taxes and social security costs	-	721
Accruals	3,972	2,239
Other creditors	23,652	5,000
	<u>28,591</u>	<u>8,983</u>

11 Unrestricted funds	Brought in from Charity	Income	Expenditure	Balance as at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Charitable funds - Undesignated	212,689	108,358	(117,384)	203,663
	<u>212,689</u>	<u>108,358</u>	<u>(117,384)</u>	<u>203,663</u>

12 Restricted funds	Brought in from charity	Income	Expenditure	Balance as at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Restricted income sources	31,858	69,773	(66,859)	34,772
	<u>31,858</u>	<u>69,773</u>	<u>(66,859)</u>	<u>34,772</u>

13 Allocation of Funds	Restricted	Unrestricted
	£	£
The funds of the organisation are represented as follows: -		
Fixed assets	-	3,505
Net current assets	34,772	200,158
	<u>34,772</u>	<u>203,663</u>

14 Transactions with the trustees

No trustees received reimbursement of expenses during the year and the aggregate amount of expenses reimbursed amounted to £nil. No trustee was paid any remuneration in either this or the previous year. During the year no trustees were in receipt of honoraria.

Charity Number
1197548

Carers Together CIO

Report and Accounts

For the Year ended

31 March 2025

Munro's
Accountants & Business Advisors
Scots House
Scots Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP1 3TR

**Carers Together CIO
Charity Information**

Charity number

1197548

Registered office

9 Love Lane
Romsey
Hampshire
SO51 8DE

Trustees and members

Ms S Thomas
Mrs A Meader
Mr K Meader
Ms M Ward
Mrs S J Meader
Mr D W Crocker

Secretary

Mrs A Meader

Accountants

Munro's
Accountants & Business Advisors
Scots House
Scots Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire

Bank

Lloyds Bank Plc
The Square
Bishops Waltham
Hampshire
SO32 1GS

Carers Together CIO
Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The full review of the CIO's activities and future plans is set out in the Appendix to these accounts.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

Carers Together is a registered charitable organisation with a charity number 1197548. It was established on 18 January 2022 and registered with the Charity Commissioners at that time. It is governed under its constitution, which was adopted on the 18 January 2022. It took over the activities and functions of the Carers Together in Hampshire charity, charity number 1051879, which had been established in 1993.

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting. All Trustees relinquish their positions every year and are eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

Any carer or former carer may be elected to be a Trustee, excluding the paid members of staff of the organisation. It is our aim to have members from different areas of Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton, with a range of skills to enhance the work of the organisation. In the event of particular skills being lost due to retirement, individuals are approached and encouraged to offer themselves for election to the management committee.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES

The principal sources of funding for projects are the Carers Together charity shops and Hampshire County Council. Local organisations also continue to provide support. As previously reported the Charity, before switching to a CIO, had hived off its trading operations into a separate, wholly owned, company (Carers Together Trading Limited). It continues to receive significant donations from them, as shown in note 2.

During the 12 months under review the CIO saw total expenditure exceeding income by £34,775. General reserves, at £175,000 are, in the opinion of the trustees, adequate to allow for an orderly wind down of the charity should that become necessary.

It is intended to continue with the core services using some of the accumulated reserves transferred from the old charity, together the surpluses generated this year plus additional funds as they are generated through the 2025/26 year.

The charity aims to maintain a stable financial position at all times to avoid any risk to the organisation's solvency and with due consideration of the needs of current and future beneficiaries of the charity. It, therefore, retains reserves for the long-term benefit and protection of its beneficiaries. The general reserves created during previous years will cover any shortfall for the forthcoming year and will be utilised to continue the charity's core service provision in the future. Future expenditures out of reserves will be monitored closely by the trustees to ensure that steps are taken to protect core services should the need arise.

Risks and issues considered by the Finance Sub Committee in making its judgement about the levels of unrestricted reserves include:

- Over-dependence on any single source of income from external sources;
- Likelihood of a downturn in income streams;
- Period of time required to re-establish income streams;
- Period of time required to downsize the Charity's operations;
- Whether there is adequate control over budgets;
- Requirement to maintain a reasonable level of working capital.

Carers Together CIO
Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Law applicable to charities in England requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those accounts, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity, and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) 2008 Regulations and the provisions of the constitution deed. 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.

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO INDEPENDENT EXAMINER.

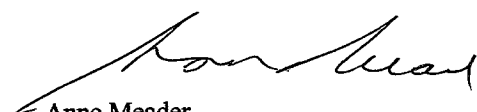
We, the trustees of the charity who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the company's reporting accountants are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as trustees in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Charity's reporting accountants are aware of that information.

REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS

Munro's were appointed as reporting accountants for the year 2024/25. They have indicated their willingness to continue in office for the forthcoming year.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Anne Meader
Honorary Secretary

Date:.....28th January 2026

Carers Together CIO

Independent examiners' report to the member of Carers Together CIO

We report on the accounts for the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024, set out on pages 5 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the independent examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under S144 Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied ourselves that the charity is not subject to an audit and is eligible for an independent examination, it is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under S145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under S145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners opinion

We conducted our examination in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales. An examination includes a detailed review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented to those accounting records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from your committee concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit and consequently we do not express an opinion as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view".

Independent Examiners Statement

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

- 1) Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with accounting requirements of the Act;have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



28.01.26

.....
Date

.....
Munro's
Accountants and Business Advisors
Scots House
Scots Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP1 3TR

Carers Together CIO**Statement of Financial Activities (including summary income and expenditure account)****For the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Funds 2025 £	Funds 2024 £
Incoming resources					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	77,639	69,773	147,412	163,576
Charitable activities	3	29,368	-	29,368	32,499
Investment income	4	1,351	-	1,351	883
Total		108,358	69,773	178,131	196,958
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	38,099	-	38,099	39,547
Charitable activities	6	79,285	66,859	146,144	134,527
Total		117,384	66,859	184,243	174,074
Net income (expenditure)		(9,026)	2,914	(6,112)	22,884
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(9,026)	2,914	(6,112)	22,884
Balances brought in from Charity		212,689	31,858	244,547	221,663
Balance carried forward		203,663	34,772	238,435	244,547

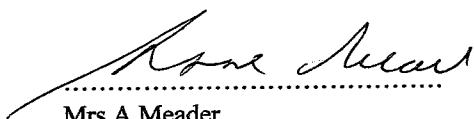
All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

Carers Together CIO
Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		3,505		1,848
Current assets					
Debtors	9	50,788		67,342	
Cash at bank and in hand		212,733		184,340	
		<u>263,521</u>		<u>251,682</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(28,591)		(8,983)	
Net current assets			<u>234,930</u>		<u>242,699</u>
Net assets			<u>238,435</u>		<u>244,547</u>
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted	11		203,663		212,689
Restricted	12		34,772		31,858
			<u>238,435</u>		<u>244,547</u>

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the FRS 102 published in 2015.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:-



 Mrs A Meader
 Honorary Secretary

Date: 28th January 2026

Carers Together CIO
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in 2015, and the Charities Act 2011.

Incoming resources

Incoming resources are accounted for on a receivable basis. Where specific grants and donations are received in respect of projects that require known expenditure to be incurred over more than one accounting period the proportion that remains unspent is carried forward as a creditor in the accounts. Where restricted fund amounts are received to cover an extended period of service provision but the expenditure timing and amount are not quantified such sums are carried forward in restricted reserves. Under the terms of various contracts to provide services, the funding organisations provide a grant in respect of the future provision of the service and, in addition, reimburse the charity for staff and other services provided in support of those services against invoices provided by the charity in arrears. The reimbursement of such costs is shown as part of the unrestricted income as fees receivable. In addition where it is agreed that the service is being provided by members of the charity as volunteers an amount equating to the value of the volunteers time and support costs is invoiced as a separate fee and is treated as an unrestricted resource.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is analysed into such categories so as to enable the user to gain an insight into the activities undertaken by the charity and the expenditure allocated to these in relation to the benefit they provide.

Costs of generating voluntary income include the costs of providing the offices in Romsey which, as well as providing a base from which the various core projects of the organisation are based, also provides income streams, from the rental of its meeting rooms, facilities and sub-offices.

Charitable activities costs include the costs of providing and staffing the charity's offices in Southampton and its outreach centres. Such costs include all premises costs, stationery, telephone and incidental costs of providing those facilities. It also includes all staff costs relating to the provision of services.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are those assets purchased and owned by the charity for its own use or for onward loan to service users. The assets are shown in the charity's balance sheet at cost less any accumulated depreciation. Fully depreciated assets are written out of the accounts in the year after they become fully depreciated.

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated

Office equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor Vehicles	25% straight line

Volunteers costs

The charity provides a number of its services with the help of volunteers who provide their services free of charge, other than for the reimbursement of incidental direct costs incurred. Expenses are reimbursed at the same rates as apply to employees of the organisation.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are those grants and other income received or generated for the objectives of the charity without a specified purpose and can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Carers Together CIO
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2025

2	Donations, grants and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Local authority grants	8,750	69,773	78,523	65,863
	Other grants	-	-	-	-
	Donations - charity shops	66,350	-	66,350	96,950
	Donations - Other	2,539	-	2,539	763
		<u>77,639</u>	<u>69,773</u>	<u>147,412</u>	<u>163,576</u>
3	Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Rents and other services provided	6,076	-	6,076	6,714
	Pacs contract income	7,248	-	7,248	9,332
	Client fees	16,044	-	16,044	16,453
		<u>29,368</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,368</u>	<u>32,499</u>
4	Investment income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Bank interest received	1,351	-	1,351	883
		<u>1,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,351</u>	<u>883</u>
5	Costs of raising funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Head Office costs	38,099	-	38,099	39,547
		<u>38,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,099</u>	<u>39,547</u>
6	Cost of charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Information and advice	468	-	468	-
	Project staffing and on costs	45,813	22,894	68,707	74,084
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Carers Together CIO
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No member of staff was paid more than £60,000

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	Property improvement	Motor vehicle	Equipment	Total
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At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>29,982</u>	<u>54,709</u>	<u>84,691</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,505</u>	<u>3,505</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,848</u>	<u>1,848</u>

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Other debtors	1,876	-
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Carers Together CIO
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The funds of the organisation are represented as follows: -		
Fixed assets	-	3,505
Net current assets	34,772	200,158
	<u>34,772</u>	<u>203,663</u>

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