



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/09/2024 Period start date to 31/08/2025 Period end date

Charity name: Alsager Community Support

Charity registration number: 1200173

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The objects of Alsager Community Support are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage in the town of Alsager and the surrounding area through the provision of practical help, support, information and advice.2. The prevention or relief of poverty in Alsager and the surrounding area by providing items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Alsager Community Support offers the following support to the community in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A 'drop in' centre where visitors can obtain information about a range of issues and/or can be signposted to appropriate help• Confidential appointments in which guidance can be given on financial matters• A school uniform and shoe recycling scheme• Lost and found point of contact• A transport scheme which offers older people lifts to and from a local Lunch Club and to and from medical appointments• A Befriending scheme to support people in isolation• A Shopper scheme to support people who are unable to get out• A Helping Hands service that helps people with small DIY projects

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home From Hospital scheme, providing short term support to those who have recently been discharged from a hospital stay providing practical help to prevent remissions. • Annual toy appeal, giving gifts to children whose families cannot afford them. • ACS also works in partnership with other agencies. For example, Cheshire East Local Authority –Plus Dane Housing – support for Plus Dane tenants when needed.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have taken cognisance of the guidance issued by the Charities Commission and are confident that all of the charity's work is for the public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<p>The charity does not operate a grant-making programme. Funding received through grants is used to directly deliver services in line with the charity's charitable objectives. All grant income is applied to the delivery, development, and sustainability of services that support our beneficiaries and local community.</p> <p>Decisions relating to the use of grant funding are overseen by the trustees to ensure funds are used appropriately, responsibly, and in accordance with funder requirements.</p>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>At the end of the reporting year, the charity had 86 active volunteers contributing in four principal areas of activity. These are described in the summary of main achievements section.</p> <p>We would like to say a huge and sincere 'Thank You' to all our hard-working volunteers, most of whom have been with us for many years, and without whom our work would not be possible</p>

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>2023/24 was a year of big change and this year has been one of consolidation. Our staff and volunteers have worked hard to help our community. The following indicates the numbers of people we have helped:</p> <p>Enquiries: 3200+ contacts p.a. People contacted ACS by phone, email or by coming into our premises. Our volunteers deal with a very wide range of queries. Descriptions of our services which have significant footfall follow:</p> <p>Financial Guidance: 100+ contacts p.a. Our volunteers in this area have previous experience from their work for Citizens Advice. Clients who need advice as opposed to guidance are referred to appropriately qualified agencies. Most clients have wanted help with personal budgeting and applications for benefits such as Pension Credit.</p> <p>School Uniform Recycling: 600+ families p.a. We estimate that this scheme has benefitted over 700 school pupils during the year. Parents can bring their children to ACS premises to try different items. If they can, we ask each parent to make a small donation towards our costs. This scheme encourages parents to recycle items in good condition and is a significant help to families who are struggling financially. Over 450 items of clothing were donated last year.</p> <p>Transport – Medical Trips: 110+ p.a. Our volunteer drivers have taken over 130 individuals to hospital and doctor appointments. Hospital appointments can take several hours but our volunteers wait for the client and return them home.</p> <p>Transport – Lunch Club: 1400+ p.a. The local Lunch Club is held every Tuesday and Thursday in the Civic building. The average age of the diners is 86 and, understandably, many of them cannot get to the Club under their own steam. Ten volunteers collect and return 3 diners, meaning that 30+diners are transported to this social occasion each week. Over the year, that's around 1200 passenger return</p>

journeys.

Befriending / Shopping: 25+

We've seen our befriending provision grow steadily — from supporting around 15 people each month to now reaching 28. Our volunteers provide invaluable support to those in our community who may feel socially isolated, offering companionship and practical help. Our befrienders take time out of their week to provide one-on-one support—whether it's taking someone shopping, sitting down for a chat and a cup of tea, going for a walk or simply being there to listen.

Shoppers help a wide range of people who, for whatever reason, are unable to get to the shops. Sometimes the shopper takes the client with them, but most shoppers do a 'top up shop' once a week. 3 people regularly benefit from shopping support each week.

Home from Hospital project: 30+

This new project supports recently discharged patients with everyday tasks to encourage independence and reduce the risk of readmission back to hospital. So far, a team of 8 dedicated volunteers has successfully supported over 30 individuals through this project.

Lost property 70+:

ACS serves as the primary lost property contact for the local town and has successfully reunited over 70 items with their owners within the past year.

Partnership Collaboration

Cheshire East Local Authority:

ACS continues to strengthen their relationship with Cheshire East, regularly attending connected community meetings to establish trends in the local area, highlight areas of need and how ACS can help to work alongside Cheshire East to support local residents.

Plus Dane (CE Housing Association):

We highlight Plus Dane customers who come to the centre looking for help. As a part of our service, we are able to signpost them to Plus Dane for additional assistance that Plus Dane is able to give its clients.

Disability Information Bureau:

DIB (Disability Information Bureau) hosts weekly drop-in sessions at ACS, providing support and empowerment to disabled

		<p>individuals, those with long-term conditions, vulnerable adults and carers to improve their quality of life and wellbeing. During these sessions, ACS also assists by signposting individuals to DIB services.</p> <p>Cheshire Connect: We collaborate with partner charities and connect with skilled volunteers who can offer relevant expertise to support local organisations. This initiative allows charities valuable opportunities to network and fosters greater collaboration within our community.</p> <p>Local GP surgeries We receive referrals from local the GP surgeries who work closely with ACS, referring individuals who they feel would benefit from support through the Home from Hospital scheme and into our other provisions.</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity held £106,593 in total at the year end, £72,030 of which was in restricted funds.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The trustees have a policy to hold 3 months' outgoings in reserve.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£ 34,563
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The charity successfully submitted a bid to the National Lottery. This was to appoint a full-time manager, a part time volunteer coordinator and a part time administrator. The funding is for five years (until Dec 2028) so there is a concern about funding after that. We also have a project development officer funded through local authority funding, this is short-term funding.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The charity's main source of funding came from the application for grants from various bodies, e.g. Cheshire East. Small sums were also raised by charitable donations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	None
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Difficulty in obtaining sufficient income to cover running costs – rent, energy, office expenditure. Increasing donations to cover running costs is a major focus for 2025/26.
Other		

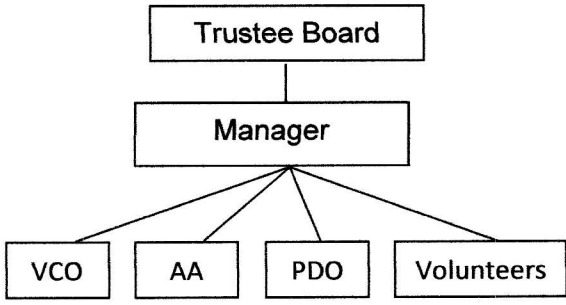
Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	The charity's memorandum and articles of association are based on a template taken from the Charities Commission web site.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Alsager Community Support is a CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more	Para 1.25	Trustees are largely recruited from our team of volunteers. Some trustees have been recruited based on their expertise: for example, the current chairperson worked with the NHS and the Care sector. She brings much experience relevant to our

trustees		clients' needs. There are no constitutional provisions regarding the appointment of trustees.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	We have a trustee induction pack. The trustees are offered training and can ask for a 'buddy'
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	 <pre> graph TD TB[Trustee Board] --> M[Manager] M --> VCO[VCO] M --> AA[AA] M --> PDO[PDO] M --> V[Volunteers] </pre> <p>VCO – Volunteer Coordinator AA – Administrative Assistant PDO – Project Development Officer</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Partnership working with: Cheshire East Council Plus Dane Housing Disability Information Bureau Fedcap Age UK Foodbank
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Alsager Community Support
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1200173
Charity's principal address	The Pinkney Centre 19-21 Crewe Rd Alsager Stoke on Trent ST7 2EW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity			
Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Lynne Gammon	Chairperson		
David Black	Vice-Chairperson		
Sarah Fidal	Treasurer		
Jayashri Lowe			
David Fidal			
Jean Shepherd			
Ceri Hewitt		22/06/25 – 31/08/25	

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Alsager Community Support

No (if any)
1200173

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period	Period start date	To	Period end date
from	01/09/2024		31/08/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £

A1 Receipts

Donations	19,509	2,737	-	22,246	20,711
Grants		116,636	-	116,636	97,042
Income from charitable activities	4,146	-	-	4,146	4,051
Fundraising	187	-	-	187	200
Investments / room hire	1,800	-	-	1,800	1,500
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	25,642	119,373	-	145,015	123,701

A2 Asset and investment sales,
(see table).

	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	25,642	119,373	-	145,015	123,701

A3 Payments

Raising funds	37	78	-	116	101
Expenditure on charitable projects	146	6,604	-	6,750	3,024
Employment Costs	627	77,089	-	77,716	47,595
Running Costs	1,448	22,170	-	23,618	18,473
Governance	570	629	-	1,199	142
Other expenditure	1,057	300	-	1,357	870
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	3,886	106,871	-	110,757	70,205

A4 Asset and investment

purchases, (see table)

	529	1,868	-	2,397	2,769
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	529	1,868	-	2,397	2,769

Total payments

	4,415	108,738	-	113,153	72,974
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Net of receipts/(payments)

	21,227	10,635	-	31,861	50,727
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A5 Transfers between funds

	1,819	1,819	-	-	-
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A6 Cash funds last year end

	11,517	63,215	-	74,732	-
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Cash funds this year end

	34,563	72,030	-	106,593	50,727
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Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories

B1 Cash funds

Details	Unrestricted funds			Restricted funds			Endowment funds		
	to nearest £			to nearest £			to nearest £		
Cash in Bank		34,326			72,030			-	
Cash in hand		237			-			-	
					-			-	
Total cash funds		34,563			72,030			-	

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
Accounts receivable (card payment and cheque	53	-	-
	-	-	-

Details

Unrestricted funds to nearest £

Restricted funds to nearest £

Endowment funds to nearest £

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Laptops for staff and advisor; laptop for chair (new); large monitor for training (new)	NL Community Fund	-	-
Printer	NL Community Fund	-	-
Printer	General	-	-
Phones	General	-	-
Phone for administrator	Flourish Home from Hospital	-	-

B5 Liabilities



Details	Fund to which liability relates		Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	General			
Payroll fee			70	
			-	

The trustees are very grateful to the following organisations for grants awarded during the financial year

National Lottery Community Fund
 Flourish Fund (Cheshire East)
 Cost of Living Fund (Cheshire East)
 Wellbeing Fund (Cheshire East)
 Florence Fund
 Julia Rausing (The Hoares Trustees)
 Plus Dane

The trustees would also like to thank other organisations and individuals who have contributed time and money to the charity.

Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	LYNNE C. GANNON	7/04/22
	D. BUTCHER	7/4/2022



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name:
Alsager Community Support

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1200173

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2025.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

K Southernton

Date:

18/3/26

Name:

Katie Southernton

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ICAEW

Address:

21 Highfield Avenue
Kingsgrove
ST7 4AT

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.

N/A