



Wakefield & District Society for Deaf People 2023 – 2024 Annual Report

Registered charity number: 1201337

Vision

To enable all persons residing in the Wakefield and District with a hearing impairment to live fulfilling and independent lives through provision of services, to improve wellbeing.

Mission

The Charity's mission is to continue to review services to ensure they meet the changing needs of deaf, deaf-blind and hard of hearing people.

Aims

To promote the general welfare of deaf, deaf-blind and hard of hearing people and to co-operate with other organisations having similar objects and aims.

Trustee Report (2023 – 2024)

Rachel Shenton once said “I always say deafness is a silent disability: you can't see, and it's not life-threatening, so it has to touch your life in some way in order for it to be on your radar.”

This is our ethos in the work we do – to put deafness on everyone's radar so it is not a silent disability and individuals are equipped with the skills to navigate through life and for others to support all people with hearing loss. We have delivered more work – both internally and externally – than ever in the last 12 months delivering more opportunities for individuals to do BSL Level 1, introducing new projects such as our heritage project and our studio service, applying financial controls to our organisation and looking for other avenues to make an impact.

It has been yet, another busy and challenging year for our small organisation with greater outputs in different areas. We continue to reshape our organisation and in doing so, we are figuring out what our organisation should look like going forward and where we should focus our efforts in continuing to provide support that is relevant to those who need it.

At the same time, we have been more mindful of our finances looking to the future and identifying opportunities where we can make a bigger impact in the community that surround us. This led us to managing a cost of living crisis fund supported by Prosper Wakefield District delivering significant support where it was needed. The cost of living crisis has had an impact on us as an organisation but we finished the year with a record level of income through the application of a fresh financial controls approach.

We started our BSL Level 1 courses at Lightwaves Leisure Centre in January 2024 and we intend to continue with this work going forward because it is part of our ethos in creating an inclusive environment. You don't just learn BSL on these courses – you learn about deaf culture, deaf awareness and the way deaf people live facing barriers in their everyday lives. We were able to bring the cost of these courses down with funding from Birkdale Trust. We would like to give them huge thanks for their support in this work.

We are very thankful to play a role in the #OurYear2024 initiative working with Wakefield Metropolitan District Council and play our part in contributing towards the history of the deaf community across the Wakefield District.

We have produced BSL captioned videos in mental health, online safety and in several other areas making information accessible. This was a multi-approach initiative from various funders: Bentley Life Advancing Choices, Magic Little Grants, Age UK Wakefield and Sir George Martin Trust. We thank them for allowing us to do this work. We hope to continue with this work going forward.

Prosper Wakefield District have continued to provide support, both financially and through sound advice with the Prosper Main Grants funding a number of overheads allowing us to invest more into our community. This significant support towards our operations has been huge for us and we hope to explore further opportunities with them to continue making a bigger impact.

As reported in our last financial year, we received just before the year end (March 2023) two grants from St George Martin Trust and Age UK (Wakefield). Our St George Martin Trust grant was used to purchase further equipment for our studio service and the production of some of our accessible videos. Our Age UK (Wakefield) grant was used to purchase some equipment with a focus on improving digital inclusion bridging the digital divide that exists in our society.

Our numbers show that there continues to be a level of demand in our services and how we provide this work is imperative to achieving the person-centred approach we apply to our work.

We have engaged with more organisations in the last 12 months such as SignHealth, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Age UK, Wakefield District Housing and continue to develop new relationships to signpost for the benefit of our small but unique community.

We are playing a much bigger role in how existing services operate seeking new collaborative approaches to how we can redefine access to those services. There are no real answers to how we can tackle this because of the wide variety of needs that needs to be considered but we are making progress in a number of areas.

Much of this work could not have been done without the support of NOVA and the Mental Health Alliance's support towards the Thinking Differently Consortium. Their funding has really allowed us to reconsider how we operate in the community and in which direction we want to be heading in. We are now clear in what we wish to do going forward and those opportunities will be explored in the forthcoming years ahead. This specific support will come to an end in the next financial year so we must move with an absolute conviction to explore new opportunities.

Our door remains open for networking and collaboration and we want to work with our community so that access is and never should be an issue for individuals. Through this, we want to build connections with other people, local groups and the wider community.

In reflection, we know that there is so much more we can do to support our community within the Wakefield District and we know we are beginning to make an impact outwith Wakefield through our involvement across West Yorkshire. Our BSL captioned videos is representative of some of this work where there are no barriers to accessing information that people should already have access to and as referred to, we hope to continue with this work subject to funding.

There has never been a time when equality, diversity and inclusion has featured so much in our everyday lives and it is for communities supported by others to influence positive change that will make an impact. We will continue to do this work and whilst obstacles remain in all areas, we commit ourselves to working with others to remove such barriers.

This also marks our first year as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation formally constituted on 14 December 2022 and we have got off to a good start from a financial perspective with a net income of £61,220 offsetting the deficit made in the previous financial year (£43,114). Our focus will be to maintain this financial position in this very difficult third sector landscape where many organisations are feeling the strain due to external circumstances. Our former charity was an unincorporated association (224944) dating back to 3 September 1963 when we first became a charitable organisation.

We end our annual report narrative with these words:

“Deaf people can do anything hearing people can do except hear”

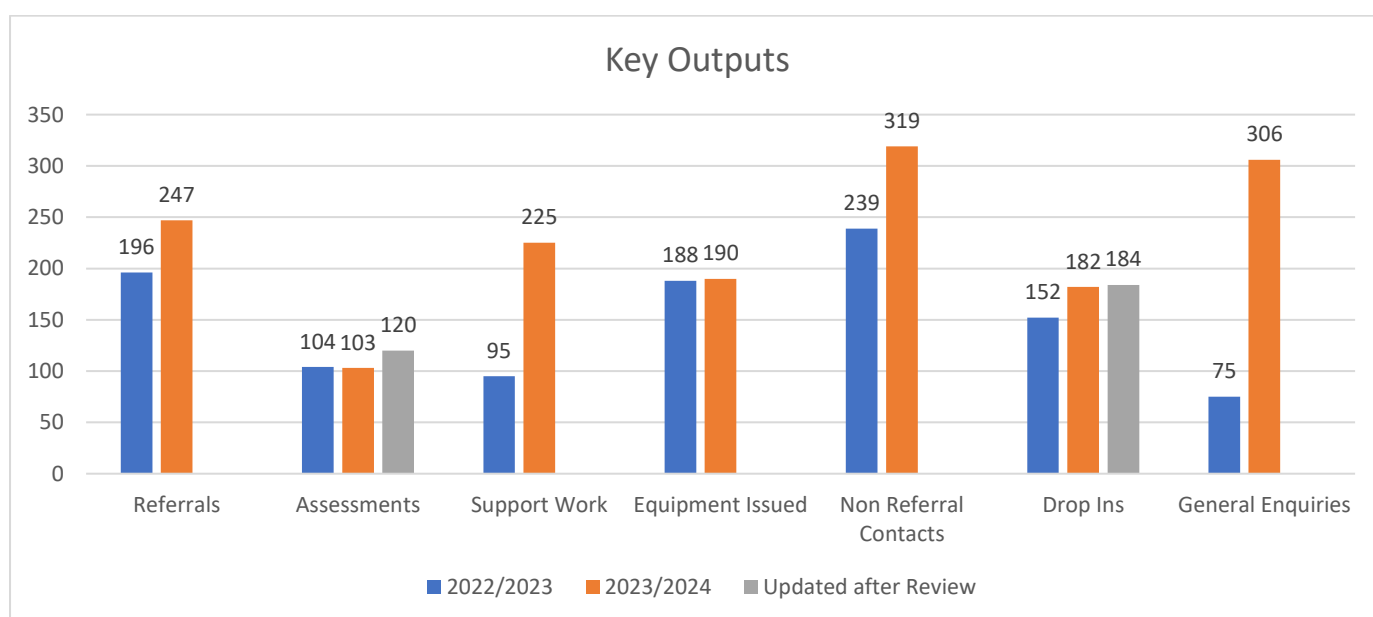
I. King Jordan (first Deaf President of Gallaudet University)

The rest of our annual report will highlight our Achievements and Performance for the financial year period ending in March 2024.

Achievements and Performance

Key Outputs:

2023/2024		2022/2023
247	Referrals	196
103 (120)	Assessments	104
225	Support Work	95
190	Equipment Issued	188
319	Non Referral Contacts	239
182 (184)	Drop Ins	152
306	General Enquiries	75



This is our first year delivering our holistic Community Support Work approach and we have seen numbers increase in all of our core services.

We reported that we did 103 assessments but after a review, it was uncovered to be 120 assessments that took place. We reported we did 182 drop-ins and this was again uncovered to be 184. Our database has gone through a lot of change over the last 12 months and we continue to review it to make sure it reports what we need it to report and this means information will be displaced from time to time.

Continued Achievements and Performance

Referrals	↑ 26%
Assessments	↑ 15%
Support Work	↑ 136%
Equipment Issued	↑ 1%
Non Referral Contacts	↑ 33%
Drop Ins	↑ 21%
General Enquiries	↑ 308%

This is reflective of the support that is required in our community and there continues to be a level of demand for those that need our support. We have seen an increase across all of our key services and we know there is more to be done to address the obstacles that exist within our community. Our person-centred approach to supporting individuals to navigate through their own difficulties means they will return to us time and time again for the support they need.

The vast majority of referrals into our organisation are self-referrals often seeking for additional support, normally around our assessments and our equipment service. We are trying to improve on this work by providing much more effective equipment that meets the needs of those we work with whilst also taking into consideration the circumstances they are in i.e. homelessness, health factors and other general issues.

We received 136 self referrals in this financial year (93 self referrals in 2022/2023) followed by 89 referrals from Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (72 referrals in 2022/2023). The vast majority of our referrals are self-referrals and from Wakefield Metropolitan District Council – we had a total of 247 referrals in 2023/2024 (193 referrals in 2022/2023).

Case study (Community Support)

Mrs T became first known to us in January 2023 through a Sensory Impairment Team referral and has received support from us on a regular basis. Mrs T's life changed when she lost her husband and relied on him with regards to management of the home, in relation to bills & money budgeting. There was a safeguarding investigation pending, regarding possible financial abuse from a family member.

For a period of time, we increased her support work provision and continue to support her through numerous homelife issues. Mrs T also broke her leg and was in assisted living residence. We continued visiting throughout this time.

Mrs T requires ongoing support to read and manage her mail, support to reduce social isolation and to ensure her medication is ordered on time, along with attending appointments and ensuring appropriate communication support is arranged for her. She also required support to apply for benefits that she was entitled to. Mrs T also needed someone to go with her to withdraw cash, due to her confidence levels as she has never done this alone. An assessment was needed to enable Mrs T to continue living in her home independently.

Outcome:

This ongoing work has been provided by our holistic approach, ensuring we undertook an equipment assessment to ensure she was safe and well to live independently at her home as well as providing generic support work required.

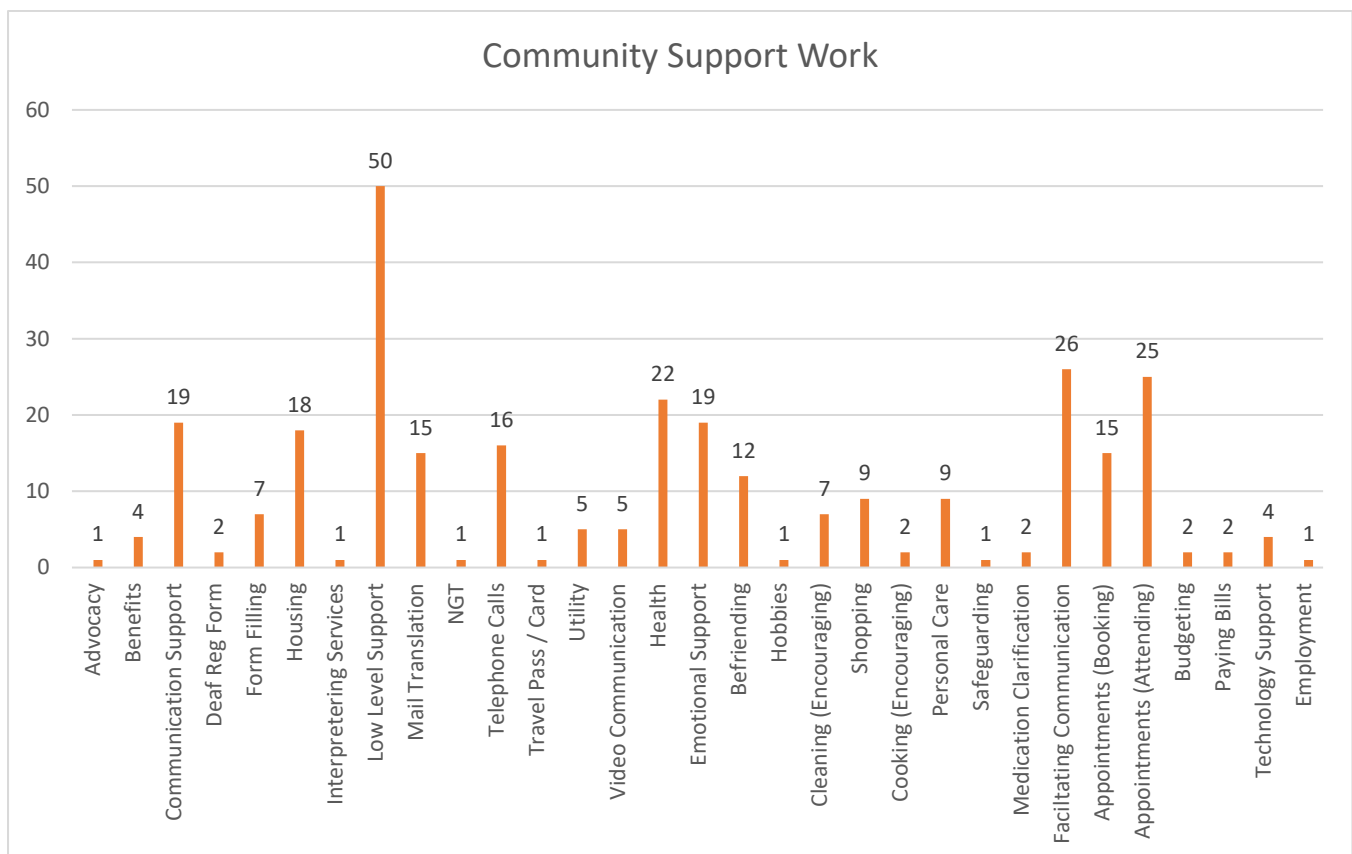
We are now working alongside a number of agencies, including a BSL PA Agency who provides further support, we will continue to provide support where necessary.

Mrs T's outcomes have been varied around her needs and correspondence, support with her quality of life, maintaining her personal dignity, respect, reducing risk and increasing independence.

Community Support Work Service

We made a decision to start recording the nature of the work we did when delivering support work in the community halfway through the year because we felt that we were not recording this work fully. This will guide us going forward in presenting a more effective picture of the nature of work we deliver across the organisation wherever individuals may be in their lives. This element of work is increasing and is becoming more needed than ever.

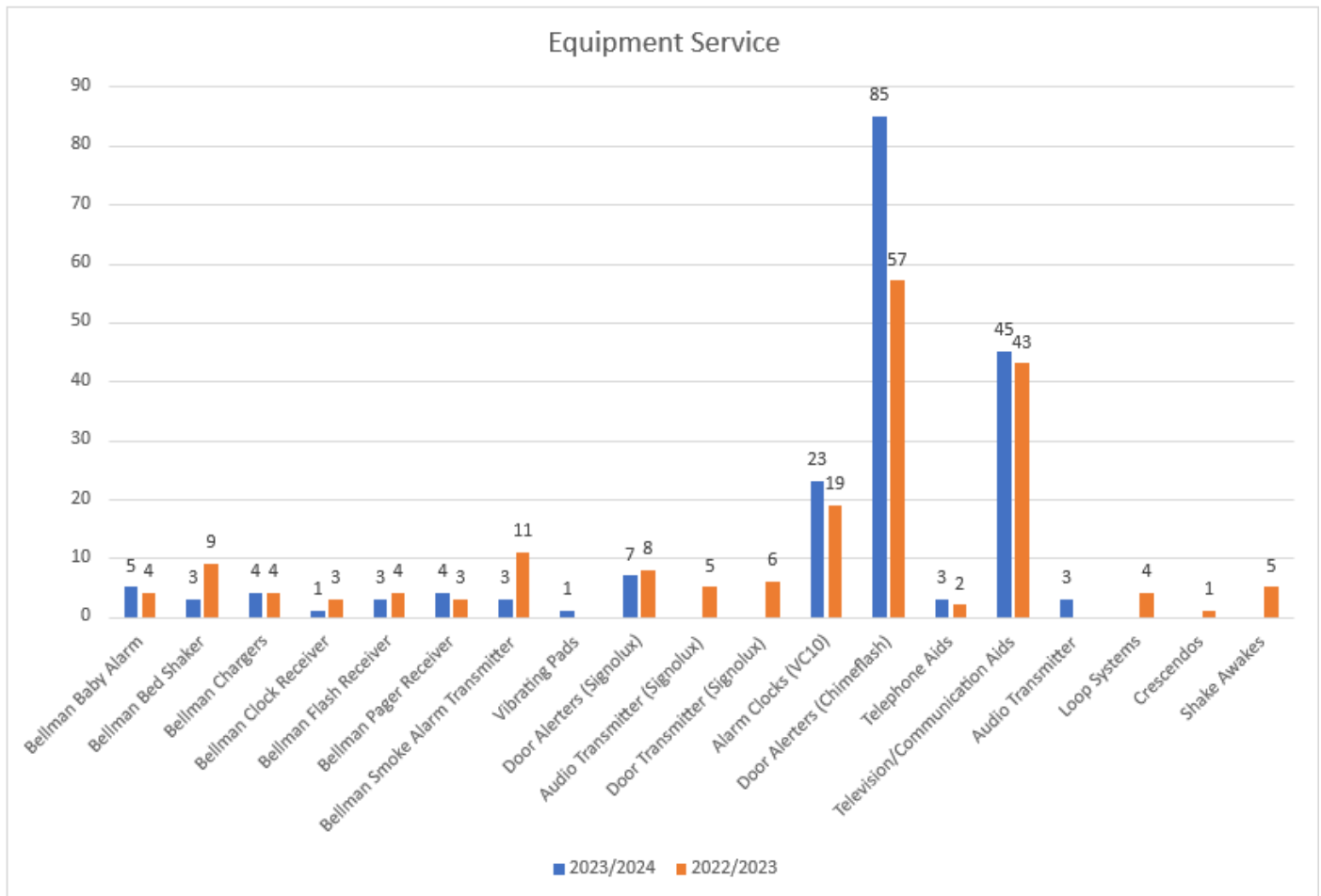
These numbers are from October 2023 onwards and we will have a better picture of this work in the next financial year.



We are mindful that a number of our service users are in need of extensive support and we provide this in a way that works for them. We record the specific work we do with individuals and all other work is recorded as Low Level Support in a similar way as we do for the delivery of our support work in the community.

Equipment Service

Our equipment service is a vital part of our Community Support Work Service. We delivered 120 assessments throughout the 2023/2024 year (104 assessments: 2022/2023) issuing 190 pieces of equipment (2022/2023: 188 pieces of equipment). Some of our assessments identified that there was no further support to be provided in the form of ongoing support including equipment.



We can see that from our equipment service, the vast majority of equipment we issue is associated to being alerted to the door and to support being able to hear the TV as well as everyday conversation.

The equipment service aims to improve:

- independence and quality of life
- Improve in health and wellbeing
- Improved relationships within the household and with neighbours

We pride ourselves on achieving 100% with our targets in relation to our assessments and equipment service which means for:

Priority 1: We should complete assessments within 7 days and issue equipment within 7 days of the assessment being completed. There is usually an element of urgency with Priority 1 referrals.

In 2023/2024, we achieved 90 % of Priority 1 Assessments completed within 7 working days (9 out of 10 assessments) and achieved 100% equipment fitted within 7 working days from a 100% target (10 out 10 issued with equipment).

Priority 2: To complete assessments within 20 working days and issue equipment within 60 days of the assessment being completed. We try to issue equipment on the same day as doing assessments but sometimes this is not always possible.

In 2023/2024, we achieved 96% of Priority 2 Assessments completed within 20 working days (213 out of 221 assessments) and achieved 99% equipment fitted within 60 working days from a 100% target (160 out of 161 issued with equipment).

Case study (Equipment Service)

Ms S first received equipment in 2013. She is also registered with the Wakefield Council's Deaf Registration Scheme. She then received some more equipment in 2018 and again in 2023 replacing aging equipment, which was highlighted by a house move. Ms S requested this support via WhatsApp – one of the many ways we can be contacted.

On visiting her and her young family to issue equipment, we recognised the need for West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service to carry out a safe and well visit to confirm that the home that her family was residing in was safe. We made this referral with Ms S at her home.

Ms S received a Bellman pager and charger, a bed shaker, a baby alarm monitor and a door transmitter from us. We attended the scheduled visit from WYFRS to facilitate communication between the local fire crew and Ms S. This resulted in further equipment being installed so she is alerted in the event of a fire during the night.

We continue to work with Ms S and with other services within Wakefield Council including the Adaptations Team associated to additional equipment that is necessary in the home. Despite several cancellations by Ms S, we continue to provide ongoing support through our Community Support work.

During some of our previous equipment service visits, several issues were raised that needed to be resolved by our support work provision. This has led to the development of the Community Support Work service, which allows a new holistic approach, enabling equipment and support requirements to be resolved during the same visit.

Outcome:

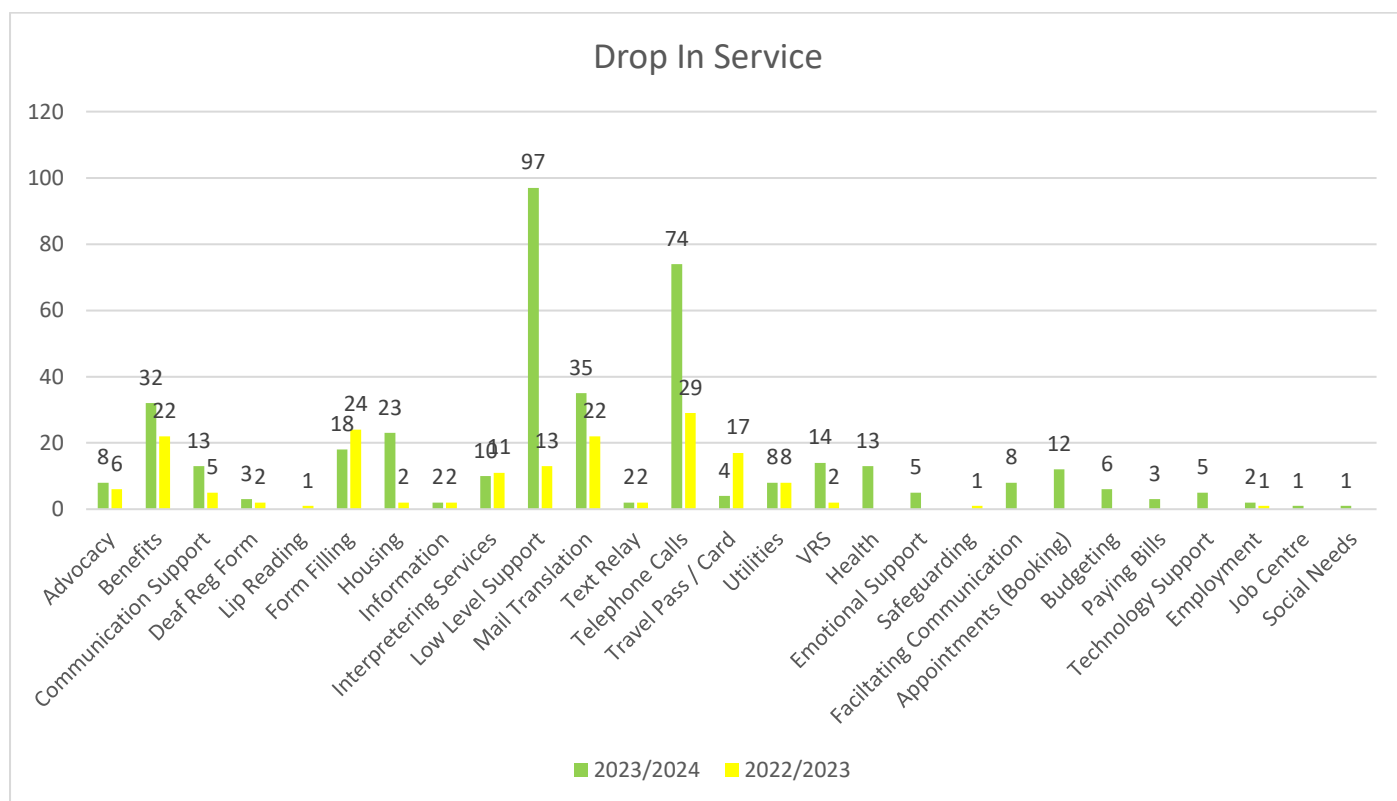
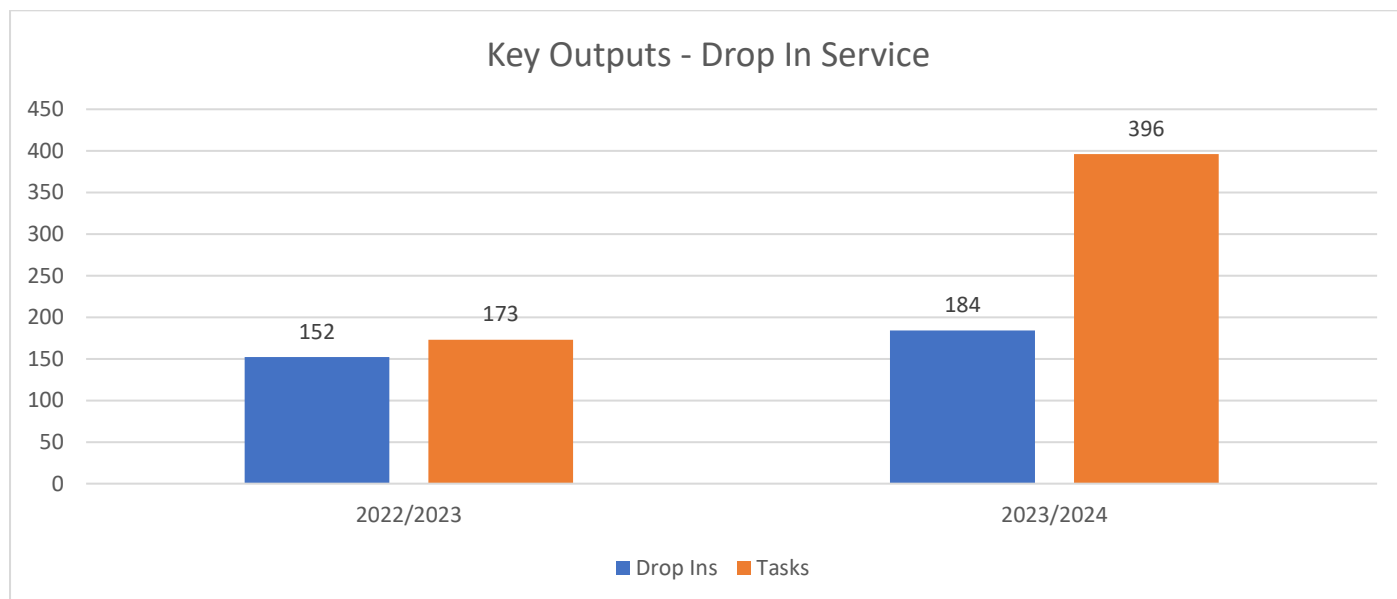
Ms S has now received equipment from us and from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. She is safe and well in her new home with her young family. She continues to receive ongoing support. Her outcomes have varied around her and her family's needs and our correspondence with her, including increased choice and control, improving quality of life and improving health and wellbeing whilst reducing risk.

Drop in Service

The Drop in Service is provided to support issues anyone may have. Safeguarding concerns can also be reported at these sessions.

This service is available Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am – 12pm and on Thursday from 9am - 3pm.

During the year, we supported 184 visitors with 396 tasks through our Drop In Service with tasks (2022/2023 - 152 visitors with 173 tasks).



Case study (Drop In)

Ms O frequently visits us with letters that she does not understand. Ms O is not from the UK and arrived in England less than ten years ago so she uses a mixture of BSL and her native Sign Language where she is from.

Ms O came in with a letter referring to her tax credits. We asked her to bring her payslips next time she visited so we could work together to understand her work situation.

On Ms O's next visit, we contacted the tax credit office to confirm her current work situation and at that point, it was noted that she was no longer meeting the tax credits threshold. She was working 12 hours a week instead of the 16 hours threshold but a lack of accessible information when applying for this meant she did not know that she had to work a minimum number of hours nor inform the tax credits office of her change of circumstances.

At the end of the financial year, Ms O came to us with a letter from the tax credits office about an overpayment and her understanding from this letter was that she was owed money. After some explanation to her, she then realised that it was in fact that she owed HMRC money. She was exceptionally anxious about this overpayment as she wouldn't be able to afford this and this did upset her.

Outcome:

Ms O has now received an indefinite suspension to her tax credits overpayment and she was extremely grateful for our support.

For Ms O, not only have we maintained her economic wellbeing but we are now trying to improve this by claiming her state pension.

We are now supporting her to claim her state pension as she is eligible for this but it is currently sitting with HMRC as they need to start dialogue with the country she originated from. Ms O applied for this via VRS (Video Relay Service) with our support so she understands the application process for claiming her state pension.

Wakefield Deaf User Partnership (WDUP)

2023/2024 Progress

Providing indirect contributions into the new approach Wakefield District Housing to meet the needs of their tenants.

West Yorkshire Voice spoke to deaf members and they discussed a range of issues including access to services and a lack of knowledge around process in relation to booking BSL interpreters. They challenged the Purple Promise initiative based on recent experiences.



Feeding into NHS forums indirectly make sure that the deaf voice is heard.

Contributed to making other organisations more accessible such as Hepworth Gallery where there is now a BSL provision.

Led the initiative to create a 'Deaf Corner' page on our website.

Led discussions with Wakefield Council around their social media channels, increasing accessibility using the input of individuals and their feedback.

WMDC have acknowledged there have been inconsistencies in accessibility on their social media channels in the past and confirmed that a new social media strategy is being rolled out to start captioning videos and tag images with ALT text.

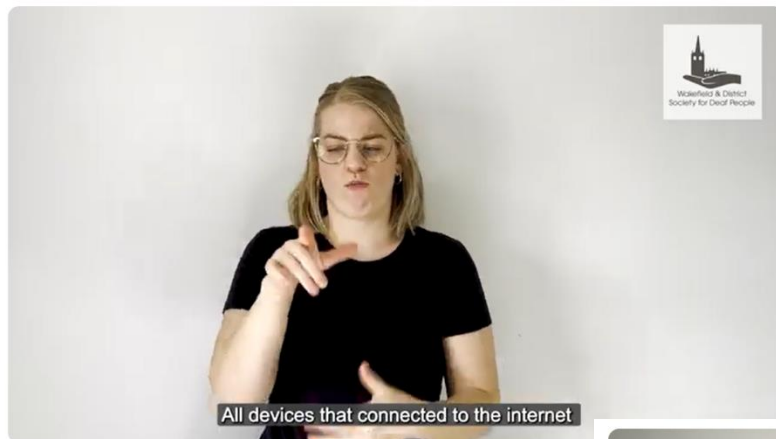
Other Developments

We have maintained our membership with the Third Sector Framework and we remain as a Tier 1 member and have a close relationship with NOVA Wakefield. The Third Sector Framework is a partnership between NOVA Wakefield, Wakefield Council, Wakefield District Health and Care Partnership and Young Lives Consortium.

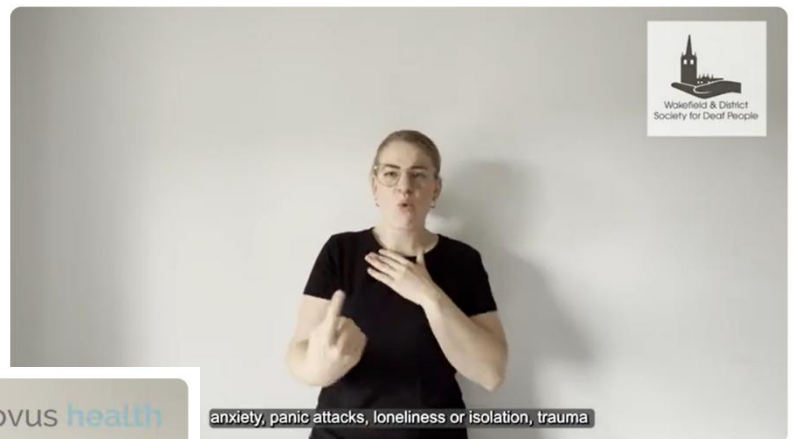
We continue to welcome our Over 50s Group on a Thursday afternoon and they gave Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People as a small contribution towards our overheads during the financial year. Our Sports and Social Club continue to run events on a monthly basis.



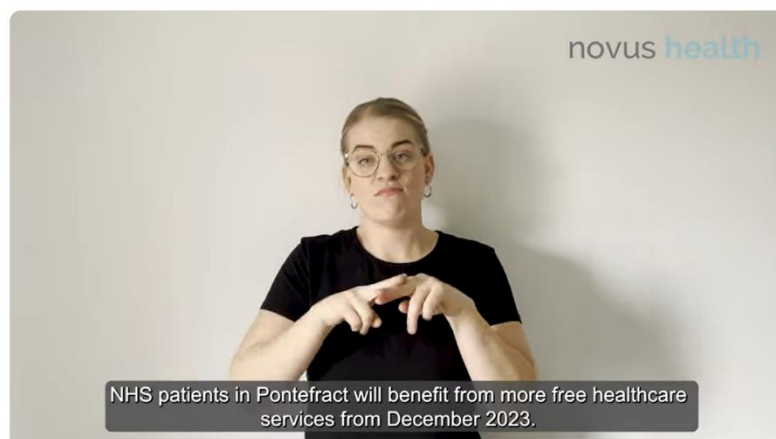
We launched our video service with the aim of creating more accessible information in a range of areas of importance – fireworks safety, online safety and mental health. We hope to develop this work further by adding new topics that are of relevance to our everyday lives.



Online Safety



Anxiety and Mental Health



A video commissioned by NOVUS Health

Our videos are promoted on our social media channels and can be accessed via our YouTube channel.

We continue to deliver deaf awareness sessions across the Wakefield District and continue to work collaboratively with other organisations to provide some insights into working with the community we represent.



**A deaf awareness session at
De Lacy Academy, Knottingley with 2 deaf students.**

Going Forward:

When this financial year started, we only had 3 members of staff employed. We now have five members of staff employed at the year end and with the recent grant from National Lottery Community Fund, we will add an additional staff member to our team taking us to six employees. This should reflect our ambitions to grow as an organisation and seek to do more for our community.

We have developed a new business plan to commence from April 2024 for two years and this business plan places a huge emphasis on maintaining the status quo but adding further elements to our work. We expect to be launching a new project for deaf children and young people focussing on bridging the social divide and in this work, we will bring families together. This is the first time we have committed vast amounts of resources to working with our younger community.

This small local based organisation is on a journey of change and it is to be expected that there will be more decisions to be made from a governance perspective as to how we continue to move forward. As reported in the last financial year, sustainability and financial viability is becoming a key strategic factor in the work we do.

Our relationship with NOVA Wakefield around the Thinking Differently Consortium since September 2021 has allowed us to look at several aspects of our work; one being the diversification of income sources. We have started on this work bringing in £82,551 in grants and donations (2022/2023: £19,028). This continues to be our focus and as we move forward, we will be seeking further funding opportunities to consolidate this work.

One of our challenges continues to be around engagement and addressing this issue is not straightforward. There has been a steady decline in our engagement over the last twenty years in line with the wider third sector and we are looking to address this as part of our work in diversifying our income

Sources. We are looking at moving forward with outreach services at the heart of our work and we will be looking to do this at pace in the coming years. We have seen a rise in referrals in this financial year so it has not impacted the work we have done over the years.

We are now using all social media channels available to us (Facebook, X and Instagram) to publicise our events and share information where possible. We have approximately 1,200 followers across our social media pages.

We continue to work with other organisations for the benefit of our community that we represent and we will continue to advocate for them where possible.

Complaints / Compliments

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People have not received any formal complaints about our services in this financial year.

100% of service user's feedback was positive. We continue to get a poor response from our feedback forms. We have now moved our feedback forms online and there continues to be an option to complete this by hand.

Our first question is:

Would you recommend our services to your family or friends?

All of our respondents said "I definitely would "

Further comments from our feedback forms:

"I don't think they could do better and they are both pleasant"

"First class customer service."

"Friendly. Lots of knowledge. Patient."

"They do sign language to help me understand as well as talking to me"

"Very efficient friendly"

"Very good support and information provided"

Equality & Diversity:

We continue to monitor users of our service and offer a variety of support to meet their needs, e.g. we have provided written information in various formats and engaged translators of different languages when requested, also arranged home visits when access to the deaf society building is difficult.

Policies & Procedures:

All policies & procedures are reviewed annually and are updated where necessary.

Safeguarding:

All officials, staff members and volunteers are DBS checked.

All staff and volunteers working in the support services have undertaken safeguarding children and adults training.

Information & Publicity:

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People continues to participate in various meetings to raise awareness of the services and support we provide for deaf and hard of hearing people that reside in Wakefield. We continue to publicise in all avenues throughout the year.

We have social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) that regularly informs the deaf community of events and information relevant to this community. We launched a new website in 2022/2023 and have continued to monitor it adding a 'Deaf Corner' page as requested by our community to create a central point to access information.



7 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LR

Telephone: 01924 375 958 Mobile: 07760 482 372

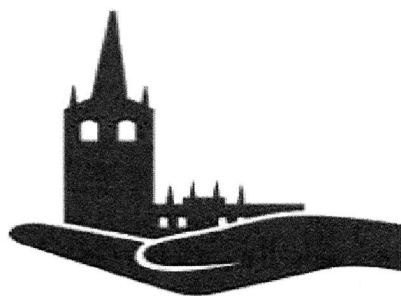
Email: enquiries@wakefielddeaf.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1201337

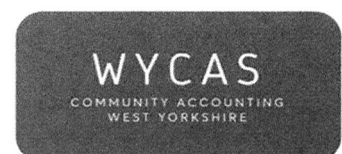
Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

Charity number 1201337

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024



Wakefield & District
Society for Deaf People



Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 31 March 2024

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

Trustees' report for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

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

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

Name	Position	Dates
Richard Jones	Chair	Appointed 26 September 2022
Marie Vickers		Appointed 3 October 2023
Ann Stokes		Appointed 3 October 2023
Valerie Pratt		Appointed 13 March 2023
Michael Maddon		Appointed 14 December 2022
Frank Wood		Appointed 14 December 2022
John Pearson		Appointed 14 December 2022
Jackie Jackman		Appointed 14 December 2022
		Resigned 14 December 2023

Charity number 1201337 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

7 South Parade
Wakefield
WF1 1LR
Line 4

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank	CCLA Fund Managers Ltd
PO Box 250	PO Box 12892
Skelmersdale	Dunmow
WN8 6WT	Essex
	CM6 9DL

Independent examiner

E J Beverley FCCA

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 14 December 2022 and is governed by a constitution.

This CIO was incorporated by the trustees of the unincorporated charity Wakefield And District Society for Deaf People (charity number 224944) to take over the activities and the assets and liabilities of that unincorporated charity. This transfer of assets from the unincorporated charity to the newly incorporated CIO (charity number 1201337) took place on 1 April 2023.

This reconstruction has been accounted for as a merger and these accounts show the results of the new CIO following the transfer of assets on 1 April 2023 for the year ended 31 March 2024. The comparative figures are the results of the unincorporated charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

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

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

Trustees' report (continued) for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

The promotion of social inclusion among deaf, deaf blind and hard of hearing people who are socially excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of being deaf, deaf blind or hard of hearing and to relieve the needs of those people including by but not limited to:

raising public awareness of the issues affecting deaf, deaf blind and hard of hearing people both generally and in relation to their social exclusion:

providing workshops, forums, advocacy and general support;

providing recreational facilities and opportunities;

co-operating with other organisations having the same or similar aims.

The charity's main activities

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People specialises in providing community support, engagement and equipment for service users who are deaf, deafened, deafblind and hard of hearing. We also provide other services such as sign language training and deaf awareness.

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.

Achievements and performance

Please see our annual report attached to these accounts.

Financial review

The net income for the period was £61,220, including net income of £19,951 on unrestricted funds and net income of £41,269 on restricted funds after transfers.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the period end were £99,453.

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain appropriate to the charity's needs.

Reserves are set at 50% of the total grants awards given or committed to in the current financial year and shall be maintained at a minimum level sufficient to cover 3 months operating expenses. Reserves are defined as unrestricted funds when freely available to spend on the organisation's charitable purposes.

Approved by the board of trustees on 21.08.2024

Signed: [Signature] (Trustee)

Name: M. MADDEN

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 5 to 13.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

E J Beverley FCCA

24/09/2024

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People
Statement of Financial Activities
(including summary income and expenditure account)
for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Income from:					
Grants and donations	(2)	4,226	78,325	82,551	19,028
Deaf and Hard of Hearing support services	(2)	-	76,176	76,176	77,076
Sales and fees		20,621	-	20,621	-
Bar income		295	-	295	979
Fundraising events		1,321	-	1,321	3,506
Deposit account interest		2,258	-	2,258	1,000
Other income		-	-	-	2,000
Total income		28,721	154,501	183,222	103,589
Expenditure on:					
Salaries, NI and pension	(3)	-	70,408	70,408	81,714
Payroll costs		129	1,586	1,715	-
Insurance		1,188	1,367	2,555	2,298
Utilities		-	4,266	4,266	4,140
Repairs and maintenance		1,748	2,051	3,799	30,501
Cleaning		210	2,525	2,735	-
Telephone and broadband		110	3,684	3,794	855
Stationery and postage		493	720	1,213	239
Photocopying and lease		-	549	549	-
IT maintenance		120	1,570	1,690	-
Staff and volunteer development		-	931	931	-
BSL Interpreter Fees		-	1,667	1,667	-
BSL Translation Fees		154	1,260	1,414	-
Project Expenditure		1,051	3,112	4,163	21,126
WSDP Group Expenditure		1,142	-	1,142	-
BSL Courses Expenditure		-	2,231	2,231	-
Travel Expenses		-	2,155	2,155	-
Equipment		-	10,354	10,354	-
Bar expenditure		627	-	627	503
Accountancy and IE		-	2,796	2,796	1,980
Professional fees		-	-	-	923
Depreciation		1,798	-	1,798	2,424
Total expenditure		8,770	113,232	122,002	146,703
Net income / (expenditure)		19,951	41,269	61,220	(43,114)
Fund balances brought forward		86,461	30,753	117,214	160,328
Fund balances carried forward	(4)	106,412	72,022	178,434	117,214

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	(5) 6,959	-	6,959	8,757
Total fixed assets	<u>6,959</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,959</u>	<u>8,757</u>
Current assets				
Stock	250	-	250	877
Debtors and prepayments	(6) -	2,001	2,001	1,642
Cash at bank and in hand	(7) 101,413	71,371	172,784	121,433
Total current assets	<u>101,663</u>	<u>73,372</u>	<u>175,035</u>	<u>123,952</u>
Current liabilities:				
amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors and accruals	(8) 2,210	1,350	3,560	15,495
Total current liabilities	<u>2,210</u>	<u>1,350</u>	<u>3,560</u>	<u>15,495</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)	<u>99,453</u>	<u>72,022</u>	<u>171,475</u>	<u>108,457</u>
Net assets	<u>106,412</u>	<u>72,022</u>	<u>178,434</u>	<u>117,214</u>
Funds				
Unrestricted funds				
General unrestricted funds	96,412	-	96,412	76,461
Designated funds	(9) 10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Unrestricted funds	<u>106,412</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,412</u>	<u>86,461</u>
Restricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>72,022</u>	<u>72,022</u>	<u>30,753</u>
Total funds	<u>106,412</u>	<u>72,022</u>	<u>178,434</u>	<u>117,214</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 21.03.2024

Signed:  (Trustee)

Name: M. MADDEN

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People

Notes to the accounts

for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by 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) and with the Charities Act 2011.

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

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, if it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Freehold property: nil

Improvements to freehold property: over 20 years

Fixtures and fittings: over 10 years

Computer equipment: over 3 years

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People
Notes to the accounts
for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies continued

Fund accounting

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

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.

Leases

Rents under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term or to an earlier date if the lease can be determined without financial penalty.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People
Notes to the accounts continued
for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

2 Grants and donations	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Birkdale Trust for Hearing Impaired Ltd	-	3,000	3,000	-
Charities Aid Foundation	-	500	500	-
Local Giving Ltd	-	500	500	-
National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF)	-	18,848	18,848	-
NOVA	-	37,500	37,500	12,750
Prosper Wakefield District	-	14,265	14,265	-
Wakefield Met. District Council (WMDC)	-	77,888	77,888	77,076
WG Edwards Charitable Foundation	-	2,000	2,000	-
Age (UK)	-	-	-	2,000
Jubilee	-	-	-	800
Sir George Martin Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Other donations	4,226	-	4,226	1,478
	<u>4,226</u>	<u>154,501</u>	<u>158,727</u>	<u>96,104</u>

3 Staff costs and numbers	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross salaries	69,263	
Social security costs	3,803	
Employment allowance	(3,803)	
Pensions	1,145	
	<u>70,408</u>	<u>81,714</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 4.6, being an average of 3.1 full time equivalent (2023: 4.3, 3.3 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme	2024
	£
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	1,145
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	258

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People
Notes to the accounts continued
for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

4 Restricted funds	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Gladys Hardman Fund	11,096	-	-	-	11,096
Jimmy Balmforth (Elderly) Fund	12,884	-	-	-	12,884
School Fund	7	-	7	-	-
NOVA - Thinking Differently	4,766	37,500	29,430	-	12,836
Age (UK)	2,000	-	2,000	-	-
WMDC - Support services	-	76,176	74,175	-	2,001
Charities Aid Foundations	-	500	500	-	-
Local Giving Ltd	-	500	500	-	-
Prosper Wakefield District (1)	-	11,390	3,748	-	7,642
WG Edwards	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Prosper Wakefield District (2)	-	2,875	639	-	2,236
WMDC - Our year 2024	-	1,212	22	-	1,190
Birkdale Trust	-	3,000	2,211	-	789
NLCF	-	18,848	-	-	18,848
WMDC - Community development	-	500	-	-	500
	30,753	154,501	113,232	-	72,022

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Gladys Hardman Fund	To support deaf children's activities.
Jimmy Balmforth (Elderly) Fund	To provide support and activities for elderly deaf people.
School Fund	To support educational activities.
NOVA - Thinking Differently	To support capacity and development of the charity.
Age (UK)	To focus on digital inclusion.
WMDC - Support services	To provide the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Support Service. This fund has been fully spent in the year and the balance relates to prepayments carried forward to next year.
Charities Aid Foundations	From the Bentley Advancing Life Chances small grants programme.
Local Giving Ltd	Towards making mental health accessible.
Prosper Wakefield District (1)	Towards equipment, room hire, utilities and property maintenance.
WG Edwards	Towards equipment.
Prosper Wakefield District (2)	To respond to the changing environment.
WMDC - Our year 2024	Towards the Wakefield Deaf Society Heritage Project - a permanent display of the Society's 102 year history and artefacts.
Birkdale Trust	Towards British Sign Language sessions.
NLCF	Children's and Young Persons funding towards The Young Deaf
WMDC - Community development	Towards Making Wakefield Inclusive - to provide accessible events by providing BSL interpreters.

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People
Notes to the accounts continued
for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

5 Tangible assets	Freehold property	Property improvement	Fixtures and Fittings	Computer Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£
At 14 December 2022	1,207	99,139	46,076	4,662	151,084
Disposals	-	-	(5,405)	(389)	(5,794)
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,207</u>	<u>99,139</u>	<u>40,671</u>	<u>4,273</u>	<u>145,290</u>
Depreciation					
At 14 December 2022	-	99,139	38,688	4,500	142,327
Depn reversed re. disposals	-	-	(5,405)	(389)	(5,794)
Charge for year	-	-	1,636	162	1,798
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>99,139</u>	<u>34,919</u>	<u>4,273</u>	<u>138,331</u>
Net book value					
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,207</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,752</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,959</u>
At 1 April 2023	<u>1,207</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,388</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>8,757</u>
6 Debtors and prepayments				2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments				<u>2,001</u>	<u>1,642</u>
				<u>2,001</u>	<u>1,642</u>
7 Cash at bank and in hand				2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank				172,216	121,380
Cash in hand				<u>568</u>	<u>53</u>
				<u>172,784</u>	<u>121,433</u>
8 Creditors and accruals				2024 £	2023 £
Creditors				584	-
Accruals				2,383	14,582
Taxation and social security				335	682
Other creditors				<u>258</u>	<u>231</u>
				<u>3,560</u>	<u>15,495</u>

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People
Notes to the accounts continued
for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

9 Designated funds	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Building maintenance fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>

Fund name	Reason for designation
Building maintenance fund	To put aside funds for major building repairs.

10 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

During the year 2 trustees were paid a total of £484 in respect of travel (previous year: £475).

Trustee remuneration and benefits

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

Prior to becoming a trustee, Valarie Pratt was employed by the charity.

Remuneration and benefits received by key management personnel

The total employee benefits received by key management personnel were £26,644 (previous year: £0).

11 Operating leases

Expected future minimum lease payments over the remaining life of the lease, analysed into the period in which the commitment falls due:	2024	2023
	£	£
Within one year	461	461
In the second to fifth years inclusive	1,421	1,843
Over five years from the balance sheet date	-	38
	<u>1,882</u>	<u>2,342</u>

12 Merger accounting

These accounts show the results for the merged charities Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People charity number 224944, an unincorporated charity and Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People charity number 1201337, a CIO set up to continue the work of the unincorporated charity of the same name.

The transfer of assets took place on 1 April 2023, therefore the comparative figures in these accounts relate to the unincorporated charity and the current year figures relate to the new CIO.

Wakefield and District Society for Deaf People
Statement of Financial Activities including comparatives for all funds
(including summary income and expenditure account)
for the period 14 December 2022 to 31 March 2024

	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Income						
Grants and donations	4,226	3,728	78,325	15,300	82,551	19,028
Deaf and Hard of Hearing support	-	77,076	76,176	-	76,176	77,076
Sales and fees	20,621	-	-	-	20,621	-
Bar income	295	979	-	-	295	979
Fundraising events	1,321	3,506	-	-	1,321	3,506
Deposit account interest	2,258	582	-	418	2,258	1,000
Other income	-	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Total income	28,721	87,871	154,501	15,718	183,222	103,589
Expenditure						
Salaries, NI and pension	-	81,714	70,408	-	70,408	81,714
Payroll costs	129	-	1,586	-	1,715	-
Insurance	1,188	2,298	1,367	-	2,555	2,298
Utilities	-	4,140	4,266	-	4,266	4,140
Repairs and maintenance	1,748	30,501	2,051	-	3,799	30,501
Cleaning	210	-	2,525	-	2,735	-
Telephone and broadband	110	855	3,684	-	3,794	855
Stationery and postage	493	239	720	-	1,213	239
Photocopying and lease	-	-	549	-	549	-
IT maintenance	120	-	1,570	-	1,690	-
Staff and volunteer development	-	-	931	-	931	-
BSL Interpreter Fees	-	-	1,667	-	1,667	-
BSL Translation Fees	154	-	1,260	-	1,414	-
Project Expenditure	1,051	3,314	3,112	17,812	4,163	21,126
WDSDP Group Expenditure	1,142	-	-	-	1,142	-
BSL Courses Expenditure	-	-	2,231	-	2,231	-
Travel Expenses	-	-	2,155	-	2,155	-
Equipment	-	-	10,354	-	10,354	-
Bar expenditure	627	503	-	-	627	503
Accountancy and IE	-	1,980	2,796	-	2,796	1,980
Professional fees	-	923	-	-	-	923
Depreciation	1,798	2,424	-	-	1,798	2,424
Total expenditure	8,770	128,891	113,232	17,812	122,002	146,703
Net income / (expenditure)	19,951	(41,020)	41,269	(2,094)	61,220	(43,114)
Fund balances brought forward	86,461	127,012	30,753	33,316	117,214	160,328
Fund balances carried forward	106,412	86,461	72,022	30,753	178,434	117,214