

Charity registration number: 1207800

Empowering Voices

Unaudited financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

Independent examination completed 22 July 2025

Empowering Voices

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Empowering Voices

Administrative Details

CHARITY DATA

Registered in England and Wales Charity Number 1207800

REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS

54 West End Road, Frampton, Boston

TRUSTEES DURING YEAR AND AT DATE OF APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Ian Trevor (Chairperson, appointed 11/04/24)⁷

Fiona Cross (appointed 11/04/24)

David Parrish (appointed 11/04/24)

Michael Wright (appointed 11/04/24, resigned 03/08/24, reappointed 11/03/25)

Cheryl King (appointed 11/04/24, resigned 12/09/24)

Graham Parry (appointed 17/06/24)

Eleonora Santagada (appointed 17/06/24, resigned 25/10/24)

Michael Grant (appointed 13/11/24)

Leanne Kemp (appointed 11/03/25)

Julian Marcus Brooks (appointed 11/03/25)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Linden Accountants, 21 Sevier Street, St Werburghs, Bristol, BS2 9LB

BANKERS

Lloyds Bank PLC, 25 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HN



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 11/04/24 Period start date To 31/03/2025 Period end date

Charity name: Empowering Voices

Charity registration number: 1207800

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	The object of the CIO is to relieve the needs of people in the UK who stammer by holding courses and providing ongoing support not normally provided by the statutory authorities, which allows a person who stammers to talk in a calm and controlled manner.
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.	Activities are held around the UK to help stammerers control their speech. During the reporting period, we have held two courses in Peterborough, with courses planned for Bath and Sheffield. We have an extensive support network for our members, which includes online group sessions, Facebook and WhatsApp support, a support directory and in-person support groups. We act as advocates for the stammering community, being invited to speak at events both in-person and virtually.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	The trustees have considered guidance on public benefit. The Charity's operations are centred on supporting the needs of stammerers in the UK.

Achievements and Performance

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.	The reporting period is characterised best in two ways: 1. The establishment and development of Empowering Voices as a resource for the stammering community. 2. Introduction of our courses and support streams. Empowering Voices was founded with five trustees; during the reporting period, this has grown to eight. We have established charitable relationships with international businesses to provide platforms such as email, web hosting, invoice management, fundraising, social media and image creation. Extensive work has been undertaken to build relationships within the stammering community. Notably, Empowering Voices has formed links with the British Stammering Association (STAMMA), who promote our courses on its website. Starting a service-driven charity was always going to be challenging. Nevertheless, our success in attracting supporters to help run courses and provide ongoing support has exceeded expectations. We conducted two courses during the reporting period, with a total of 50 attendees. Those attendees have been at various stages in their journey to achieve effortless, fear-free speech, 11 of whom had never learnt a technique such as ours before. Such was the response that we have announced two further courses for 2025 and have started planning for 2026. Our success in helping stammerers is not limited to courses. We support our members with free, unlimited access to both online and in-person networks, ensuring they have every opportunity to achieve effortless, fear-free speech.
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	In the 2024/2025 year, £1,243 of donation income was received by the charity and it incurred £928 of expenditure, leaving a balance of £315 to carry forward to 2025/2026. In future years, course fees will be an important part of the charity's income. £750 of fees received in advance for the charity's Peterborough course in April 2025 have been deferred to the 2025/2026 financial year. Initial loans from trustees totalling £150 will be repaid in the 2025/2026 financial year.
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		All income is currently unrestricted, but future successful applications for grant funding may lead to restricted funds being established in order to satisfy expenditure and reporting requirements.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	It is the charity's policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds in order to cover emergency expenditure and invest in the charity's future activities.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£315
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:	
Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
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 trustees	Every trustee is appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. When selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the trustees have regard to the skills, knowledge, and experience required for the effective administration of the CIO.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Empowering Voices
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1207800
Charity's principal address	54 West End Road Frampton Boston Lincolnshire PE20 1BT

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)
1	Julian Marcus Brooks	IT Officer	11/03/2025 onwards	N/A
2	Fiona Margaret Orme Cross		N/A	N/A

3	Leanne Kemp	Social Media Officer	11/03/2025 onwards	N/A
4	Michael Grant	Treasurer	13/11/24 onwards	N/A
5	David Neil Parrish		N/A	N/A
6	Graham Parry		17/06/24 onwards	N/A
7	Ian Trevor	Chairperson	N/A	N/A
8	Michael Ashley Wright	Website Officer	11/04/24 until 03/08/24 and 11/03/2025 onwards	N/A
9	Cheryl King	Secretary	11/04/24 until 12/09/24	N/A
10	Eleonora Santagada	Website and Social Media Officer	17/06/24 until 25/10/24	N/A

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

Director name		
None		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
None		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Other optional information

None

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Michael Grant	Ian Trevor
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	Chair
Date	21 July 2025	

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	Note	£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Charitable activities	2	1,243	-	1,243	-
Other trading activities	3	0	-	0	-
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		<u>1,243</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,243</u>	<u>-</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable activities	5	928	-	928	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>928</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>928</u>	<u>-</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		315	-	315	-
Balances brought forward		-	-	-	-
Gross transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-
Balances carried forward		<u>315</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>-</u>

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Note	2025 £	£
FIXED ASSETS:			
Tangible assets			89
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Debtors		46	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,080	
		<u>1,126</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Creditors: falling due within one year		<u>(900)</u>	
Net current assets			226
NET ASSETS:			<u>315</u>
FUNDS			
General funds		315	
Restricted funds		<u>-</u>	
			<u>315</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended **31st March 2025**.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) Ensuring that the company keeps accounting records with comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- (b) Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 21 July 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Trustee - Michael Grant

.....
Trustee - Ian Trevor

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102 SORP) effective from 1st January 2019, and applicable UK Accounting Standards, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Funds structure

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have set aside resources for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or the terms of a specific appeal.

Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of income can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income from donations is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When the donors specify that the donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-conditions have been met.

Income from grants, where there are performance or service deliverables required by the terms of the grant, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to payment through its performance.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that agree all costs related to the category. Support costs have been allocated 100% towards raising funds for and the charitable activities of the charity.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both the direct pay and non-pay costs and support costs relating to those activities.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue its operations for the foreseeable future and therefore they have continued to adopt the going concern basis when preparing the financial statements.

Governance costs

Governance cost include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity, and include its independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity including trustee expenses.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation has been provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value of each asset, over its expected useful life. The rates used are: 33.3% straight line for IT and office equipment.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangement of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the following basis:

	2025
Raising funds	0%
Charitable activities	100%

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations	1,243	-	1,243
	<u>1,243</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,243</u>

3 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Other income	0	-	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0</u>

5 TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	Total Funds 2025 £
Course expenditure	-	568	-	568
Bank and admin charges	-	-	44	44
Insurance	-	-	127	127
Marketing	-	46	-	46
Office equipment depreciation charge	-	18	-	18
Training	-	20	-	20
Web hosting	-	105	-	105
	<u>-</u>	<u>757</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>928</u>
Allocation of support & governance costs	-	171	(171)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>928</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>928</u>

6 NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

This is stated following these charges:

	2025 £
Depreciation	18
Trustees' remuneration	-
Trustees' expense reimbursement	-
Fee for independent examination	-

In the current year, no expenses were reimbursed to the trustees.

Independent examination carried out for no charge by Linden Accountants Ltd

7 CORPORATION TAX

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

8 STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025 £
Salaries and wages	-
Social security costs	-
Pension contributions	-
	<u>-</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	2025
Management	-
Administration	-
	<u>-</u>

	2025
Full time equivalent	-

Number of employees with emoluments (excluding Employers' pension)	2025
Between £30,000 and £40,000	-
Between £40,000 and £50,000	-

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employment benefits of the key management personnel were £0.

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment £	Totals £
COST:		
At 1 April 2024	-	-
Additions	107	107
At 31 March 2025	<u>107</u>	<u>107</u>
DEPRECIATION:		
At 1 April 2024	-	-
Charge for the year	18	18
At 31 March 2025	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>
NET BOOK VALUE:		
At 31 March 2025	<u>89</u>	<u>89</u>

10 DEBTORS

	2025 £
Trade debtors	-
Other debtors and prepayments	46
	<u>46</u>

11 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £
Trade creditors	-
Accruals and deferred income	750
Tax and social security	-
Pensions payable	-
Loans from trustees	150
Other creditors	-
	<u>900</u>

12 COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 March 2025, the charity had total commitments under operating leases as set out below:	2025 £
Rent of registered office	<u>-</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

13 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	General Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Fixed Assets	-	-	89	89
Current Assets	-	-	1,126	1,126
Current Liabilities	-	-	(900)	(900)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>315</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of Fund movements	Balance b/fwd £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Fund c/fwd £
Restricted funds					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	-	1,243	(928)	-	315
Total unrestricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>1,243</u>	<u>(928)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>315</u>
Total funds	<u>-</u>	<u>1,243</u>	<u>(928)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>315</u>

14 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Several trustees loaned the charity money during the financial period 12/04/24 - 31/03/25 to assist with initial cash flow. These loans are expected to be repaid in the 2025/2026 year.

Loans from trustees:

Loan from Ian Trevor	50
Loan from Graham Parr	50
Loan from Fiona Cross	50
Total loans balance	<u>150</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF EMPOWERING VOICES

I report to the charity's trustees on my examination of the accounts of Empowering Voices for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act), as amended by s.145 of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under the company law and is eligible for independent examination; it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act),
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required by audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Steven Baptiste

Linden Accountants, Scrapstore House, 21 Sevier Street, St Werburghs, Bristol, BS2 9LB

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Steven Baptiste

Date22 July 2025.....