

STELLA'S VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STELLA'S VOICE

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STELLA'S VOICE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Trustees	Mr M Morgan Mr R Gillies (Resigned 16 July 2024) Mr W Keeping Rev B Paterson (Resigned 5 April 2024) Mrs A Spackman (Resigned 5 April 2024) Mr P Spackman (Resigned 5 April 2024) Mr R Frawley (Appointed 9 October 2024)
Company registered number	01382673
Charity registered numbers	SC040458 and 276520
Registered office	131 Chalton Lane Clanfield PO8 0RQ
Company secretary	Mark Morgan
Chief executive officer	Mark Morgan
Independent auditors	Anderson Anderson & Brown Audit LLP Kingshill View Prime Four Business Park Kingswells Aberdeen AB15 8PU

STELLA'S VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102) and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)'.

Objectives and activities

Our Cause

The purpose of the charity as set out in our governing document is for the advancement of the Christian faith and other charitable purposes as the Trust shall from time to time determine.

Stella's Voice is a charity that is constantly evolving to respond to the greatest needs. We work to support the vulnerable and help protect them from the dangers of trafficking, abuse and the consequences of abject poverty. We also aim to be a leading source of help and hope in the areas where we operate. Stella's Voice delivers its charitable purpose through work both in the UK and overseas.

Achievements and performance

The charity conducts a wide range of activities in the outworking of its charitable aims as detailed below. These activities provide benefit to our local communities in the various parts of the UK in which we are based and also to the causes overseas that we are involved in.

The continuing war in Ukraine

The ongoing impact of the war in Ukraine on Stella's Voice is not to be understated. We continue to take aid into Ukraine to support those who have been displaced internally.

One of the most pressing needs is the alarming rise in children who have been orphaned as a result of the war. Most of our aid relief in Ukraine is presently focused on helping these orphans.

We continue to help increasing number of refugees from Ukraine here in the UK.

In the UK we continue to run appeals for aid to help Ukraine – both for those who end up in the UK as refugees and those displaced in Ukraine. This continues to have a profound impact on our workload and raises ongoing challenges such as a lack of space and facilities to deal with the increased volumes along with the extra manpower needed to process it all.

We have been able to increase our capacity by getting temporary use of warehouse space. This has proven challenging due to the constant changing from one temporary facility to the other. In partnership with local Councils and businesses, we are looking for more of a permanent solution.

Our Story

The vision for Stella's Voice began at the fall of communism when the media was first allowed into Eastern Europe and began showing the dire conditions of the state-run orphan homes. In response to the desperate need, our teams started taking aid to these homes.

We also watched young people age out of orphan homes and get put on the streets. One in particular-Stella-was exploited by human traffickers, sold, and eventually died from AIDS at 19 years old. The year was 1996, and the mission of Stella's Voice was birthed.

The principal European activities are based in Moldova. The legal structure in Moldova is delivered by a local not for profit organisation – Stella's Voice. The Moldovan entity operates 3 care homes as detailed below:

STELLA'S VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Girls' Homes - 2 homes

Our 2 girls' homes are for orphan girls who have been aged out of state-run facilities and are prime targets for sex traffickers, those who want to trap them in modern slavery.

While living at our homes in Moldova, the girls complete their education, learn life skills, and grow in an environment that changes their mind-set, so instead of becoming a child trafficking statistic, these children are loved and given a chance at a victorious life.

Boys' Home - 1 home

Our boys' house is a home for orphan boys who have aged out of state-run facilities and are at risk to slavery in construction and other forced labour. While living here, the boys complete their education, learn life skills, and grow in an environment that changes their mind-set from 'I am just an orphan' to 'I am worthy of being loved'.

Many of the boys are relatives of the girls in our home. They use their gifts and talents to contribute to the upkeep of the home, and they often spend their weekends mentoring other children in orphanages.

Children's Home

Stella's Voice helps support a Children's Placement Centre (formerly an orphanage) where we had invested many years getting to know and love the children. This is not far from the orphanage where Stella, our inspiration and namesake, was raised.

Some of the work that we have done over the years includes replacing the roof, windows, heating system, water well, and plumbing. Before this work was carried out most of the children were living in unthinkable poverty. For many, this is the first place they've ever felt 'at home'.

Stella's Voice is extremely concerned about the poverty and plight of orphaned and destitute children across the world.

The aim of Stella's Voice in supporting the vulnerable dictates that those we help have the means eventually to support themselves, and never again to be in a position of vulnerability, where there is a danger of falling victim to trafficking, abuse, etc.

We have helped many people – of all ages over the years who have moved on to independent living, found employment and are no longer vulnerable to the dangers of trafficking, abuse, etc. This is what success looks like for Stella's Voice.

United Kingdom

Charity Shops

The main charitable activity in the UK that supports our work relates to charity shops and large-scale reuse projects. There are 6 retail locations in the UK and Stella's Voice works on the principal that every item, no matter how small, helps to change lives. Each store is fully stocked with donated items. Products are either sold to generate much needed funds or used directly in our humanitarian efforts. The shops adopt best practice on recycling and are recognised as such by their local authorities and communities. Stella's Voice is an ARC (Approved Reuse Centre), accredited across the whole of the UK.

We continue to improve many aspects of our shop infrastructure, making efficiency savings and utilising technology to maximise the funds generated through these shops.

Across the UK we continue to work in contracts with the local councils as a supplier of re-use/second-hand goods supporting the homeless, refugees and victims of abuse.

STELLA'S VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Recycling

We continue to see an increase in the volume handled through our recycling activities year on year. As a result, it gives a very positive return and contributes towards better environments in the communities in which we are based.

Community activities

We continue with our partnership to repair and reuse bicycles and help get them to those who are not in a position to purchase a bike. This CycleHub is a four-way partnership between NESTRAN, Angus Cycle Hub, The Bikery (run by Gordon Rural Action in Huntly) and ourselves. We now collect bikes from several HWRC sites across Aberdeenshire.

Our community Market Garden has seen a lot of development over the past year with a lot of different products grown and a few small orchard being planted. The aim is to develop a multi-faceted growing space that has learning and community involvement at its heart.

As well as being a local employer in the areas in which we are based across the UK, we also provide several placement opportunities, including people who are looking to get back into work, people with learning difficulties and social issues for example. We provide a safe environment for people to develop their existing skills, learn new skills and grow in confidence. All of this while they are engaged in meaningful work that is helping others in need. We continue to be a source of help and hope in our local communities, providing furniture, other household items and clothing, feeding and clothing the homeless and organising various community events throughout the year.

We continue to see growth in our work in partnership with some local supermarkets and third sector organisations with the distribution of food that is near its end of life to ensure as much need is met as possible and that waste is minimised. We also assist in the donation of goods to people in need across the areas where we are based. This can be anything from the supply of a few items of clothing to helping furnish a flat or house.

Technology/Digital

We continually look to learn and embrace digital technology where it can result in efficiency savings and expand our reach to potentially gain new supporters and donors. This is a never-ending cycle due to the constant changes in technology and a constant challenge due to financial constraints.

New donors

In an ever-changing world with so many unprecedented challenges (Global inflation and the impact of the war in Ukraine for example) retaining existing and gaining new donors is continuously challenging with so many needs competing for ever shrinking sources of income. We are continually looking for intuitive and creative ways to reach out to potential donors and develop a relationship that sees them become long-term supporters.

Volunteers

Volunteers continue to play a vital role in our work. Without volunteers, we simply could not continue all the work that we do. Their work is invaluable and is a key part in enabling the charity to fulfil its obligations. As we ever seek to increase our volunteer base, we also work with our volunteers where possible to train, develop and teach new skills which in turn become of greater benefit to the charity.

Financial review

Principal funding sources

The company's funding comes from its trading activities, grants and from donations in cash and kind from the general public in support of Stella's Voice relief work.

STELLA'S VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

As at 31 March 2024, the charitable company has restricted reserves of £174,294 (2023 - £119,495) and unrestricted reserves of £633,020 (2023 - £620,455). The charitable company has deficit reserves of £37,384 (2023 - £76,199 deficit) after adding back the value of unrestricted fixed assets of £670,404 (2023 - £696,654). The directors constantly monitor this position and are always looking at steps to take to improve the financial base of the charity. They aim to evolve a specific reserves policy in time.

The directors also monitor the charity's cash position and operating results at each retail location. They are also reviewing costs and overheads to limit expenditure, ensuring the commitments to secured lenders and HMRC are met when they fall due.

Future plans

We continue to develop links and relationships to help feed and clothe the homeless and others in need of help and support across the UK.

We are exploring and developing opportunities with other organisations and individuals in Moldova and in other countries who are working with vulnerable children and young people.

We thankfully continue to operate, continue to grow and of course continue to adapt to the ever-changing scenarios we find ourselves facing. We are still working towards our goals and fully expect to reach or even exceed them in terms of growth and results.

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity with both the Charities Commission in England and Wales Charity No 276520 and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator in Scotland Charity No SC040458. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up each member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The Chief Officer of the charitable company is responsible to the Board of Directors for the financial and overall management of the company.

Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel's pay levels are reviewed by the board annually.

Mark Morgan - European Director
Wayne Keeping - Director of Operations

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr M Morgan
Mr W Keeping

Recruitment and Appointment of Board Members

Under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the directors, must retire each year, but a retiring director shall be eligible for re-election.

All new directors are selected with a view to ensuring that the board has an appropriate balance of experience and skills relevant to Stella's Voice strategic and operational requirements.

The Board are actively looking to add to the number of Trustees, but are also taking time to ensure the right people are added.

STELLA'S VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Directors' Induction and Training

New directors are fully briefed on the organisation by the Chief Executive Officer and meet with the senior staff as part of their induction. A comprehensive information pack is given to all new directors.

Risk Management

In the opinion of the directors, the major risk to the charitable company would be the withdrawal of public support for the charitable company's relief work. The lack of cash reserves is a concern, providing little in the way of a contingency fund against any unbudgeted expenditure however this is being monitored and managed by the directors.

Auditor

AAB were appointed as auditor to the company and a resolution proposing that they be re-appointed will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Mr M Morgan
Trustee

Date:

STELLA'S VOICE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees (who are also the directors of the Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mr M Morgan
Trustee
Date:

STELLA'S VOICE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STELLA'S VOICE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Stella's Voice (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STELLA'S VOICE (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STELLA'S VOICE (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 2019. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities including fraud to be:

- Management override of controls to manipulate the charity's key performance indicators to meet targets
- Timing and completeness of income recognition
- Compliance with relevant laws and regulations which directly impact the financial statements and those that the charity needs to comply with for the purpose of trading

Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included:

- Testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness
- Evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business
- Reviewing judgements made by management in their calculation of accounting estimates for potential management bias
- Enquiries of management about litigation and claims and inspection of relevant correspondence
- Reviewing legal and professional fees to identify indications of actual or potential litigation, claims and any non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Testing a sample of income transactions to source documentation.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

STELLA'S VOICE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STELLA'S VOICE (CONTINUED)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Graeme Penman (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Anderson Anderson & Brown Audit LLP

Statutory Auditor

Kingshill View

Prime Four Business Park

Kingswells

Aberdeen

AB15 8PU

Date:

Anderson Anderson & Brown Audit LLP are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

STELLA'S VOICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	129,284	454,722	584,006	536,483
Charitable activities	5	857,025	-	857,025	841,591
Total income		986,309	454,722	1,441,031	1,378,074
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	973,744	399,923	1,373,667	1,278,012
Total expenditure		973,744	399,923	1,373,667	1,278,012
Net movement in funds		12,565	54,799	67,364	100,062
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		620,455	119,495	739,950	639,888
Total funds carried forward		633,020	174,294	807,314	739,950

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 15 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	829,533	792,486
Investment property	11	250,000	250,000
		<u>1,079,533</u>	<u>1,042,486</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	12	502	502
Debtors	13	116,081	176,393
Cash at bank and in hand		74,627	5,346
		<u>191,210</u>	<u>182,241</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(198,199)	(187,805)
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>(6,989)</u>	<u>(5,564)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,072,544</u>	<u>1,036,922</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(265,230)	(296,972)
Total net assets		<u><u>807,314</u></u>	<u><u>739,950</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	17	174,294	119,495
Unrestricted funds	17	633,020	620,455
Total funds		<u><u>807,314</u></u>	<u><u>739,950</u></u>

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Mr M Morgan
Trustee
Date:

The notes on pages 15 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

STELLA'S VOICE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations	189,604	83,023
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	-	96,750
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(88,129)	(283,341)
Net cash used in investing activities	(88,129)	(186,591)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of bank loans	(31,927)	(33,913)
Net cash used in financing activities	(31,927)	(33,913)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	69,548	(137,481)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	5,079	142,560
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>74,627</u>	<u>5,079</u>

The notes on pages 15 to 30 form part of these financial statements

STELLA'S VOICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. General information

Stella's Voice is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and is a charity registered in both Scotland and England. The registered office is 131 Chalton Lane, Clanfield, PO8 0RQ and the business address is Faith Acres, Inverugie, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, AB42 3DQ.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Stella's Voice meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least the next twelve months. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees closely monitor the free reserves position of the Charity, and the Charity's cash position. After the year end, all liabilities are being met as they fall due and the trustees are confident, based on the current cash position of the Charity, that the Charity will be able to meet its liabilities for at least 12 months from the date of signing these accounts.

In addition, included in investment property is development land which the trustees intend to realise in the next few years to generate funds to finance the continuance of the Charity's activities.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £NIL or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, on a straight line and reducing balance basis..

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	2% Straight Line
Motor vehicles	-	20% Straight Line
Fixtures and fittings	-	15% Reducing Balance

2.6 Investment properties

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2.7 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 Finance leases and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Assets acquired by finance lease are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Assets acquired by hire purchase are depreciated over their useful lives. Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the Charity. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors, net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the Statement of financial activities so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

2.13 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2.14 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The trustees consider that the following critical estimates and judgements have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

The freehold building and the investment property values are estimated by the trustees based on a professional property valuation in 2017.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations				
Donations and gifts	20,165	-	20,165	49,741
Overseas and UK missions	109,119	84,899	194,018	152,418
Donations in kind	-	122,501	122,501	173,465
	<u>129,284</u>	<u>207,400</u>	<u>336,684</u>	<u>375,624</u>
Grants	-	247,322	247,322	160,859
Total 2024	<u>129,284</u>	<u>454,722</u>	<u>584,006</u>	<u>536,483</u>
Total 2023	<u>127,111</u>	<u>409,372</u>	<u>536,483</u>	

Donations in kind relate to donated goods and services which were distributed to the Charity's beneficiaries without charge. A corresponding cost in relation to these items is included within expenditure on charitable activities (note 6).

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Recycling Income	51,197	51,197	57,256
Facilities rental income	5,280	5,280	5,280
Shop and barn income	800,548	800,548	779,055
	<u>857,025</u>	<u>857,025</u>	<u>841,591</u>
Total 2023	<u>841,591</u>	<u>841,591</u>	

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Charitable Activities	<u>795,436</u>	<u>578,231</u>	<u>1,373,667</u>	<u>1,278,012</u>
Total 2023	<u>758,298</u>	<u>519,714</u>	<u>1,278,012</u>	

In the prior year expenditure on charitable activities relating to unrestricted funds totalled £967,215 and and £310,797 related to restricted funds.

STELLA'S VOICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	451,138	393,649
Depreciation	51,082	37,291
Rates and water	11,870	9,220
Heat & light	44,153	37,955
Sundries	33,210	44,947
Shop supplies	8,015	7,965
Telephone	8,692	9,055
Motor expenses	56,961	59,218
Equipment leasing	6,335	3,154
(Gain)/Loss on sale of fixed assets	-	(17,621)
Other charitable expenditure	1,453	-
Donations in kind	122,527	173,465
	<u>795,436</u>	<u>758,298</u>

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	322,683	281,564
Insurance and heat & light	23,232	20,214
Travelling and vehicles expenses	3,701	5,009
Telephone	1,104	10,396
Bank charges	35,144	10,743
Advertising and office expenses	18,417	14,486
Bank interest	18,976	14,188
Rent and rates	71,343	53,344
IT and repairs & renewals	53,405	73,576
Governance costs	30,226	36,194
	<u>578,231</u>	<u>519,714</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

7. Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	14,600	14,300

8. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	712,021	623,219
Social security costs	49,561	42,156
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	12,239	9,838
	<u>773,821</u>	<u>675,213</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Administrative	<u>41</u>	<u>38</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

9. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, two trustees were remunerated in their capacity as European Director and Director of Operations with total remuneration of £105,714 (2023 - £93,371). There was no additional remuneration paid to trustees during the current or comparative year.

Payments made to trustees are allowed by provision in the charity's memorandum and articles of association.

		2024 £	2023 £
Mr M Morgan	Remuneration	58,219	50,274
	Pension contributions paid	1,321	1,230
Mr W Keeping	Remuneration	45,011	43,098
	Pension contributions paid	1,163	1,106

During the year ended 31 March 2024, no trustee expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**
10. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2023	550,000	183,465	314,649	91,000	1,139,114
Additions	-	27,500	20,629	40,000	88,129
At 31 March 2024	550,000	210,965	335,278	131,000	1,227,243
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2023	33,000	67,657	245,971	-	346,628
Charge for the year	11,000	29,781	10,301	-	51,082
At 31 March 2024	44,000	97,438	256,272	-	397,710
Net book value					
At 31 March 2024	506,000	113,527	79,006	131,000	829,533
At 31 March 2023	517,000	115,808	68,678	91,000	792,486

The fair value of freehold property at 31 March 2024 has been arrived at by the trustees on the basis of a valuation carried out at 15 August 2017 by Graham & Sibbald who are independent professionally qualified valuers. The trustees believe there is no material change at 31 March 2024 from the 2017 valuation. The valuation was arrived at by reference to market evidence of transaction prices for similar properties in their location and takes into account the current state of the market in the areas where the properties are situated.

The historical cost of the freehold land and buildings and the investment property in Note 11 is £808,076.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

11. Investment property

	Freehold investment property £
Valuation	
At 1 April 2023	250,000
At 31 March 2024	<u>250,000</u>

The fair value of investment property at 31 March 2024 has been arrived at by the trustees on the basis of valuations carried out at 15 August 2017 by Graham & Sibbald who are independent professionally qualified valuers.

The trustees consider there to be no material change at 31 March 2024 from the 2017 valuation.

12. Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	<u>502</u>	<u>502</u>

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	4,881	97,915
Other debtors	76,917	55,031
Prepayments and accrued income	34,283	23,447
	<u>116,081</u>	<u>176,393</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank overdrafts	-	267
Bank loans	31,109	31,294
Other loans	1,776	1,776
Trade creditors	120,821	116,396
Other taxation and social security	11,675	10,994
Other creditors	2,896	4,601
Accruals and deferred income	29,922	22,477
	<u>198,199</u>	<u>187,805</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	257,830	287,795
Other loans	7,400	9,177
	<u>265,230</u>	<u>296,972</u>

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Between one and two years		
Bank loans	31,109	31,294
Other loans	1,776	1,776
	<u></u>	<u></u>
Between two and five years		
Bank loans	65,827	76,892
Other loans	5,624	7,401
	<u></u>	<u></u>
Over five years		
Bank loans	160,894	179,609
	<u></u>	<u></u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

A Bank of Scotland (BOS) loan of £194,785 (2023: £208,941) was outstanding at the year end. The loan is repayable by monthly installments with the final instalment falling due November 2033. Interest is charged at base rate plus 2.25% per annum.

A further BOS loan of £35,117 (2023: £38,014) was outstanding at year end. The loan is repayable by monthly installments with the final installment falling due in January 2033. Interest is charged at base rate plus 3.2% per annum.

A further BOS loan of £36,564 (2023: £39,635) was outstanding at year end. The loan is repayable by monthly installments with the final installment falling due in May 2033. Interest is charged at base rate plus 3.0% per annum.

A further BOS bounce back loan of £22,500 (2023: £32,500) was also outstanding at year end. The loan is repayable by monthly installments with the final instalment falling due in June 2026. Interest is charged at a fixed 2.5% per annum.

The BOS bank loans are secured by a standard security over Faith Acres, Peterhead and 210/212 King Street, Aberdeen.

An Energy Saving Trust loan of £9,176 (2023: £10,952) was outstanding at year end. The loan is repayable by monthly instalments with the final instalment falling due in May 2029. This is an interest free loan.

16. Financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	74,627	5,346

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise of cash at bank in hand.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

17. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted Funds	620,455	986,309	(973,744)	633,020
Restricted funds				
Moldova Activities	887	55,014	(55,901)	-
Electrical Van	4,832	-	(4,832)	-
Food and Household Goods	-	48,963	(48,963)	-
Cycle Hub	91,000	247,322	(186,693)	151,629
Ukraine Appeal	22,776	46,342	(53,953)	15,165
Mini Bus	-	9,000	(1,500)	7,500
Roof Repairs	-	48,081	(48,081)	-
	119,495	454,722	(399,923)	174,294
Total of funds	739,950	1,441,031	(1,373,667)	807,314

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted Funds	618,968	968,702	(967,215)	620,455
Restricted funds				
Moldova Activities	10,278	61,241	(70,632)	887
Kickstart	-	30,859	(30,859)	-
Electrical Van	10,642	-	(5,810)	4,832
Food and Household Goods	-	50,421	(50,421)	-
Cycle Hub	-	130,000	(39,000)	91,000
Ukraine Appeal	-	136,851	(114,075)	22,776
	20,920	409,372	(310,797)	119,495
Total of funds	639,888	1,378,074	(1,278,012)	739,950

The Moldova Activities fund relates to proceeds raised through grants, appeals and donations in the form of monetary and non-monetary contributions. The income has been fully spent on activities over in Moldova in line with the charities objectives.

The Food and Household Goods fund relates to food, flowers and household goods that are received by Stella's Voice from local companies that are then distributed to those in need in the local community.

The Kickstart fund relates to funding received for a Government scheme launched on the back of lockdown to try and get 16-24 year olds back into work as that age bracket had been disproportionately affected with job losses during lockdown. These costs were given to cover salary, training and startup costs for taking on these young individuals.

The Electrical Van funding was obtained to assist Stella's Voice with purchasing an electric van, that is used to carry out day to day activities to support the Charity.

The Ukraine appeal fund relates to the fundraising efforts for the support of Ukrainians refugees who have fled to Moldova following the outbreak of war.

The Cycle Hub fund represents amounts received for capital improvements to support in the creation of a Cycle Hub.

The Minibus fund represent amounts received to purchase a new minibus.

The Roof Repairs fund represents amounts secured to support Stella's Voice in undertaking necessary roof maintenance.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

18. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
General funds	620,455	986,309	(973,744)	633,020
Restricted funds	119,495	454,722	(399,923)	174,294
	<u>739,950</u>	<u>1,441,031</u>	<u>(1,373,667)</u>	<u>807,314</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
General funds	618,968	968,702	(967,215)	620,455
Restricted funds	20,920	409,372	(310,797)	119,495
	<u>639,888</u>	<u>1,378,074</u>	<u>(1,278,012)</u>	<u>739,950</u>

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	670,404	159,129	829,533
Investment property	250,000	-	250,000
Current assets	176,045	15,165	191,210
Creditors due within one year	(198,199)	-	(198,199)
Creditors due in more than one year	(265,230)	-	(265,230)
Total	<u>633,020</u>	<u>174,294</u>	<u>807,314</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

19. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	696,654	95,832	792,486
Investment property	250,000	-	250,000
Current assets	158,578	23,663	182,241
Creditors due within one year	(187,805)	-	(187,805)
Creditors due in more than one year	(296,972)	-	(296,972)
Total	620,455	119,495	739,950

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	67,364	100,062
Adjustments for:		
(Gain)/Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(17,621)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	51,082	37,291
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	60,312	(124,243)
Increase in creditors	10,846	87,534
Net cash provided by operating activities	189,604	83,023

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	74,627	5,079
Total cash and cash equivalents	74,627	5,079

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	5,346	69,281	74,627
Bank overdrafts repayable on demand	(267)	267	-
Debt due within 1 year	(33,070)	185	(32,885)
Debt due after 1 year	(296,972)	31,742	(265,230)
	<u>(324,963)</u>	<u>101,475</u>	<u>(223,488)</u>

23. Capital commitments

	2024 £	2023 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	<u>60,000</u>	<u>-</u>

24. Pension commitments

The Charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £12,239 (2023 - £9,838). Contributions totalling £2,896 (2023 - £NIL) were payable to the fund at the Balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

25. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2024 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	48,002	30,597
Between two and five years	82,278	11,836
	<u>130,280</u>	<u>42,433</u>

Amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities as an expense during the period in respect of operating lease arrangements were £51,382 (2023 - £36,227).

