REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 01604168 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 287732

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

for

Voluntary Action Swindon

Monahans
Chartered Accountants
Hermes House
Fire Fly Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN2 2GA

Voluntary Action Swindon

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onthly drop-in attended by 20-25 ve
services. Additional funding will be sourced to continue this project. On 17th October we we
Forces Employer Recognition Scheme Silver Award.

- Thanks to a grant from the National Lottery, we are the lead partner delivering a four-year c
develop a stronger Youth Voice in Swindon. The project also aims to help bring together youth se
make sure that young people can access the help and support they need. In partnership with S
and Swindon and Gloucestershire Mind we are running workshops, discussion groups, cre
programme of visits and guest speakers designed to help young people grow in confidence a
difference to the world around them. We are currently in our 2nd year of this four-year project.

- Our Volunteering Swindon brokerage service continues to grow, we advertise 30 - 40 vacanci
refer volunteers looking for roles to this website when they enquire. This project is partially f
Lottery; we are also looking at ways of generating sustainable income by introducing corpor
charged for service. To make this happen we are also looking for funding to support a platform fo
volunteering opportunities in Swindon. We introduced a new volunteering page this year and 290
the page looking for volunteering opportunities. Following an event to attract volunteers to
included:

"Good event, informative with good handouts and very good presenters and speakers."

-'People Like Me' is a project funded as a year-long pilot by the National Lottery and ICA REN fu
funding to employ locally based people as Community Connectors within the identified areas o
statutory services. A requirement of a Community Connector is that they live within the area they
can build a network of locally living volunteers who would like to make a difference to their local a
roots' connection to statutory services. We hope to sustain this project, which is proving to be s
looking for additional funding. We employed 4 Community Connectors in Penhill, Town Centre
this is a pilot project for one year. Three of the Connectors are funded by the National Lott
Connector funded from ICA REN funding.

Sanford House is a recognised, respected, and inclusive Community Hub in Swindon, known for its strong connections and positive impact. We will remain its head lease holder until June 2026, during which time we will work with the charities we sublease to, and the local authority supporting the charities in finding suitable new premises before our tenure ends.

John Street
John Street is fully utilised. We lease offices to two charities within the building and rent rooms for Swindon Borough Council's Adult Learning team and provide advice and support to the local community.

Conference Facilities
VAS is a recognised provider of professional conference facilities and other services for the voluntary and community sector in Swindon providing a high quality, value for money, responsive service to all of its stakeholders.

Connected and Valued
VAS is a well-known, respected and valued partner and voice for the Swindon Community Sector working to ensure that the sector is understood, connected and a valued partner in integrated health and wellbeing service provision in Swindon. This year we have been working towards a recognised Kite Mark which we expect to complete in May this year. Our sector survey endorses and is available to view on our website.

Income
VAS has diversified income streams but remains a valued and funded Swindon Borough Council service for the Community Sector.

Equality and Diversity
VAS' equality work continues to raise awareness, support the voluntary sector in breaking down barriers, and helping make Swindon become a more inclusive town.

Shopmobility
Shopmobility is a valued, high quality and well-known service for people with mobility issues, enabling those with mobility issues access to Swindon town centre. We take annual feedback to improve the service - these are some of the comments from this year's survey.

"The staff are all lovely and helpful. There is always a scooter and parking available. It's great."

"It enables my wife and I to come to the town centre, knowing that we can get about easily."

Quality of Delivery
We measure the success of our delivery through feedback, surveys and the level of awareness the sector has of VAS.

Our quarterly reports to Swindon Borough Council provide feedback from those using our services, including:

"Thank you for that. An amazingly detailed reply. Extremely helpful." In relation to governance advice provided during Q1 of this financial year.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

From its premises at 1 John Street and through its landlord responsibilities for Sanford House Community Hub, Voluntary Action Swindon provides a wide range of services to voluntary and community organisations in the Borough of Swindon. These include:

- Funding and governance advice service.
- Veteran navigation service, drop-in, support services and social activities.
- Trustee network: including training, advice and guidance.
- Volunteer brokerage.
- Shopmobility service.
- Swindon Youth Voice.
- Championing equality, diversity and inclusion in Swindon.
- Providing a voice on behalf of the voluntary sector.
- Representing the sector and ensuring its role as a valued partner in the Integrated Care System. This is a comment from Age UK, "thank you so much for being a strong voice for the voluntary sector. You have done this with clarity, and fair challenge. Thank you for being there for us all."
- Encouraging and supporting collaboration between the sector and the statutory services.
- Facilities Management.
- Meeting room hire/facilitation of training space.
- Support services including DBS check facilitation and a printing/copying service.
- Weekly e-newsletter.
- Key information dissemination through our website and social media, utilising our extensive CRM to target information to specific sectors of the VCSE.
- Community feedback and consultations through surveys and focus groups funded by our National Lottery funded 'People Like Me' project.
- Sector Survey.
- Community research and feedback.

Public benefit

By achieving our aims Voluntary Action Swindon (VAS) delivers public benefit:

- indirectly by helping the broad range of charities and other voluntary organisations within the Borough of Swindon. Our range of help to inform these charities, build their capacity and maximise their resources to deliver their valuable services within the community.
- Directly through our Shopmobility, Veteran Support, Youth Voice and 'People Like Me' programmes.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's Guidance on Public Benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The Trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Funding and Governance Support

Over the year we have dealt with 591 requests for help, across 208 organisations from the Swindon Voluntary and Community Sector. This includes funding and governance help and engagement with a wide range of other issues. We send out weekly funding information to Voluntary Sector organisations using our database to target those that are actively looking for funding. This year we sent out 2452 funding information emails with links to funders.

We also continue to share important information with and between the sector through our weekly newsletter VAS-ID, with subscribers reaching over 800, through our website and our social media feeds.

Directory of Services

We have created a new directory of services along with an interactive map for Swindon to asset map locally available services. This is live on our website, is interactive and will be continually updated and developed as the Community Connectors asset map the areas they are working and living in.

Research Engagement Network (REN) Project

In partnership with the Integrated Care Board's Research and Community Engagement Project Manager, we have been awarded £10k to enhance our People Like Me, Community Connector Programme. This has enabled us to begin working with Bath University and Aardman Animation to support research into young people and the impact social media has on them and their body image.

Swindon Crisis Fund with Kennet Furniture Refurbiz (ICB Health Inequalities Funding)

The VAS Swindon Crisis Fund, working in partnership with Kennet Furniture Refurbiz, Citizens Advice and the Swindon Borough Council Live Well Hub, continues to provide a much-needed service for those experiencing poverty and related health challenges in Swindon. Since the launch in April 2023, it has responded to 340 (to March 2025) referrals from residents with 63% living in the most 10% deprived Local Super Output Areas (LSOA's) nationally and 85% in the 6 most deprived LSOA's in Swindon.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (EDI)

A new Inclusion, Collaboration and Community Development Manager was successfully appointed in the first quarter of 2024/2025.

Equality work during the year included:

- Developing the Inclusivity Network Swindon and merged with the Equality Coalition to better reflect its proactive approach to the EDI agenda. The Inclusion Network isn't so much about raising issues regarding equality but looks to be proactive in supporting engagement and coproduction activities in an inclusive manner and also to upskill the sector with training opportunities.
- Supported an initiative to promote an Easy Read by Default readable AI powered translation tool to the sector.
- Under a new 'People Like Me' project, we recruited Community Connectors from 4 of Swindon's most deprived areas. The idea being that they represent the areas where they live and have a vested interest in seeing improvements at grass roots level. Being part of the solution, rather than being 'done to'. All have been through a thorough induction. Three were funded by National Lottery and one through REN funding. It was agreed that the health research could be split across 4 Community Connector roles, giving us 4 Community Connectors in 4 of the most deprived areas of Swindon.
- Representation on the steering group and operational group for a Swindon Based Placed Project lead by WASP (Wiltshire and Swindon Sport). This is the development stage for money coming to Swindon from Sport England to get people closer to activity.
- Carried out community consultation events (over 30) in the 7 identified areas of the Swindon Placed Based Project to find out community views on what is stopping people from being active. This work will feed into the full bid going to Sport England later this year. This work was successfully carried out by 4 members of the VAS team and included a survey, drop-ins, door knocking and leaflet drops to gather as many views as possible to feed into this project.
- The Equality, Diversity and Collaboration Manager applied for, and was accepted, as one of only 12 representatives on a national programme through NAVCA, Allyship Champions, to increase the access to resources for local community organisation.
- We hosted a special 2-hour Teams workshop with 40+ members of all three placed based VCSE leadership alliances with the ICB in February to get VCSE input to the NHSE 10-year plan consultations.
- VAS' on-going collaboration work includes facilitating several networks for the local voluntary sector including when newly commissioned providers move into Swindon to ease this transition within the VCSE.

COLLABORATION

Swindon Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Leadership Alliance

VAS has continued to lead the Swindon VCSE Leadership Alliance network, made up of over 60 leaders from VCSE groups in Swindon.

Four virtual meetings took place during the year sharing:

- Updates on relevant Integrated Care System activities:

o Procurement of community-based health services and potential role for VCSE.
o Integrated Neighbourhood Teams and Team around the person.
o Pharmacy, Ophthalmology and Dentistry.
o Health Inequalities Funding.
o New Mental Health Strategy.
o NHSE targets - short rather than long term.
o New NHSE Quality Development Tool.
o Planned Sport England investment into disadvantaged wards in Swindon.
o Swindon Crisis Provision Fund.
o ICA hypertension work and role of the VCSE.
o HCRG presentation on new Community Services contract in Swindon.
o How to report a rough sleeper.
o Swindon Borough Council Designated Lead - managing and reporting safeguarding allegations.

- A 'special' VCSE Alliance meeting was held in November with the new Swindon Labour MPs who shared their priorities for Swindon, followed by a Q&A with the following topics:
o Government directing people for support to claim Pension Credit to Age UK with no capacity funding.
o The increase in Employer National Insurance contributions and the impact on the VCSE.

BSW Integrated Care System (ICS) VCSE Alliance
Our Strategic Lead for Integrated Care attends the BSW VCSE Alliance of the four infrastructure organisations regularly, and also meets with the BSW Executive monthly, joined by Healthwatch colleagues. The types of areas discussed are:

- Integrated Care Board (ICB) restructuring Quality Development Tool.
- VCSE Commissioning.
- VCSE Action Plan.
- Future Funding for CVS's.
- Bath (and North East Somerset), Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) People Plan.
- VCSE representation on various groups.
- KPI's for VCSE Alliance VCSE members.
- Health Inequalities Funding.
- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams Blueprint.
- Vaccination Confidence Grants.
- Engagement Mapping.
- Provider Selection Regime/ Section 75 Funding.
- ICB Delivery Plan.

Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership (VCSEP)
We continue to engage in this national partnership funded by central government and led by the British Red Cross, to better co-ordinate the VCSE response to national and local emergencies.

VAS Trustee Network
From a Trustee Network survey, we ascertained most members would like to have meetings on a quarterly basis, for in-person workshop and skills development. There are currently over 60 members of the Trustee Network.

VAS continues to have support pages on our website, and to proactively send out governance updates and relevant information on training and development.

Events/Workshops
VAS hosted a range of workshops through Swindon Trustee Network including:

- Introduction to Bid Writing.
- AI Grant Writer Demonstration and CRM Management.
- Cyber Crime Prevention Session.
- Trusteeship and Volunteering.
- The Roles and Duties of Trustees
- Online Meet the Funder Session
- Essential Policies and Procedures.
- Volunteer and Trustee Recruitment.
- HR/Employment Law.
- Health and Safety Seminar for Charity Trustees and CEOs.

Our 'Meet the Funder' event held on 12th March attracted over 60 attendees. 5 local and national funders attended to present their funding programmes, then attendees had the opportunity to meet the funders for a 1:1 session.

VOICE FOR THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

VAS has continued to provide input at and provide a voice for the Swindon local Voluntary Sector at a variety of Boards and Forums:

- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Early Intervention, Youth and Strategic Partnership Board
- Swindon Safeguarding Board and Partnerships for Children and Adults
- Safeguarding Wiltshire and Swindon Comms Group
- Safeguarding Learning and Development Group
- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams Steering Group
- Broad Green Action Community Group (Clear, Hold, Build)
- SBC Corporate Peer Challenge
- Corporate Parenting Board
- SBC Quality Assurance Framework
- VAS/SBC Partnership meeting with CEO of SBC
- Let's Talk Swindon Event
- Swindon Place-Based Strategic Steering Group
- Swindon Adult Learning Advisory Board
- Swindon Rough Sleepers Forum
- Feeding Swindon Partnership
- South West Apprenticeship Ambassador Network (SWAAN) meeting
- Get Swindon Active
- Swindon and Wiltshire Domestic Abuse Comms Panel
- Various strategic interview stakeholder panels

Voice for the Voluntary Sector in the Integrated Care System

VAS, along with most of the other Councils for Voluntary Service's (CVS's) across England, has been heavily involved with making sure that the VCSE voice is represented at Integrated Care Systems, specifically for Swindon on the Bath and North East Somerset (BaNES), Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW). We have continued to be part of the BSW VCSE Leadership Alliance at system level with CVS colleagues from BaNES and Wiltshire.

We have engaged other members of the sector with this work with representation on groups, together with over 60 organisations who form the Swindon VCSE Leadership Alliance.

We are also working regionally with other CVS colleagues involved in the Integrated Care Systems in the South West and nationally with other CVS colleagues and our umbrella organisation NAVCA (National Association of Voluntary and Community Action) and a dedicated team within NHS England to ensure that the VCSE is a valued partner in integrated care.

Voice at Integrated Care Meetings

At system level a VAS team member is the VCSE partner member on the BSW ICB Board. Other system level meetings include the Integrated Care Partnership, the Children and Young People Delivery Group, the Community Care Delivery Group, the Population Health Board and others as well as regular meetings between the system VCSE Leadership Alliance and a representative from the BSW ICB Executive team.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Sanford House

We have continued to effectively manage Sanford House under a management agreement with Swindon Borough Council as a community hub of 9 charity tenants and Swindon Borough Council's Live Well Team. We were also able to offer educational training space for various organisations including the adult learning team within Swindon Borough Council. We will continue to be the head lease holder until the lease ends on 30th June 2026.

John Street

We have also continued to manage our own building in John Street with a further 2 charity tenants and a long-term booking from SBC's Adult Learning team.

Conference and meeting room hire

We continue to accommodate a wide range of meetings and training sessions across our John Street and Sanford House venues, such as adult learning courses, First Aid courses and events to support our Trustee Network.

We introduced a new on-line booking system, Lemon Booking, this allows customers to directly book their own rooms. This was introduced in September 2024, since then we have had 2347 bookings.

CHAMPIONING APPRENTICESHIPS

We have been able to take on another Level 3 Business Admin apprentice to backfill, which was funded through a National Lottery uplift grant. This apprentice is due to complete their apprenticeship in August this year and we will be offering them full time employment. They were also shortlisted as Apprentice of the Year at the South West Awards, which was attended by 2 members of staff. We continue to send relevant information out to the sector and give advice and support to the sector when taking on an apprentice.

VETERAN SIGNPOSTING

We are in the final year of a two-year funding grant from the Veterans' Foundation which enables us to sustain this navigation service for veterans living in Swindon. We have forged meaningful connections with the relevant welfare services and run face to face sessions monthly in the form of drop-ins and social activities. The veterans can take part in pottery and painting, this encouraged other veterans to join for their general wellbeing

We received additional support from Zurich Community Trust which enabled us to host Christmas activities and day trips for the veterans.

We also secured some additional funding to enable us to provide digital learning session and access to IT equipment through the Good Things Foundation, which was well received by the veterans. Some of whom requested this support.

Voluntary Action Swindon attended a ceremony in October 2025 and were presented with a certificate by the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire after being successful in achieving the Armed Forces Employer Recognition Scheme Silver Award.

SHOPMOBILITY

We have continued to sustain the valuable Swindon Shopmobility Service since statutory funding ceased at the end of 2021. The service does not generate sufficient income from rental and scooter servicing to cover the necessary core costs, so we continually look for additional income to support this service and are also looking to expand our service offer to provide off-site servicing of privately owned mobility scooters.

Café Mobility

Café mobility was set up in the carpark of Sanford House, with the idea of raising enough income to support the Shopmobility unit. This proved not to be financially viable, and the Board took the decision to sell the unit in September 2024. It was sold for £12k to a local charity.

OTHER PROJECTS AND SERVICES

Safer Streets / Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Our work on this project was finalised in May with a celebration event. Our survey reports have been used by statutory services to secure additional funding into the town. These reports are available to view on our website.

Disclosure and Barring Service Umbrella body

We continue to support charities and volunteers by providing a DBS umbrella service, processing 151 DBS checks, also attracting 12 new organisations during this financial year.

Sector Survey

Voluntary Action Swindon is commissioned by Swindon Borough Council to provide support the voluntary and community sector of Swindon. For us to capture the most relevant data and ensure we are providing a quality service, we carry out a sector survey every two years. The latest survey closed on 23rd April. Results from this will be shared with the sector and published on our website.

Printing and Copying Service

We have continued to offer our competitive printing and copying service to smaller organisations when needed, which is completed by volunteers and overseen by staff.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Total funds on 31 March 2025 were £421,519 of which £118,847 were restricted. Funds held as fixed assets were £80,924. Designated funds total £213,000.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Our principal funding sources are:

- Commissioned grant income from Swindon Borough Council to deliver our core infrastructure support to the sector.
- Grant income through a management agreement with Swindon Borough Council to manage Sanford House as an effective community hub. Confirmed to end June 2026.
- National Lottery grant to provide additional capacity for three years from November 2024 - December 2027.
- National Lottery grant to support the new Youth Voice Project 2023-2027, was extended by one year.
- Grant from the BSW ICB for our VCSE representation in the system.
- Veterans Foundation and Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust provides funding for the salary of our Veteran Support Navigator and funds activities for the veterans.
- Other small grant income.
- Trading Income, including room hire and tenant income.

Investment policy and objectives

The investment policy and objectives are agreed by the Board to minimise risk by spreading the investment of reserves to maximise the protection through the Financial Services Compensation Scheme protecting the first £85,000 of any savings. This also maximises return whilst ensuring available cash flow to meet liabilities and to be able to respond to emergency building repair issues.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Board review the principal risks for the charity on a regular basis and put strategies in place to manage these risks. Our top risks at this point are:

Losing the opportunity to manage Sanford House confirmed as June 2026 - mitigated by working with the local authority to find a suitable location for the charities that are working from Sanford House to move out into the community. This will also impact on our Shopmobility service, we are in discussion with the local authority to re site this unit, which is in the carpark of Sanford House.

Business Continuity - we refresh the current Business Continuity Plan annually. A key risk is the development of John Street as a residential area, and the potential impact this will have on our building. We continue to monitor the building work within the area; we have funding in reserves to pay for legal advice if necessary.

We also have an old heating system, and we have kept reserves in place to manage this should the current heating system break down or need replacing.

Succession planning is always a challenge with a small team but is continually monitored and we encourage growth and promotion. One of our apprentices is now our Volunteer and Digital Marketing Co-ordinator and we have back filled with another apprentice, who completes her apprenticeship in August and will join the team as a Marketing, Communication and Admin Officer. We have increased our training programme with staff, to ensure we have experienced and trained staff to grow with the organisation.

Reserves policy

Factors likely to affect future financial performance or position are mitigated by an adequate reserves policy:

Most of VAS's income comes from the local authority, supplemented by grant income and trading income through room hire, car park space rental, training and Shopmobility custom. Should circumstances in the future mean that this income reduces or is impacted, VAS would have to seek new funding sources at a sufficient level to enable it to continue to deliver its charitable aims. The Trustees feel it is necessary to keep a minimum of six months and ideally twelve months operational costs in reserve as well as financial provision to cover any necessary restructuring if necessary. In addition, any restricted funds are held in reserve to enable us to fulfil our funding obligations. Currently restrictive funds stand at £118,847 and an operational reserve at £138,000. The operational reserves currently amount to 6 months running costs.

Property Maintenance Fund

The Trustees recognise the age of 1 John Street and its deteriorating infrastructure where most of the VAS team and some tenants are based. They feel that it is appropriate to hold some reserve in anticipation of urgent repair of the cost of temporary facilities should the repair work render the current office environment uninhabitable during renovation to ensure continuity of service. Current reserves held for this £50,000.

New Property Fund

In the longer term, given that 1 John Street is in area earmarked for redevelopment, any sale and purchase of new premises will require legal and surveyor costs and/or temporary office accommodation during any renovations. The Trustees have decided to make a provision of £25,000 for this to ensure continuity of service.

FUTURE PLANS

Our key objectives for the next year include continuing:

- To secure additional funding to grow and sustain the organisation.
- To develop and grow our valued 'People Like Me' project beyond the initial one year pilot.
- To continue to develop our Youth Voice Project.
- To provide responsive and proactive funding and governance advice.
- To champion equality and diversity and inclusion.
- To ensure that the Swindon VCSE is a valued partner in the Swindon Integrated Care Alliance.
- To ensure that the VCSE is a valued partner in the broader BSW Integrated Care System and in the new ICB Cluster arrangement.
- To be a representative voice for the Swindon VCSE on Boards and Forums.
- To signpost veterans to services in Swindon and develop the requested activities for veterans and to seek ongoing sustainability for this work.
- To continue working with Wiltshire and Swindon Sport (WASP) to support additional funding coming into Swindon via Sport England to encourage people to becoming more active via our 'People Like Me' Community Connector programme.
- To develop our Corporate Volunteering offer to generate and sustain this offer.
- To seek funding to develop our community work for co-production with the people of Swindon, which forms part of our new strategic plan.
- To sustain the Swindon Shopmobility Service and secure a new site.
- To support the charities within Sanford House to become rehoused in suitable locations within Swindon's community following its closure in June 2026.
- To sustain and grow existing and build new collaboration networks.
- To explore and develop our 'paid for' services as a way of generating additional income.
- To champion apprenticeships in the Voluntary Sector.
- To invest in training and developing the VAS team.
- To recruit new Trustees with the necessary skills, representative of the diversity of Swindon's population.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Voluntary Action Swindon is a charitable company, limited by guarantee. The charitable company was established under Memorandum of Association, which sets out the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

We aim for VAS the Board to be representative of the community we support with the appropriate range of skills and experience and a VAS team of staff and volunteers that reflects the diversity of the town that is sufficiently resourced, experienced, and respected. We do have work to do in recruiting a more diverse board, now we have 5 white, male trustees. We will be advertising for more diversity, and we are also looking to include young trustees from our Youth Project.

Organisational structure

Members support the aims of the organisation and are invited to the Annual General Meeting. Members elect the trustees, and these individuals are also company directors. The members of the Board are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting. They are able to sit for a maximum of 5 terms. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Voluntary Action Swindon can have a Board of up to 12 members who meet on a regular basis and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present there are 5 members of the Board from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. The CEO also attends Board meetings but has no voting rights.

The Board and the CEO work to an agreed delegation document.

Induction and training of new trustees

An induction pack has been prepared, drawing information from the various Charity Commission publications. This is distributed to all new trustees along with the Memorandum and Articles, and the latest financial statements. As part of a planned Trustee Induction training programme. Training is made available to trustees throughout the year, and they are encouraged to attend external events.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Key management remuneration

The Chief Executive Officer undertakes annual external benchmarking of salaries and shares the source data output from this with the Board of Trustees. Each employees' salary is benchmarked to a market rate, and, within affordability, the Trustees strive to adjust salaries annually with the aim of moving competent and experienced staff to as close to the middle market rate as possible.

Fundraising Standards

As a charity we do not carry out significant fundraising activities but are aware of the Fundraising Standard requirements and would seek to adhere to them at all times.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
01604168 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
287732

Registered office
1 John Street
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN1 1RT

Trustees
D Bell
R Barrett
M Flay
S Henderson
S Barnes
N O'Reilly Meredith (appointed 21.5.25)

Chief Executive Officer - C Willis

Independent Examiner
James Gare FCA DChA
Monahans
Chartered Accountants
Hermes House
Fire Fly Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN2 2GA

Bankers
Lloyds TSB Bank PLC
5 High Street
Swindon
Wiltshire

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

.....
R Barrett - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Voluntary Action Swindon

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Voluntary Action Swindon ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

James Gare FCA DChA

Monahans
Chartered Accountants
Hermes House
Fire Fly Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN2 2GA

Date: .....

Voluntary Action Swindon

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	117,419	352,209	469,628	364,482
Charitable activities	5				
Funding Advice and Sector Support		30,447	50,940	81,387	80,356
Direct Community Support		21,198	-	21,198	31,708
Investment income	4	12,357	-	12,357	5,749
Other income		25,206	-	25,206	8,902
Total		206,627	403,149	609,776	491,197
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	6				
Funding Advice and Sector Support		213,008	293,140	506,148	463,562
Direct Community Support		41,811	4,647	46,458	96,062
Total		254,819	297,787	552,606	559,624
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(48,192)	105,362	57,170	(68,427)
Transfers between funds	21	13,374	(13,374)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(34,818)	91,988	57,170	(68,427)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		337,490	26,859	364,349	432,776
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		302,672	118,847	421,519	364,349

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	15	80,924	88,626
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	16	500	979
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	17	16,113	9,008
Cash at bank and in hand		382,884	455,040
		399,497	465,027
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	18	(58,902)	(189,304)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		340,595	275,723
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		421,519	364,349
NET ASSETS		421,519	364,349
FUNDS	21		
Unrestricted funds		302,672	337,490
Restricted funds		118,847	26,859
TOTAL FUNDS		421,519	364,349

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that 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 charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit 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 charitable company.

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

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

.....
R Barrett - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Voluntary Action Swindon

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(96,513)	2,928
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(96,513)	2,928
Cash flows from investing activities			
Sale of tangible fixed assets		12,000	-
Interest received		12,357	5,749
Net cash provided by investing activities		24,357	5,749
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(72,156)	8,677
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		455,040	446,363
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		382,884	455,040

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	57,170	(68,427)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	2,269	6,294
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(6,567)	-
Interest received	(12,357)	(5,749)
Decrease in stocks	479	49
Decrease in debtors	17	28,851
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(137,524)	41,910
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(96,513)	2,928

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	455,040	(72,156)	382,884
	455,040	(72,156)	382,884
Total	455,040	(72,156)	382,884

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Voluntary Action Swindon is a charitable company limited by guarantee, without share capital, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is 1 John Street, Swindon SN1 1RT. The principal activities can be found in the Trustees' Report.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern
The majority of the charity's income comes from contracts with the local authority which are due to end in June 2026 and the charity will be required to retender for it. Should the organisation fail to win the bids, or the local authority decide not commission an Infrastructure organisation, or the contracts are awarded at a lower value to their current value, this may have a detrimental impact on the organisation's operations and cash flows. However the charity has unrestricted reserves (excluding fixed assets) of some £222k and the balance sheet is strong. On this basis, the trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis. This assumes that the charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment the trustees have reviewed the balance sheet, the likely future cash flows of the charity and have considered the funds available at this point in time.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital’ grants or ‘revenue’ grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is certainty of receipt and the amount can be reliably measured.

Where material, donated goods and services are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, where material, donated goods and services are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time is not recognised and refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

continued...

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	-	2% on straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% on straight line basis

Expenditure on tangible fixed assets amounting to less than £1000 per item is not capitalised

Stocks
Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

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

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash 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.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	2,902	3,697
Grants	466,726	360,785
	469,628	364,482

continued...

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Swindon Borough Council	233,112	238,406
The National Lottery Community Fund	137,680	56,999
The Veterans Foundation	21,935	9,082
NHS Banes, Swindon & Wiltshire	69,000	44,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	5,000
Other grants	4,999	7,298
	466,726	360,785

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	12,357	5,749

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2025	2024
		£	£
Letting and rental income	Funding Advice and Sector Support	78,678	77,737
Community print	Funding Advice and Sector Support	2,487	2,439
Training and conference	Funding Advice and Sector Support	222	180
Shopmobility sales	Direct Community Support	20,407	22,250
Café mobility sales	Direct Community Support	791	9,458
		102,585	112,064

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 7)	Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	Support costs (see note 9)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Funding Advice and Sector Support	359,219	3,482	143,447	506,148
Direct Community Support	44,279	-	2,179	46,458
	403,498	3,482	145,626	552,606

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	350,332	340,805
Other staff costs	4,539	5,804
Community print	4,711	4,447
Project costs	38,444	18,060
Shopmobility costs	4,735	3,607
Café costs	737	7,413
	403,498	380,136

continued...

8. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2025	2024
	£	£
Funding Advice and Sector Support	3,482	-

£3,482 grants we paid to VCSE groups, pharmacies and GP practices to support the case finding of Hypertension.

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Funding Advice and Sector Support	137,741	3,775	1,931	143,447
Direct Community Support	2,179	-	-	2,179
	139,920	3,775	1,931	145,626

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,269	6,294
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	(6,567)	-
Independent examination	2,131	2,131
Operating leases	2,444	1,529

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

12. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	320,731	311,538
Social security costs	19,265	19,771
Other pension costs	10,336	9,496
	350,332	340,805

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Supervision	2	1
Support/Facilities/Finance	4	4
Direct project delivery	9	10
	15	15

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year was 12 (2024: 12):

Key management personnel for the charity comprises the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits for key management personnel of the charity were £47,906 (2024: £45,953).

continued...

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	132,495	231,987	364,482
Charitable activities			
Funding Advice and Sector Support	25,454	54,902	80,356
Direct Community Support	31,708	-	31,708
Investment income	5,749	-	5,749
Other income	8,902	-	8,902
Total	204,308	286,889	491,197
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Funding Advice and Sector Support	117,171	346,391	463,562
Direct Community Support	96,062	-	96,062
Total	213,233	346,391	559,624
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(8,925)	(59,502)	(68,427)
Transfers between funds	20,736	(20,736)	-
Net movement in funds	11,811	(80,238)	(68,427)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	325,678	107,098	432,776
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	337,489	26,860	364,349

14. GOVERNMENT GRANT INCOME:

	2025 £	2024 £
Swindon Borough Council	233,112	238,406
NHS BANES, SWINDON AND WILTSHIRE	69,000	44,000

There were no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies attached to these grants. The charity has not directly benefited from any other forms of government assistance.

continued...

15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024	113,425	61,039	174,464
Disposals	-	(16,100)	(16,100)
At 31 March 2025	113,425	44,939	158,364
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	30,232	55,606	85,838
Charge for year	2,269	-	2,269
Eliminated on disposal	-	(10,667)	(10,667)
At 31 March 2025	32,501	44,939	77,440
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	80,924	-	80,924
At 31 March 2024	83,193	5,433	88,626

16. STOCKS

	2025 £	2024 £
Stocks	500	979

17. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	4,134	3,323
Prepayments and accrued income	11,979	5,685
	16,113	9,008

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	13,004	18,322
Social security and other taxes	5,595	5,573
Other creditors	14,061	3,266
Accruals and deferred income	26,242	162,143
	58,902	189,304

Included within accruals and deferred income is deferred income totalling £Nil (2024: £123,844) relating to income received in advance for projects in 25/26.

continued...

19. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within one year	3,259	382
Between one and five years	5,703	-
	8,962	382

20. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	80,924	-	80,924	88,626
Current assets	292,168	107,329	399,497	465,027
Current liabilities	(70,420)	11,518	(58,902)	(189,304)
	302,672	118,847	421,519	364,349

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	124,490	(48,192)	13,374	89,672
Property maintenance fund	50,000	-	-	50,000
Operational reserve fund	138,000	-	-	138,000
Property fund	25,000	-	-	25,000
	337,490	(48,192)	13,374	302,672
Restricted funds				
SBC - Sanford House	14,426	(3,346)	13,125	24,205
Sanford House	2,786	-	(2,786)	-
National Lottery - Youth Project	92	36,253	-	36,345
The Veterans Foundation	-	5,453	(5,453)	-
Mind	1,200	-	(1,200)	-
Capacity funding	-	29,835	-	29,835
Pride of Swindon Awards	2,064	-	-	2,064
BSW ICB Board - VCSE representation	-	16,255	(16,255)	-
Men's Shed Project	3,134	(2,329)	(805)	-
BSW ICB Board Health Inequalities	3,157	2,000	-	5,157
People Like Me	-	9,723	-	9,723
Hypertension case finding grants	-	11,518	-	11,518
	26,859	105,362	(13,374)	118,847
TOTAL FUNDS	364,349	57,170	-	421,519

continued...

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	206,627	(254,819)	(48,192)
Restricted funds			
SBC - Sanford House	169,347	(172,693)	(3,346)
National Lottery - Youth Project	103,000	(66,747)	36,253
The Veterans Foundation	20,935	(15,482)	5,453
Shopmobility	4,647	(4,647)	-
Capacity funding	34,680	(4,845)	29,835
BSW ICB Board - VCSE representation	18,000	(1,745)	16,255
Men's Shed Project	1,000	(3,329)	(2,329)
BSW ICB Board Health Inequalities	26,000	(24,000)	2,000
People Like Me	10,000	(277)	9,723
Youth project	540	(540)	-
Hypertension case finding grants	15,000	(3,482)	11,518
	403,149	(297,787)	105,362
TOTAL FUNDS	609,776	(552,606)	57,170

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	112,678	(8,924)	20,736	124,490
Property maintenance fund	50,000	-	-	50,000
Operational reserve fund	138,000	-	-	138,000
Property fund	25,000	-	-	25,000
	325,678	(8,924)	20,736	337,490
Restricted funds				
SBC - Sanford House	36,891	(22,465)	-	14,426
Sanford House	2,786	-	-	2,786
National Lottery - Youth Project	-	92	-	92
The Veterans Foundation	22,680	(15,846)	(6,834)	-
BSW ICB Capacity Funding	3,500	8,559	(8,902)	3,157
Mind	1,260	(60)	-	1,200
Capacity funding	28,606	(28,606)	-	-
Pride of Swindon Awards	2,064	-	-	2,064
REND Research Engagement Network Development	9,311	(4,311)	(5,000)	-
Men's Shed Project	-	3,134	-	3,134
	107,098	(59,503)	(20,736)	26,859
TOTAL FUNDS	432,776	(68,427)	-	364,349

continued...

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	204,308	(213,232)	(8,924)
Restricted funds			
SBC - Sanford House	171,808	(194,273)	(22,465)
National Lottery - Youth Project	35,118	(35,026)	92
The Veterans Foundation	-	(15,846)	(15,846)
BSW ICB Capacity Funding	31,000	(22,441)	8,559
Mind	-	(60)	(60)
Shopmobility	5,000	(5,000)	-
Capacity funding	21,881	(50,487)	(28,606)
BSW ICB Board - VCSE representation	13,000	(13,000)	-
REND Research Engagement Network Development	-	(4,311)	(4,311)
Men's Shed Project	9,082	(5,948)	3,134
	286,889	(346,392)	(59,503)
TOTAL FUNDS	491,197	(559,624)	(68,427)

The charity's restricted funds have the following purposes:

Sanford House - Funds utilised to meet legal expenditure.

SBC - Sanford House -Funds applied to expenditure on project development costs, internal and external costs.

Wiltshire Community Foundation - to help with the establishment of the café.

Capacity funding - National Lottery funding to improve and enhance the service provided to charities and community groups

The Veterans Foundation - fund the recruitment and employment of a veteran support worker

BSW - ICB Capacity Funding - to provide capacity funding to Swindon VCSE organisations to engage in future ICS/ICA work.

Mind - Time to Talk project funding

Café mobility - Funding to establish outdoor coffee shop and heated seating space adjacent to shopmobility service run. This fund also includes donations received for the café.

Shopmobility - to employ a shopmobility supervisor to focus on reducing isolation and improving wellbeing of adults with mobility issues

Pride of Swindon Awards - funds to arrange a formal community awards event

BSW ICB Board VCSE representation - Funding provided to support the release of a VCSE representative to attend the BSW ICB Board.

Volunteer Centre - establishing a volunteer brokerage service

REND Research Engagement Network Development - work to see how best to engage with a specific target group

Population Health Management - VCSE sector engagement and participation in the population health management programme.

VAS Conference - sponsorship for the VAS conference.

continued...

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

People like me - Part funding to run a pilot project to start a Community Connectors program in 4 of Swindon's most deprived areas.

National lottery - A youth led project addressing issues that concern the participants. The project is working in partnership with SMASH, Mechanics, Prime Theatre.

Youth project - Donations from a charity run undertaken by a member of the public includes match funding by their employer.

Hypertension case finding grants - funding to be used for VCSE time, venue costs, refreshment costs, marketing and equipment costs associated with facilitating blood pressure checks at VCSE events and activities. It can also be used for paying community pharmacies and GP practices for the supply of pharmacists and practice nurses/qualified staff to attend the events to provide the Blood Pressure checks, record keeping and signposting.

The charity's designated funds have the following purposes:

Property Maintenance Fund - Fund to provide for any emergency and major repairs and refurbishments as and when required.

Operational Reserve Fund - Funds set aside equivalent to 6 months (ideally 12) of core operating costs of the organisation in accordance with the reserves policy mentioned in the Trustees Report.

Property Fund - Funds set aside to cover costs to identify new premises and pay for surveyors and architects fees should the John Street property be involved in any Town Centre development.

Transfers between funds

£16,254 transferred out of the VCSE representative fund for staff time, supervision, preparation and feedback as a member of the ICB Board.

£13,125 transferred into the Sanford fund as under the management lease losses on Sanford House are shared by VAS on agreed percentages.

£5,453 transferred out of the Veterans Foundation for supervision, marketing, printing and overheads.

22. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The costs for the period was £10,336 (2024: £9,496). At 31 March 2025 contributions totalling £1,095 (2024: £2,074) were outstanding.

23. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

24. AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

Voluntary Action Swindon entered into an agreement with Kennet Furniture Refurbiz to host the distribution of the funding to support households in the most financially deprived areas of Swindon have access to furniture and white goods. In the year ended 31 March 2023 the charity received £25,000. In the year ended 31 March 2024, they received another £25,000, and disbursed funds of £34,156. In the year ended 31 March 2025, they received another £25,000, and disbursed funds of £31,554. Total undistributed funds at 31 March 2025 were £9,290 and this is held in other creditors.