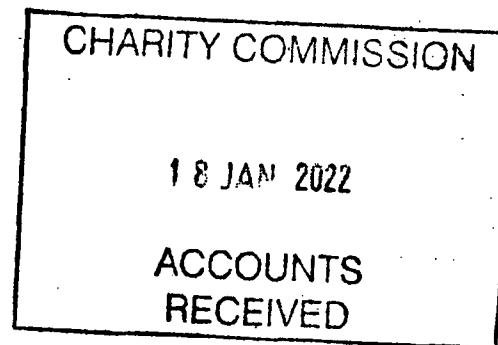


Company Registration No: 2019000
Charity Registration No. 294516

ASHA PROJECTS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)



TRUSTEE'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

BHARAT SHAH & CO
Chartered Accountants
786 London Road
Thornton Heath
Surrey, CR7 6JB

ASHA PROJECTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

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ASHA PROJECTS
Company Information

<u>Charity Number</u>	294516
<u>Company registration number</u>	2019000
<u>Registered office</u>	13 Shrubbery Road London SW16 2AS
<u>Trustees (Management Committee)</u>	P. Vadgama S. Anitha K. Chahel B. Ahmed C. Dagli J. Kalathil
<u>Senior staff members</u>	I Patel J Chana
<u>Independent Examiners</u>	Bharat Shah & Co Chartered Accountants 786 London Road Thornton Heath Surrey CR7 6JB
<u>Bankers</u>	The Co-Operative Bank plc 91 George Street Croydon CR9 3QT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, governing documents, 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).

Structure Governance and Management

Asha is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in 1986 and governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is established for the objects expressed in the memorandum of Association for the advancement of education, the relief of poverty, sickness, the preservation of health and any other charitable purpose for the benefit of the community (with particular regard to women of South Asian origin) in the UK.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee members

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, they hold office until the end of the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

The Management Committee is appointed for the knowledge, skills, experience and commitment they bring to meet Asha's charitable aims and objectives. Asha has an induction programme for new committee members, and they all have the opportunity of accessing training and on-going support. The Management Committee meet at least once every three months and are responsible for strategic direction, setting, delegating, and overseeing systems and controls, policy work, monitoring performance, and managing Asha's resources responsibly.

Financial procedures have been implemented to establish the delegation of authority over financial matters; control over the organisation's income and expenditure, the protection of its assets and for budgeting and managing the organisations finances.

The Management Committee delegates the day to day running of the organisation to the Director.

Risk Management

The Management Committee have overall responsibility for management of risks at Asha. They have developed policies and procedures to manage potential risks at all levels within the organisation and these are reviewed on a regular basis. Assessing, reviewing, and planning for the management of risks is an ongoing process.

Organisational Structure

Asha's Management Committee is responsible for the overall direction and the strategic focus of the organisation. The day-to-day responsibility is managed by the director, housing manager and the front-line staff.

ASHA PROJECTS

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 (CONTINUED)

Objectives and Activities

Asha's vision is to live in a just and sustainable world. Our mission is to challenge inequalities and empower South Asian women to build lives free of violence, oppression, and exploitation.

Our aims:

1. Support and empower South Asian women experiencing domestic abuse.
2. Ensure justice for women at policy level.
3. Strengthen Asha to be organisationally and economically sustainable.
4. Work in partnership and in solidarity.

Asha operates from four sites – a resource centre and three refuges consisting of 19 bed spaces. We provide safe temporary accommodation, information, advice, and a volunteering programme for women. We also develop and deliver basic issue-based training based on the needs of South Asian women, the wider community, and other organisations.

Volunteer Help

Asha is committed to volunteers helping us support our work. With their varied knowledge, skills and experience they compliment, enrich, and extend the resources of the organisations.

The types of activities that volunteers are involved in:

- Support the work with women and their children
- Help with practical issues relating to the upkeep of the organisation
- Promotional work with stakeholders and local organisations
- General and financial administration.

Achievements and Performance

Asha Projects is a dedicated women's organisation run for and managed by local South Asian women. During this year we supported 336 women and 49 stayed at our refuges. The part-time advice and information programme supported 159 women.

We recognise the importance of specialist services, which play a crucial role beyond language-specific provision and interpretation services. Asha provides much needed support based on an understanding of socio-cultural norms, values and issues relating to forms of violence against women and girls that are specific to South Asian communities. Asha helps women and their children recover from the impact of domestic abuse and empowers them to take control of their lives so that when they move on, they can live independently. Through Asha, vulnerable women take the first step in rebuilding their confidence, wider relationships and ultimately the future for themselves and their children.

Coffee mornings gave the women an opportunity to build peer support networks. Peer to peer support and shared experiences are vital. The aim of peer to peer support is to build lifelong networks, empower each other, help with mental health, and prevent isolation at a time when they have left all other relationships behind.

ASHA PROJECTS

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 (CONTINUED)

Asha works collaboratively with agencies and stakeholders who share our vision. We aim to build solidarity, support each other, share resources, and ensure a consistent and holistic approach to meet the needs of South Asian women. We are members of the OYA Consortium made up of a "by and for" BME VAWG organisation and joined the London VAWG consortium as partners.

This year presented new challenges, uncertainty, and obstacles, given that no one was prepared for the global Covid 19 pandemic and its long-term effects.

When the first lockdown was announced the priority became safety of our residents, children, and staff members. Everyone worked together to ensure ongoing management of risks, including daily updates from both residents and staff. The management committee met regularly to share information, review the organisations business continuity plan, and solve any issues together. This became all the more crucial considering that BME communities were being disproportionately impacted by Covid-19. We had to adapt and adjust very quickly to work remotely which meant setting up systems for working from home including purchasing equipment, carrying out risk assessments, updating IT and the cleaning rotas.

During lockdown most of the work with our clients was delivered remotely. It was a challenging period, especially for our clients. Most of the agencies including statutory agencies were closed and the ones that were open had lengthy waiting times on the phone responses to applications and inquiries were slow resulting in further hardship and distress. Unfortunately, women from the refuge suffered during this period with difficulties in re-housing. Yet the demand for our places remained extremely high. Both physical and mental health of many of the residents deteriorated which was exacerbated because access to appropriate support was more difficult.

Demand for advice and information increased and support was provided to 159 women in the community through regular contact. It was very hard to find spaces for clients who wanted to leave abusive relationships because refuge spaces were not available, leaving many of them trapped with perpetrators and nowhere to go. The contact from ex-residents also increased. We found ourselves supporting them consistently and many of them lost their jobs causing greater hardship.

We ensured that there was sufficient food, PPE, and essentials for vulnerable women. We received donations of food vouchers and various other supplies from charities which were most appreciated.

The whole process has been a learning experience, for all of us. However, on the positive side, it has made us stronger, strengthened our partnerships, and most importantly we know that we can adjust and respond to challenges more quickly in the future.

The Management Committee would like to thank our funders and all our supporters and a special thank-you to the staff and volunteers for their dedication, commitment, and inspiring efforts in our work, especially through such testing times.

Financial review

Against the backdrop of limited resources and insecurities over future funding it has continued to be difficult to plan and develop the programmes further. The cost of meeting the extra support that women and staff members needed was substantial and this would not have been possible without the funding received from MHCLG via Latin American Women's Aid (LAWA) and donations.

Despite the difficulties because of the pandemic the quality of our work was sustained. This is because of the commitment of the staff team, volunteers and the women who help and support each other and Asha.

The Management Committee has examined the charity's requirements for reserves and established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not designated should be held as between 3 and 6 months of the expenditure. The designated reserves shall be used for the forthcoming financial realisations and shortfalls for Asha's programme provision whilst keeping abreast of all the requirements intact.

ASHA PROJECTS**TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 (CONTINUED)****Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also directors of Asha Projects for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual 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, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the charitable company's examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the examiners are aware of that information.

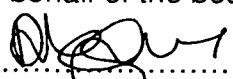
Appointment of Independent Examiner

Bharat Shah, Chartered Accountant has expressed his willingness to stand for reappointment and a resolution proposing his reappointment will be put forward at the Trustees Meeting.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 24.12.21 signed on their behalf.

On behalf of the board


.....
Chairperson – P Vadgama

ASHA PROJECTS**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHA PROJECTS**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set on pages 10 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ICAEW.

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

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

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

Independent examiners' statement

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 that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 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
- 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)].

ASHA PROJECTS

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHA PROJECTS
(CONTINUED)**

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.

Bharat Shah

Bharat Shah (Independent Examiner)
For and on behalf of Bharat Shah & Co
Chartered Accountants

786 London Road
Thornton Heath
Surrey, CR7 6JB

Date: 24 December 2021

Statement of financial activities
Income and Expenditure accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Particulars		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Notes</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Incoming resources</u>					
<u>Charitable Trading</u>					
Rental Income		303,390	-	303,390	290,383
Income from Solace Women's Aid	[2]	84,915	-	84,915	82,308
Grant Income (LAWA)	[2]	71,499	-	71,499	-
Fund -Grant Income (Bromley & Croydon)	[2]	-	-	-	8,033
Management Fee - Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing		7,514		7,514	-
<u>Other Income</u>					
Bank Interest		380	-	380	459
Sundry Income		905	-	905	3,927
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		468,603	0	468,603	385,110
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>					
Costs of Charitable Activities	[3]	417,003	-	417,003	358,990
Governance Costs	[4]	10,418	-	10,418	6,168
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		427,421	-	427,421	365,158
Surplus /(Deficit) for the year		41,182	0	41,182	19,952
Before transfers between funds					
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-
Total Funds Brought forward		165,490	-	165,490	145,537
Total Funds Carried forward		206,672	0	206,672	165,490

Continuing operations

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the current and previous years.

Total recognised gains and losses

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the surplus for the current and previous years.

Statement of Financial Position As At 31 March 2021

		<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
	<u>NOTES</u>	£	£	£	£
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible Assets	[08]		2,626		1,633
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	[09]	16,632		11,932	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>243,079</u>		<u>190,217</u>	
		259,710		202,150	
<u>Creditors: Amount falling due within one year</u>	[10]	<u>(55,665)</u>		<u>(38,293)</u>	
<u>Net current assets</u>			204,046		163,857
<u>Net asset</u>			<u>206,672</u>		<u>165,490</u>
<u>Funds</u>					
Unrestricted Funds	[11]		206,672		165,490
Restricted Funds	[12]		0		0
<u>Total Funds</u>			<u>206,672</u>		<u>165,490</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under the provisions of section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ending 31 March 2021.


Members have not required the company, under section 476 of the Companies Act 2006, to obtain an audit for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The directors/Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- i) Ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006, and
- ii) Preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 24.12.21 and signed on their behalf by



 Chairperson - P Vadgama

Notes to financial statements**For the year ended 31 March 2021****1. Accounting policies****1.1 Status of the company**

Asha Projects is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards any deficit arising in the event of the company being wound up.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees confirm that they have reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

1.3 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment - 20% Reducing balance

1.7 Taxation

The charity is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is not therefore subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

1.8 Funds

All income and expenditure is dealt with through the SOFA. All funds are classified as restricted or unrestricted, defined as follows:

- (a) Restricted funds are funds subject to specific declaration by the donor and expendable in furtherance of a particular activity.
- (b) Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the aims of the charity.
- (c) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for a particular purpose.

Notes to financial statements (Continued)For the year ended 31 March 2021**2. Income**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Receipts from Solace Women's Aid	84,915	0	84,915	82,308
Grant Aid from MHCLG via LAWA	71,499	0	71,499	
	<u>156,414</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>156,414</u>	<u>82,308</u>

Income from Solace Women's Aid is as per contractual agreement between Asha Project and Solace Women's Aid.

3. Cost of Charitable Activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Staff Costs	200,493	0	200,493	192,694
Premises Costs	82,729	0	82,729	55,677
Office Costs	22,771	0	22,771	21,535
Miscellaneous Expenses	17,154	0	17,154	3,362
Housing Management Expenses	88,753	0	88,753	77,610
Training and Management Committee Expenses	940	0	940	6,193
Travelling and transport	1,090	0	1,090	764
Bank Charges	810	0	810	745
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	656	0	656	408
Staff Expenses	1,605	0	1,605	0
	<u>417,003</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>417,003</u>	<u>358,990</u>

4. Governance Costs

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Payroll and Bookkeeping Fees	602	0	602	598
Independent Examiner's Fees	2,040	0	2,040	1,680
Accountancy fees	3,500	0	3,500	2,500
Legal and Professional Fees	4,276	0	4,276	1,390
	<u>10,418</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,418</u>	<u>6,168</u>

5. Net Incoming resources for the year

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Net incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	<u>656</u>	<u>408</u>

Notes to financial statements (Continued)For the year ended 31 March 2021**6. Employees**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	157,727	149,681
Employer's NI contributions	14,233	14,230
Pension	28,533	28,783
	<u>200,493</u>	<u>192,694</u>

7. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises on ordinary activities for the current or previous year.

The charity is registered with H M Revenue & Customs as charitable so not liable to UK corporation tax.

8. Tangible fixed assets

	<u>Fixtures & Fittings</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2020	112,719	112,719
Additions	649	649
Computer Cost	1,000	1,000
At 31 March 2021	<u>114,368</u>	<u>114,368</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2020	111,086	111,086
Charge for the year	656	656
At 31 March 2021	<u>111,742</u>	<u>111,742</u>
Net book values		
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,626</u>	<u>2,626</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,633</u>	<u>1,633</u>

9. Debtors

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Debtors - Rent Receivable	16,631	11,932
	<u>16,632</u>	<u>11,932</u>

Notes to financial statements (Continued)For the year ended 31 March 2021**10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Other Creditors and Deferred Income	17,007	25,717
Other Taxation and Social Security	(0)	3,837
Accruals	38,658	8,740
	<u>55,665</u>	<u>38,293</u>

11. Unrestricted funds

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Renewal and replacement fund	21,953			0	21,953
Internal decoration fund	18,000			0	18,000
Employers contractual obligations	71,000			4,000	75,000
Residents recreation	2,000			(2,000)	0
Hardship	4,000	2,000		0	6,000
Project and capacity building fund	18,000			0	18,000
Total Designated Funds	<u>134,953</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>138,953</u>
General funds	30,536	468,603	(427,421)	(4,000)	67,719
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>165,490</u>	<u>470,603</u>	<u>(427,421)</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>206,672</u>

12. Restricted funds

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0

13. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	2,626	0	2,626	1,633
Cash at bank and in hand	243,079	0	243,079	190,217
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(39,033)	0	(39,033)	(26,361)
	<u>206,672</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>206,672</u>	<u>165,490</u>

Notes to financial statements (Continued)For the year ended 31 March 2021**14. Analysis of Spend of MHCLG Grant for By and for BME specialist refuge provision in Covid 19 response
- Section 37 Notice**

Grant Aid of £71,499 was received in year 2020/21 from MHCLG (via Latin American Women's Aid LAWA) for Domestic Abuse safe accommodation Covid-19 emergency support. The following table illustrates what the money was awarded for and that it has been used for these purposes.

	<u>Grant</u> <u>(£)</u>	<u>Grant spent</u> <u>(£)</u>
Staffing cover (cost of additional staff hours and to cover Covid-19 related absences)	21,120	20,825
Additional Covid-19 related costs (such as deep cleaning and the purchasing of essential items and hardship for service users)	30,334	30,629
Office equipment related costs (to enable remote working where relevant)	4,819	4,819
Other costs (additional clinical supervision, IT remote support, monitoring and evaluation and management and admin costs)	15,226	15,226
	<u>71,499</u>	<u>71,499</u>