

THE NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales · Charity number 503045

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1974-03-12

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St. Michaels Lodge
Northcote Road
Langho
Blackburn
BB6 8BG

Phone 01254244980

Email enquiries@nwpgbf.org

Website www.thebenfund.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE NORTH WEST BENEVOLENT FUND MEMBERS OF CHESHIRE CONSTABULARY, GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, MERSEYSIDE POLICE, LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY, NATIONAL CRIME AGENCY, CUMBRIA CONSTABULARY AND PREVIOUS POLICE FORCES AMALGAMATED WITHIN THE CONSTITUENT FORCES, TOGETHER WITH THEIR DEPENDANTS, WHO ARE IN A CONDITION OF NEED AND HARDSHIP. TO PROVIDE FOR THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS OR INJURY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR CONVALESCENCE AND REHABILITATION. THE FUND WILL ALSO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FROM FORMER OFFICERS OF THE ABOVE FORCES AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TRUSTEES

Activities: The Fund relieves members and former members of the constituent forces, their families and dependants who are in need, hardship or distress

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Other Finance, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** MAINLY MERSEYSIDE, GREATER MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£2,223,602	£1,954,783	£6,657,300	60
2023-12-31	£1,800,842	£1,944,086	£6,324,246	49
2022-12-31	£1,610,917	£1,800,451	£6,385,926	44
2021-12-31	£1,904,689	£2,488,341	£6,666,540	37
2020-12-31	£1,608,613	£1,668,444	£7,187,906	37

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sacha Hatchett	Chair	2024-05-09
David Stephen Howard		2020-07-07
Gemma Lockett		2026-05-14
James McTear		2021-06-08
Jennifer Dagnall		2026-05-14
Mark John Morley		2025-07-01
Mark Jones		2021-12-31
Mark Unsworth		2022-02-08
Martin James Midgley		2025-07-01
Michael Gerard Kerrigan		2024-03-06
Wendy Louise Bower		2025-11-13

THE NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 503045

Accounts

North West Police Benevolent Fund
Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

North West Police Benevolent Fund

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North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Reference and Administrative Details for the North West Police Benevolent Fund

The registered address of the Charity is:

St Michael's Lodge, Northcote Road, Langho, Lancashire, BB6 8BG

Bankers for the Charity are:

National Westminster Bank PLC, Chester Branch, PO Box 8, Chester, CH1 1XA

Auditors for the Charity are:

DJH Audit Limited, Chester House, Cheshire Oaks Business Park, CH65 9HQ

Investment Management for the Charity:

RBC Brewin Dolphin Ltd, Smithfield Street, London, EC1A 9BD

Structure, Governance and Management of North West Police Benevolent Fund

The North West Police Benevolent Fund is an unincorporated charity, registered as a charity and governed by the rules of the Charity Commissioners. This report has been prepared by the Trustees of the Fund to conform to the requirements of the Charity Commissioners' Statement of Recommended Practice. However, the Trustees have made the decision to change the structure of the charity to an incorporated charitable company. The transfer of assets is currently taking place.

Trustees for the Charity in 2024:

Chair: Christopher Rowley – Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary – resigned 08/02/2024

New Chair – Sacha Hatchett – Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary – appointed 09/05/2024

Vice Chair: R. Robertshaw – Superintendents Association

D. O'Connor – NARPO – resigned 08/02/2024

M. Kerrigan – NARPO – appointed 06/03/2024

I. Taylor – NARPO

D. Howard – Cheshire Constabulary

J. McTear – Cumbria Constabulary

Vacant – Greater Manchester Police

P. Oldham – Merseyside Police

M. Jones – North Wales Police

Z. Awan – Lancashire Constabulary

M. Unsworth – National Crime Agency

The Board of Trustees has delegated managerial responsibility for the day to day running of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer, Jeremy Graham. The CEO was supported in the year by a team of two senior managers with portfolio responsibilities of Clinical Services Manager (Jo Taylor) and General Manager (Dave Wooldridge).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 (FRS 102)". The financial management of the charity is governed by a framework of policies and procedures that comply with the Charity Commission recommended best practice.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

CEO Overview

The Ben Fund is a charity that operates on a not-for-profit basis. Its sole purpose is to provide health and wellbeing support to members and clients using its services. The Fund continues to offer a unique, comprehensive and flexible offer that can be readily accessed right across the North West region.

One indicator of a healthy and relevant charity is how effective it is at attracting and retaining new members. In 2024, the Ben Fund continued to grow its membership of serving and retired officers, achieving its highest ever membership total. This has been achieved because of the reputation that the Fund has acquired and the dogged and determined work of the Funds' membership officer to target opportunities to market the offer to student officers and those about to retire from the service. Extending the cohort of potential applicants to the Fund will be important to the continued growth of the Fund moving forward.

The Fund is constantly looking at methods of bending and flexing its offer to better meet the needs of the service. In 2024, the Clinical Services Manager has led on a programme of examining relevant data and listening to stakeholders to develop a more bespoke and relevant offer. New initiatives will include rolling out mental health support to the families of members and more targeted support relating to menopause.

In addition to its day-to-day health and wellbeing responsibilities, supporting clients with physical, psychological and financial distress, the Fund is very aware of its role in supporting its constituent Forces when major incidents occur. In the aftermath of the Southport attacks in July 2024, the Fund strained every sinew to provide the necessary support to colleagues directly affected by the incident and the subsequent public disorder across the region. The Fund temporarily paused its membership rules in order to treat any non-members of the Fund who had needed psychological or physical support.

Over the subsequent months the Fund surged its capacity to provide counselling, physiotherapy, and respite breaks with family members. Between September – December 2024, the Fund layered in additional wellbeing breaks at weekends to support officers and staff affected by the incident. This was a major undertaking and I would like to pay tribute to the staff of the Ben Fund who showed great enthusiasm and flexibility to rise to this challenge. It is anticipated that the trauma caused by this incident will result in applications for treatment for several years into the future.

In recognition of the support provided by the Fund and the contribution of staff, in September 2024, I was invited to meet HRH's the Prince and Princess of Wales in Southport to discuss the Funds' role in supporting the health and wellbeing of police officers/ staff.

Ensuring the financial health of the charity continues to present challenges. The principal source of income is derived from donations from members. The steady growth in membership is an important factor in retaining a stable financial footing. Income arising from the Force wellbeing programme also plays an important feature. In order to maximise additional funding to support the charity, the Trustees agreed in October 2024, to set up a trading subsidiary company. This operates independently of the charity to focus upon monies raised by sales of food, weekend bed and breakfast stays and use of the swimming pools at weekends. I am pleased to report that the Fund was able to balance its budget in 2024 whilst retaining a healthy contingency reserve. I am grateful to Maggie Beck for her diligent work to collate complex financial data and to Martin Lanceley of DJH Chester Limited for his continued work in preparing the accounts and ongoing financial advice. Also, thanks should go to the two Trustees on the finance sub-committee for the scrutiny and assurance they provide to the Trustee Board.

The Trustees are keen to ensure that any unallocated reserves are properly utilised to the benefit of those who donate to the Fund. Accordingly, the Trustees agreed the release of a significant sum arising from the assets transferred from the Cumbria Benevolent Fund investment portfolio. This has facilitated the refurbishment of bedrooms, counselling and treatment rooms at St Michael's Lodge. The quality of the interior at St Michael's Lodge attracts regular positive feedback from colleagues staying overnight or visiting the centre.

The Ben Fund consistently attracts very positive feedback about its services and the quality of its staff. The management team is ambitious to constantly improve the experience that service users encounter when interacting with the Fund. The Fund now has adequate systems in place to obtain and analyse user feedback. During 2024, a much more systematic approach has been adopted to ensuring this feedback is scrutinised and acted upon to make improvements where necessary.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

I am very aware that the Fund is a service-based charity that succeeds or fails entirely based upon the knowledge, skills and attitudes of its staff. I am extremely grateful to the front- line clinicians for their professionalism in treating often challenging and complex physical and psychological conditions that can have life changing consequences. However, these interventions are only possible because of the ecosystem of enquiry, housekeeping, administration and catering staff who ensure that the clinical staff have the optimum environment in which to operate.

Finally, I would like to thank the Chair or Trustees and the Trustee Board for their support, scrutiny and challenge on behalf of members which is a critical component to ensure that the Ben Fund operates as an effective charity that meets the needs of its members and service users.

JM Graham - CEO

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The following represents a statistical analysis of the activity and performance of the Fund across the range of its offer to its members and service users.

1.1 Membership

A vibrant and dynamic membership is the lifeblood of the Ben Fund. Donations from members account for over 80% of the total income of the Fund. I am pleased to report that the number of individuals joining the Fund continues on a steady upward trajectory with membership at its highest ever level. This is due, in large part, to the efforts of the Funds' membership coordinator who takes every opportunity presented to attend events across the region to sell the benefits of membership. Gaining access to student officers and those about to retire is a critical element in maximising membership. It is gratifying to observe that the membership numbers in North Wales Police are continuing to grow from a zero base in 2021. The Fund is grateful for the support and encouragement it receives from the Chief Officer team and colleagues in North Wales Police. During 2024, **705** new student officers were signed up to become members of the Fund. Student officers benefit from free membership in the first year and only start donating to the Fund in month thirteen. Data indicates that typically over 90% of student officers who join the Fund will continue to donate and benefit from its services during the lifetime of their careers.

The total number of donating members on 31 December 2024 was 17,307 (2023 equivalent was 16,790).

Donating Serving members by force 2021–2024

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Cheshire	1283	1355	1353	1422
Cumbria	778	762	730	790
Greater Manchester	4408	4181	4046	4177
Lancashire	2411	2355	2270	2252
Merseyside	2728	2667	2570	2545
NCA	268	303	332	0
North Wales	276	176	123	45
Serving	12152	11799	11424	11231

Donating Retired members by force 2021–2024

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Cheshire	777	759	756	727
Cumbria	191	187	181	162
Greater Manchester	1371	1323	1288	1208
Lancashire	977	882	832	618
Merseyside	1819	1820	1837	1785
NCA	12	16	14	
North Wales	8	4	2	0
Retired	5155	4991	4910	4500

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

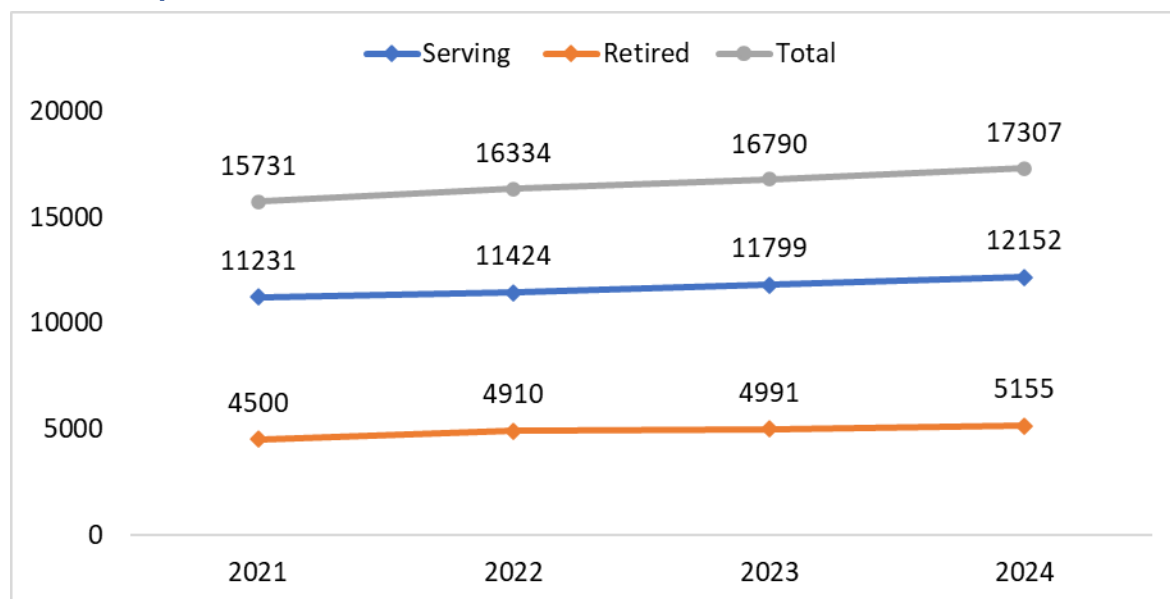
For the year ended 31 December 2024

2024 total donating members by force



Greater Manchester, 5779 (33%), Lancashire, 3388 (19%), Merseyside, 4547 (26%), Cheshire, 2060 (12%), Cumbria, 969 (6%), NCA, 280 (2%), North Wales, 284 (2%)

Membership trends 2021–2024



North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1.2 Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy was the first clinical service that the Fund invested in as it expanded its service upon occupying St Michaels' Lodge, and it remains at the core of the Ben Fund offer. The Fund provides a flexible and bespoke service to its members. Treatment is offered at Cheshire Police HQ, Cumbria Police HQ, Progress House in Manchester, Green Lane in Liverpool and St Michael's Lodge in Lancashire. Members have the benefit of travelling to their nearest and most convenient location to access treatment. Additionally, treatment is based around the clinical need of the patient. Depending upon symptoms, members may access treatment as an outpatient or inpatient and the number of sessions is predicated upon the clinical needs of each individual.

During 2024, the Fund amended its application process in order to streamline it for members. Hitherto, members applying for treatment required the signature of a GP or medical professional to endorse their application prior to submission. This added additional delay and sometimes cost to the process. Applications can now be made directly to the physiotherapy department where they are triaged and appointment made with the client. There has been no appreciable increase in demand resulting from this change.

In addition to providing physiotherapy, the clinicians also support a range of other health and wellbeing programmes by leading a variety of classes and activities.

2024 & 2023 physiotherapy patients by force

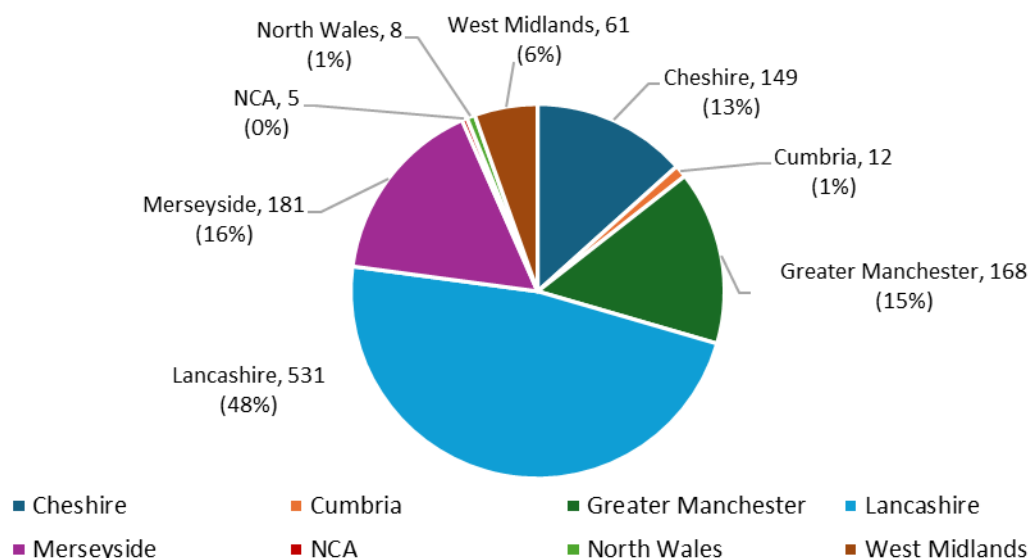
2024	No. patients (outpatients)	No. patients (inpatients)	2024 TOTAL	No. patients (outpatients)	No. patients (inpatients)	2023 TOTAL
Cheshire	138	11	149	34	20	54
Cumbria	7	5	12	10	12	22
Greater Manchester	155	13	168	141	21	162
Lancashire	525	6	531	334	6	340
Merseyside	169	12	181	135	33	168
NCA	4	1	5	3	3	6
North Wales	8		8	0	5	5
West Midlands	23	38	61	0	45	45
TOTAL	1029	86	1115	657	145	802

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2024 physiotherapy patients by force



Total patients attending St Michael's Lodge for treatment in 2024 - 1115 (2023 - 802)

An SLA has been in place since 2015, whereby Cheshire Constabulary pay an additional sum to the Fund to facilitate the treatment of non-Ben Fund members by the physiotherapist sited at Cheshire Police HQ.

1.3 Mental Health Services

The profile of mental health issues affecting serving and retired officers has greatly increased in recent years. Research commissioned by the College of Policing demonstrates that officers are routinely operating in high stress environments often being exposed to traumatic incidents, the cumulative effect of which can lead to mental distress or breakdown. The Ben Fund provides a unique service to its members in that it is the only police treatment centre that provides psychotherapy support to clients who present with moderate to severe symptoms. Highly trained/skilled psychotherapists deliver a range of appropriate interventions to support clients.

The Fund is continuing to develop its offer with plans to extend support to family members of clients where appropriate, as well as developing a greater focus on delivering inputs designed to provide techniques to better manage anxiety and stress.

A complete refurbishment of the counselling area was undertaken and completed in 2024 which included the construction of a separate room to provide a greater degree of confidentiality for clients waiting for appointments. Overall, the working environment for the psychotherapists and clients has been completely transformed.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

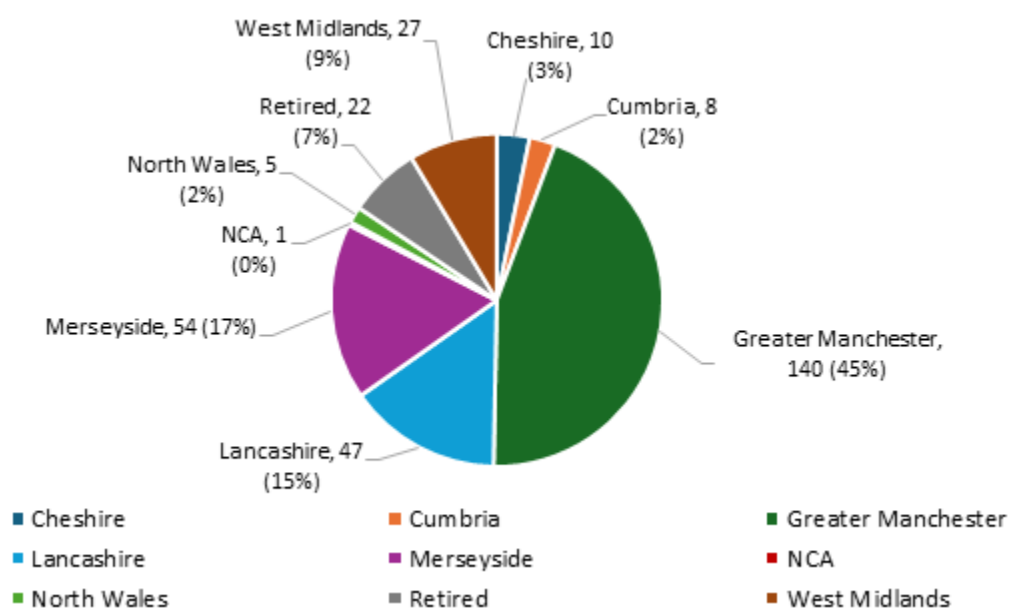
For the year ended 31 December 2024

The figures below correspond to new clients that were first registered for **counselling** between **01/01/24** and **31/12/24**.

Annual counselling referrals by force 2022–2024

	2024	2023	2022
Cheshire	10	30	18
Cumbria	8	10	4
Greater Manchester	140	177	87
Lancashire	47	60	16
Merseyside	54	55	36
NCA	1	7	2
North Wales	5	0	1
Retired	22	18	16
West Midlands	27	0	0
TOTAL	314	357	180

2024 counselling referrals by force

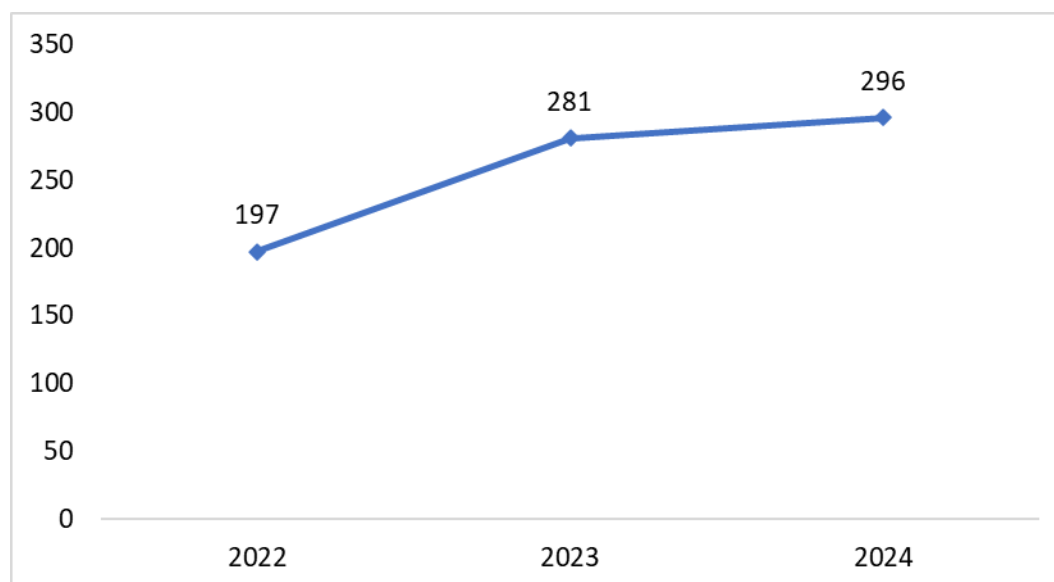


North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Total number of clients attended 2022–2024



1.4 Holistic and Alternative Therapies

A grey area exists between mental and physical wellbeing. Clients will often present with a physical or psychological issue where, in the course of treatment, it becomes evident that the individual would benefit from relaxation therapies. The holistic therapists complement and support the offer provided by mental health practitioners and physiotherapists by providing a range of mainstream alternative therapies to promote health and wellbeing. Holistic therapies play a pivotal role in supporting the Force Wellbeing and Residential Wellbeing programmes.

A comprehensive and ever-expanding range of classes and therapies is available to clients attending St Michael's Lodge.

2024	Sessions	Attendees
Holistics (outpatient)	945	414
Holistics (inpatient)	1353	1090
TOTAL	2298	1504

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Classes offered in 2024 (new in bold)

Class	No. classes	No. attendees
Ai Chi	208	311
Antenatal Pilates	30	22
Aqua Fit	135	979
Beginners Pilates	34	71
Beginners Stretch	36	88
Breathwork Class	67	533
HIIT Fusion Ride	2	2
Interval Ride	2	5
Male Health Clinic	1	1
Meditation	266	1155
Mini Health Check Clinic	1014	995
Mixed Ability Circuits	3	6
Pilates	146	1015
PT Session	6	6
Seniors Fitness Class	9	9
Spin Class	4	7
Stretch	2	3
Tai Chi	22	45
Yoga	53	316
TOTAL	2040	5569

1.5 Force Wellbeing Offer

In 2020, a strategic decision was taken to develop the Ben Funds' offer towards a greater emphasis upon prevention rather than simply treatment. A two-day programme was developed that facilitated groups of individuals to attend St Michael's Lodge for a period of recuperation and decompression. The Fund layered in a series of relaxation classes and techniques to promote relaxation and wellbeing.

All Forces in the region and the NW ROCU made donations to secure places for their staff on this programme. This programme continues to go from strength to strength receiving excellent feedback from participants attending and their respective Forces. The Fund continues to organically develop this programme by refreshing the content based upon feedback. Representatives from each Force Occupational Health Department are in frequent contact with the Fund to shape the programme to their individual needs.

The success of this initiative is critical to the Funds' operating model. It focuses upon prevention rather than cure and opens up the opportunity for police staff to access the facilities at St Michael's Lodge. Moving forward, it will be important to ensure that the programme remains relevant to the needs of Forces and competitively priced. In 2023, 960 places were made available to Forces. This increased to 1080 in 2024.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 December 2024

2024 & 2023 number of Force Wellbeing places offered



Feedback Data

Suggestions for improvement from our members

Feedback received	Actions and updates
<i>Timetable suggestions</i>	
"Perhaps include a session on nutrition/diet." (FW)	Regular timetable reviews and updates
"Would like a short session with a personal trainer, perhaps something to consider in the future." (FW)	
"I'd like to see more variation in classes." (RW)	
"Possible consideration would be for the timetable/classes on the last day. Aquafit, shower, straight after lunch then circuits which again would want a shower before returning home. Maybe put circuits elsewhere in the timetable." (FW)	

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Communication of services

"It would help if the confirmation email had an attachment with information on available facilities (classes, etc.) so we could make more informed, particularly applies to holistics where the therapists were asking 'what we wanted' on attendance." (RW)

"The force advertised check out at 4pm then emailed with the itinerary which stated check out was at 2.30pm then on arrival it was 11am. This is no issue but could have been communicated better to help planning." (FW)

"When I was asked what I wanted I didn't really know what to say - so maybe a list of available treatments and explanations would be useful." (FW)

Planned review of external and internal communications regarding programmes and services offered

Timings/evening entertainment

"A few jigsaws or a pack of cards/dominoes would help pass time." (IP)

"Evening meal was very early, I would have liked a packed lunch/sandwich for my evening meal so that I could eat later as I don't eat until 8pm at home so the evening meal sat heavy on my stomach." (IP)

New board games for evening use, looking into option of TVs in communal areas

Option now for takeout/packed lunch and dinner

Bistro menu

"My only 'little niggle' is I would have liked fresh veg with dinner and a little more choice on the normal menu." (RW)

Review of Bistro menu options, increased healthy options and options to meet dietary requirements

Class cancellations

"A couple of classes were cancelled with no notice... There appears to be very little in way of resilience to cover staff shortage, especially when our time here is limited and precious." (RW)

Recruitment of new Bank Fitness Instructor

Gym equipment

"Gym would benefit from a step machine and a full cross trainer." (IP)

"Gym is a bit basic." (FW)

"It is great that there are now more weights in the gym, however, there is now only one treadmill which is not enough." (RW)

"Would be ideal if there was another treadmill, it was often difficult to get on it." (RW)

Review of gym equipment by Lead Physio

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1.6 Respite Offer

Members who are suffering physical and or psychological distress and would benefit from a respite break may apply to the Fund for a break free of charge. In previous years, the Ben Fund delivered this offer via its own collection of thirteen holiday lodges situated in the Lake District. In 2021, due to the deteriorating condition of some lodges and the spiralling costs of maintenance, the Trustees decided to dispose of the lodges and deliver Respite & Recovery breaks through established holiday operators. This offered a greater choice of locations for members and better accommodation.

The table below shows data relating to the numbers of applications and respite breaks taken. This new approach has proved to be a success with a singular focus upon supporting individuals who are ill, feedback has been positive, and the programme is significantly more cost effective at £79K p.a., equating to an average cost per booking of £560.

APPLICATIONS

- 147 members applied for a Respite & Recovery break
- 141 applications approved
- 6 applications signposted to a Residential Wellbeing break

RESPITE BREAKS

- 141 breaks taken
- 124 breaks via Parkdean Ltd
- 17 breaks via Pure Leisure
- Lengths of stay vary from Mon-Fri to Fri-Mon and are determined on individual requirements of each applicant.

** some data above relates to applicants who were awarded a break in 2023 but taken in 2024.

1.7 Financial Hardship Assistance

Hardship in Bereavement Grant

During the course of 2024, the Fund made a significant amendment to its financial hardship offer as the result of new guidance given by the Charity Commission. The new guidance clarified that all grants, including to the next of kin of officers who die in service, must be means-tested to qualify as a charitable purpose. To accommodate this a new process has been developed to take account of the requirement to closely calibrate the quantum of the grant to the financial need presented. Sadly, during 2024 there were 4 recorded deaths and consequential payments.

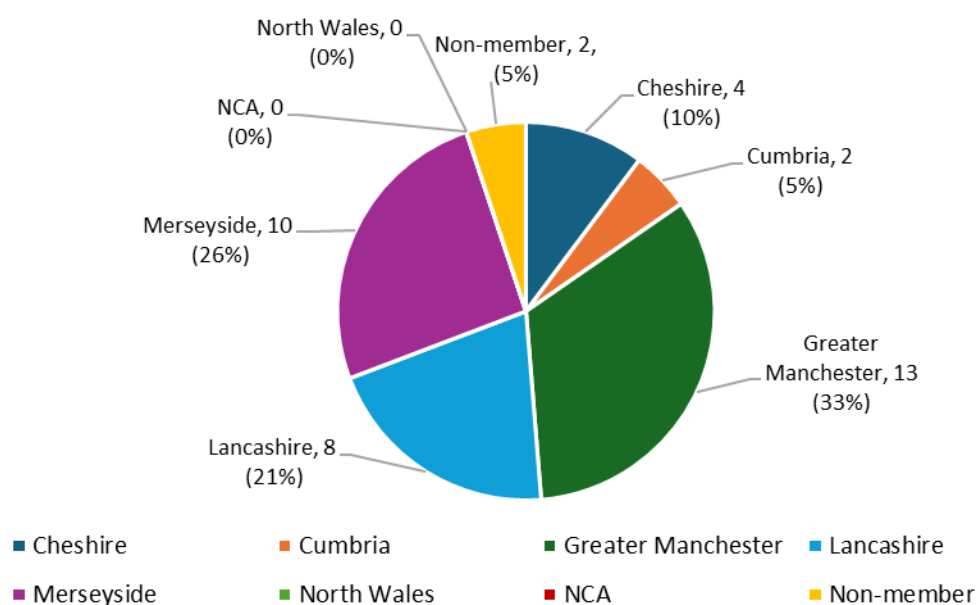
The Fund offers financial hardship assistance to members in financial distress in the form of a grant usually capped at £5,000. All applications are means-tested. There were 39 enquiries regarding financial assistance in 2024. These can be broken down as follows:

North West Police Benevolent Fund

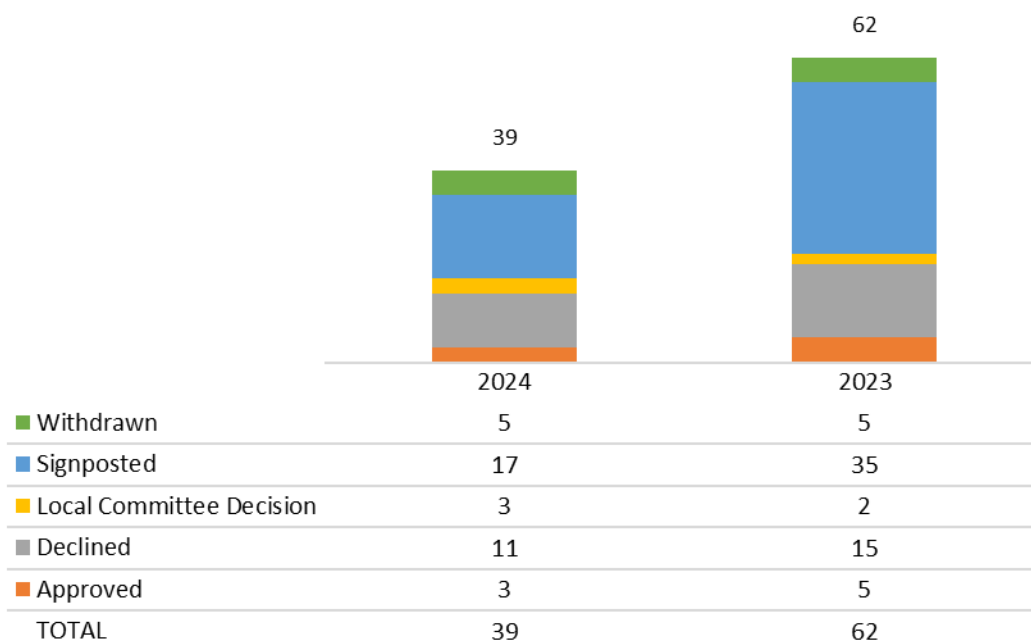
Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2024 financial hardship applications by force



2024 & 2023 Financial assistance application outcomes



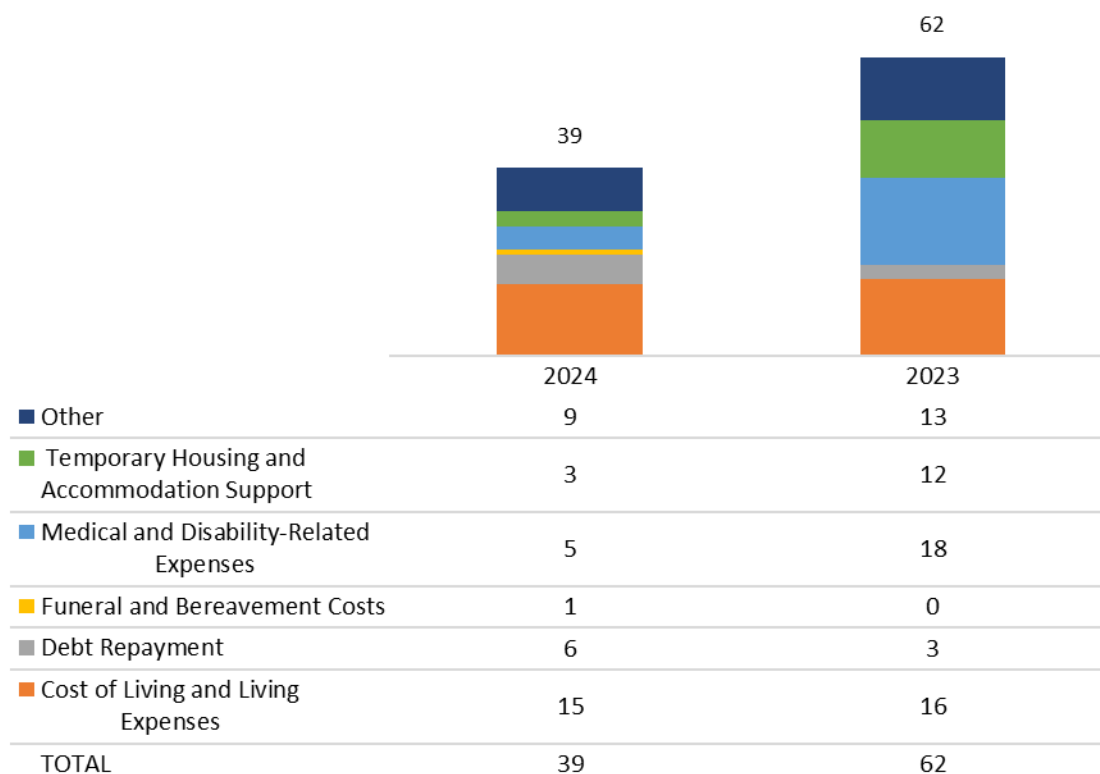
Total awarded in grants: £5,810.00

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2024 & 2023 reasons for application



North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1.8 Support Offered to Officers and Staff affected by the Southport Murders

The tragic deaths of three girls stabbed in Southport and the subsequent public disorder that ensued had a very substantial impact on the first responders, investigators and those charged with maintaining order across the region. Because this event occurred in the North West Region, the Fund assumed a particular responsibility to reach out and provide maximum support to all staff affected.

To ensure maximum support to all involved the Fund temporarily suspended its rules around membership in order to treat anyone affected regardless of membership status. The Fund also significantly flexed its offer to meet the very specific needs of affected:

Mental Health

In total 22 individuals involved in the aftermath of the attack have self-referred for treatment. These applications have been fast-tracked and treatment is ongoing.

Physiotherapy

Six colleagues were treated for injuries sustained in post-Southport disorder.

Respite and Recovery Breaks

Thirteen Merseyside officers/staff and families have benefitted from respite breaks paid for by the Ben Fund.

Residential Wellbeing Breaks

Six colleagues directly involved in dealing with the attack have attended St Michael's Lodge for a four-day wellbeing break.

Service	Referrals
Counselling	22
Physiotherapy	6
Residential Wellbeing Break	6
Respite & Recovery	13
Decompression break	103

Force Decompression Breaks

103 staff from Forces across the region attended St Michael's Lodge where they were offered individual treatment and group classes to help them relax and process the events that they had to respond to.

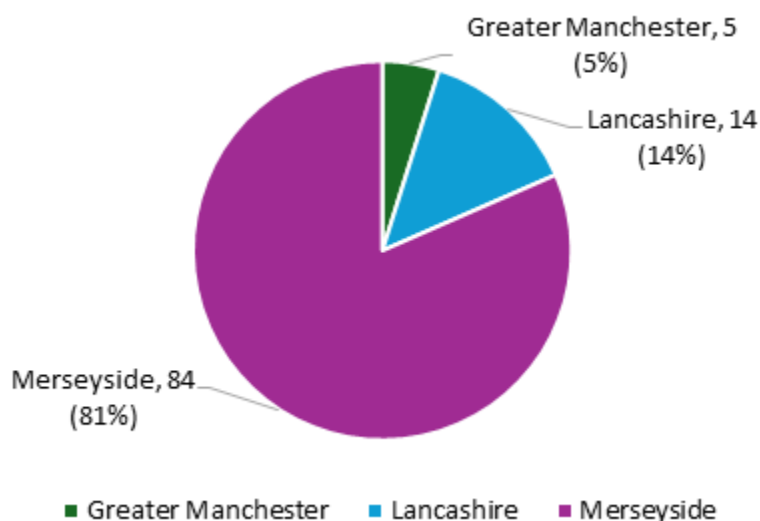
I am very proud of the way in which the Fund swiftly responded to support the needs of colleagues across the region. I am also grateful for the financial contributions of those organisations such as the Royal Foundation and Blue light Foundation who provided financial grants to support our effort.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Operation Navette 2024 Decompression Breaks



Financial review

1.9 Investment and Reserves Policy

The investment portfolio held by the Fund is managed by RBC Brewin Dolphin. The portfolio is held at risk level 5 with investment objectives that favour a diversified investment approach with a good level of liquidity. The aim is for a competitive level of income generation across the invested assets. The charity has a long-term investment time horizon which anticipates staying invested through successive market and economic cycles. The Trustee finance sub-group act on behalf of the wider Board to consider risk appetite and oversee investment performance.

Performance of Investment Portfolio

<u>Portfolio Summary</u>	2024	2023
	£	£
<u>Opening Valuation</u>	1,265,985	1,110,621
Investment purchases net of disposals	10,739	(12,008)
Revaluations	64,235	81,564
<u>Closing Valuation</u>	1,340,959	1,265,985
<u>Cash in investment holding account</u>	34,041	23,708

Risk Review

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that 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 financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

Public Benefit

In preparing the annual report the trustees had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

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.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

CC S. Hatchett - Chair of Trustees

7 July 2025

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Independent auditor's report

To the trustees of North West Police Benevolent Fund

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of North West Police Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 charity's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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 charity'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's 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 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.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the trustees of North West Police Benevolent Fund

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees 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 charity'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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 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 auditor's 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 risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, by for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities including fraud is detailed below.

Our approach was as follows:

We understood how the charity is complying with relevant frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud might occur by discussing with the management and the board of trustees. We enquired of management as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Based on this understanding we designed specific audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors-responsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the trustees of North West Police Benevolent Fund

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Desirie Lea FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of DJH Audit Limited

20 October 2025

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Chester House
LLoyd Drive
Ellesmere Port
Cheshire
United Kingdom
CH65 9HQ

DJH Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>							
Donations and legacies	3	32,659	-	32,659	94,875	-	94,875
Charitable activities	4	1,814,601	-	1,814,601	1,578,441	-	1,578,441
St Michaels Lodge	6	78,933	-	78,933	77,011	-	77,011
Investments	5	54,520	-	54,520	40,793	-	40,793
Other income	7	1,489	241,400	242,889	9,722	-	9,722
Total income		1,982,202	241,400	2,223,602	1,800,842	-	1,800,842
<u>Expenditure on:</u>							
Raising funds	8	(176)	-	(176)	5,852	-	5,852
Charitable activities	9	1,954,959	-	1,954,959	1,938,234	-	1,938,234
Total expenditure		1,954,783	-	1,954,783	1,944,086	-	1,944,086
Net gains/(losses) on investments	14	64,235	-	64,235	81,564	-	81,564
Net movement in funds		91,654	241,400	333,054	(61,680)	-	(61,680)
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		5,579,827	744,419	6,324,246	5,641,507	744,419	6,385,926
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		5,671,481	985,819	6,657,300	5,579,827	744,419	6,324,246

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

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	18	3,899,132		3,956,391	
Investments	17	1,340,959		1,265,985	
		<u>5,240,091</u>		<u>5,222,376</u>	
Current assets					
Debtors	19	381,117		287,709	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,184,055</u>		<u>961,493</u>	
		1,565,172		1,249,202	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	<u>(147,963)</u>		<u>(147,332)</u>	
Net current assets		<u>1,417,209</u>		<u>1,101,870</u>	
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>6,657,300</u>		<u>6,324,246</u>	
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds -	22	985,819		744,419	
Unrestricted funds - general		<u>5,671,481</u>		<u>5,579,827</u>	
		<u>6,657,300</u>		<u>6,324,246</u>	

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7 July 2025

CC S. Hatchett - Chair of Trustees

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	26		190,131		(182,048)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(11,350)		(23,497)	
Purchase of investments		(81,277)		(167,372)	
Proceeds from disposal of investments		70,538		93,572	
Investment income received		54,520		40,793	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			32,431		(56,504)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			222,562		(238,552)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			961,493		1,200,045
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,184,055		961,493

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The charity is governed by the terms set out in the Governing document adopted in 2011 which formalised and regulated the activities of the Fund and its Trustees and is reviewed annually.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's rule book, the Charities Act 2011 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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 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 the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on the accruals basis and is allocated under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

Costs of generating funds relate to the promotional work undertaken in the year to enhance the charity's standing.

Costs of charitable activities include expenditure relating to convalescence and grant provision for officers in need.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance, regulation and good practice.

Support costs have been allocated on the assumption that they arise in proportion to direct expenditure of the charitable activity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	1% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line and 8% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	32,659	94,875
Donations and gifts		
Donations - members of the public	9,416	19,914
Donations - Miscellaneous	3,551	2,914
Legacy income	6,920	53,774
Gift aid	10,439	10,273
Grant income	2,333	8,000
	32,659	94,875

4 Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Member donations	1,560,812	1,431,978
Merseyside Wellbeing donations	34,648	10,400
Cheshire Wellbeing donations	30,910	21,520
GMP Wellbeing donations	31,968	18,622
North Wales Wellbeing donations	16,000	7,200
Cumbria Wellbeing donations	18,079	-
Lancashire Wellbeing donations	28,076	16,735
Cleveland Wellbeing donations	-	1,750
NWROCU Wellbeing donations	-	6,400
Satellite physio - Cheshire	25,000	25,000
Lancashire Physio & Wellbeing stays	11,205	-
West Midlands Physio & Wellbeing stays	23,520	27,430
West Midlands Counselling services	6,760	5,005
Holistic Treatments	4,923	6,401
Operation Navette	22,700	
	1,814,601	1,578,441

All income from charitable activities was unrestricted in 2024 and 2023.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from listed investments	29,417	26,998
Interest receivable	25,103	13,795
	<u>54,520</u>	<u>40,793</u>

6 St Michaels Lodge

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Facilities hire	49,054	48,175
Bistro	28,028	27,543
Other	1,851	1,293
	<u>78,933</u>	<u>77,011</u>

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising Income	1,489	-	1,489	9,722	-	9,722
Cumbria Income	-	241,400	241,400	-	-	-
	<u>1,489</u>	<u>241,400</u>	<u>242,889</u>	<u>9,722</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,722</u>

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

8 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Other fundraising costs	(176)	5,852

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

	St Michaels Lodge 2024 £	St Michaels Lodge 2023 £
Direct costs		
Depreciation and impairment	68,609	111,198
Furnishings and maintenance	150,978	98,467
Services and insurance	197,612	203,657
Housekeeping and reception	344,247	278,261
Physiotherapy	325,825	359,867
Catering	165,903	147,947
Administration	37,541	31,730
Counselling and holistic services	328,365	296,059
Management	188,082	179,044
Site and Security	56,477	69,351
	1,863,639	1,775,581
Grant funding of activities (see note 13)	25,810	62,522
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)		
Support	57,635	92,631
Governance	7,875	7,500
	1,954,959	1,938,234
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	1,954,959	1,938,234

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

10 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Committee expenses	886	393
Legal and professional	38,400	62,199
Marketing costs	17,789	19,542
Bad debts	560	10,497
Governance costs	7,875	7,500
	<u>65,510</u>	<u>100,131</u>
Analysed between:		
St Michael's Lodge	<u>65,510</u>	<u>100,131</u>

11 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	7,875	7,500
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>68,609</u>	<u>111,198</u>

12 Trustees

Trustees are reimbursed for non material expenses incurred on charity business.

13 Grants payable

	St Michaels 2024 £	St Michaels 2023 £
Discretionary grants		
Serving officers	5,510	9,928
Retired officers	300	2,594
Hardship in Bereavement	20,000	50,000
	<u>25,810</u>	<u>62,522</u>

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

14 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	64,235	81,564

15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

16 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Admin and Reception	8	8
Catering	6	6
Counselling	8	8
Holistic and wellbeing	4	4
Housekeeping	5	4
Management	4	4
Physio	8	9
Site and Security	3	4
Bank staff	14	6
Total	60	53

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	1,156,162	1,054,053
Social security costs	97,540	87,417
Other pension costs	20,518	16,978
	1,274,220	1,158,448

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

17 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2024	1,265,985
Additions	81,277
Valuation changes	64,235
Disposals	(70,538)
At 31 December 2024	1,340,959
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	1,340,959
At 31 December 2023	1,265,985

18 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	4,235,776	478,719	4,714,495
Additions	-	11,350	11,350
At 31 December 2024	4,235,776	490,069	4,725,845
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2024	385,756	372,348	758,104
Depreciation charged in the year	47,105	21,504	68,609
At 31 December 2024	432,861	393,852	826,713
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	3,802,915	96,217	3,899,132
At 31 December 2023	3,850,019	106,372	3,956,391

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

19 Debtors

		2024	2023
		£	£
Trade debtors		287,338	255,329
Member loans	20	1,551	6,846
Other debtors		54,761	9,348
Prepayments and accrued income		37,467	16,186
		<u>381,117</u>	<u>287,709</u>

20 Member Loans

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance at 1 January 2024	17,682	40,312
Repayments in the year	(5,295)	(12,132)
Loans written off or converted to grants	-	(10,498)
	<u>12,387</u>	<u>17,682</u>
Bad debt provision	(10,836)	(10,836)
Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>1,551</u>	<u>6,846</u>

21 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	26,756	21,931
Deferred income	10,355	20,640
Trade creditors	39,875	31,545
Other creditors	6,557	2,617
Accruals	64,420	70,599
	<u>147,963</u>	<u>147,332</u>

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

22 Unrestricted funds designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£
Business contingency	523,419	-	523,419
Database and IT	25,000	-	25,000
Health and Safety	40,000	-	40,000
St Michaels Capital	56,000	-	56,000
Disaster emergency	100,000	-	100,000
Cumbria	-	241,400	241,400
	<u>744,419</u>	<u>241,400</u>	<u>985,819</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
	<u>744,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>744,419</u>

23 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>5,579,827</u>	<u>1,982,202</u>	<u>(1,954,783)</u>	<u>64,235</u>	<u>5,671,481</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>5,641,507</u>	<u>1,800,842</u>	<u>(1,944,086)</u>	<u>81,564</u>	<u>5,579,827</u>

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 December 2024:			
Tangible assets	3,899,132	-	3,899,132
Investments	1,340,959	-	1,340,959
Current assets/(liabilities)	431,390	985,819	1,417,209
	<u>5,671,481</u>	<u>985,819</u>	<u>6,657,300</u>
	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:			
Tangible assets	3,956,391	-	3,956,391
Investments	1,265,985	-	1,265,985
Current assets/(liabilities)	357,451	744,419	1,101,870
	<u>5,579,827</u>	<u>744,419</u>	<u>6,324,246</u>

25 Related party transactions

During the year, trading activities relating to the swimming pool, bed and breakfast and Bistro were transferred to St Michael's Lodge Leisure Ltd a company limited by guarantee. The directors include the Chief Executive of the Charity and a trustee of the charity. An agreement is in place that profits from the trading company will be donated to the charity via Gift Aid annually. At the year end there was a balance due to the charity of £7,748 relating to goods and services provided which was settled on 15 January 2025.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

26 Cash generated from operations	2024	2023
	£	£
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	333,054	(61,680)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(54,520)	(40,793)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(64,235)	(81,564)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	68,609	111,198
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(93,408)	(39,891)
Increase in creditors	10,916	11,809
(Decrease) in deferred income	(10,285)	(81,127)
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	190,131	(182,048)

THE NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 503045

Accounts

North West Police Benevolent Fund
Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

North West Police Benevolent Fund

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North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Reference and Administrative Details for the North West Police Benevolent Fund

The registered address of the Charity is:

St Michael's Lodge, Northcote Road, Langho, Lancashire, BB6 8BG

Bankers for the Charity are:

National Westminster Bank PLC, Chester Branch, PO Box 8, Chester, CH1 1XA

Auditors for the Charity are:

DJH Audit Ltd, Chester House, Cheshire Oaks Business Park, CH65 9HQ

Investment Management for the Charity:

RBC Brewin Dolphin LTD, Smithfield Street, London, EC1A 9BD

Structure, Governance and Management of North West Police Benevolent Fund

The North West Police Benevolent Fund is an unincorporated charity, registered as a charity and governed by the rules of the Charity Commissioners. This report has been prepared by the Trustees of the Fund to conform to the requirements of the Charity Commissioners' Statement of Recommended Practice. However, the Trustees have made the decision to change the structure of the charity to an incorporated charitable company. The transfer of assets will take place in the near future.

Trustees for the Charity in 2023:

Chair: Christopher Rowley – Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary – resigned 08/02/2024

New Chair: Sasha Hatchett – Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary – appointed 09/05/2024

Vice Chair: R. Hanley – Lancashire Constabulary – resigned 31/12/2023

New Vice Chair: – R. Robertshaw - Lancashire Constabulary appointed (as Vice Chair 08/02/2024)

D. O'Connor – NARPO – resigned 08/02/2024

I. Taylor – NARPO

M. Kerrigan – NARPO – appointed 06/03/2024

D. Howard – Cheshire Constabulary

J. McTear - Cumbria Constabulary

C. Trow - Greater Manchester Police – resigned 31/05/2023

P. Oldham - Merseyside Police – appointed – 12/09/2023

M. Jones – North Wales Police

M. Unsworth – National Crime Agency

Z. Awan - Lancashire Constabulary - appointed 6/12/2023

The Board of Trustees has delegated managerial responsibility for the day to day running of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer, Jeremy Graham. The CEO was supported in the year by a team of two senior managers with portfolio responsibilities of Clinical Service Manager and General Manager.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 (FRS 102)". The financial management of the charity is governed by a framework of policies and procedures that comply with the Charity Commission recommended best practice.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

CEO Overview

2023 proved to be a year of development and growth for the Ben Fund. The Fund effectively continued its programme of developing its service offer to meet the needs of its members and clients. Throughout the year there was a renewed focus upon programmes and activities designed to prevent in addition to treating physical or mental distress. Initiatives include provision of a wide range of alternative therapies, breathing classes and individual health checks for members. The Fund prides itself on providing a comprehensive and unique offer based upon individual clinical need that can be easily accessed across the North West region.

During the year the Fund has successfully grown its membership of both serving and retired officers. This has been achieved by working with the constituent Forces/ agencies and aligning processes to ensure that the Funds' membership coordinator maximises opportunities to promote the offer to new recruits and officers about to retire. The Fund has also made significant efforts to enhance its profile through use of more sophisticated marketing techniques.

Aspects of the Ben Funds' offer often have life changing benefits on the physical and mental wellbeing of patients relieving them from acute pain/distress and hardship. Consequently, the Fund attracts significant positive feedback through formal and informal means. Previously the approach to collating this information/ data has been haphazard and piecemeal. In June 2023, the Fund adopted a more rigorous approach to collecting user feedback across the range of its services. Members and clients are encouraged to complete questionnaires with a mix of tick box and free text that allows the management team to monitor and assess feedback across the totality of its offer by user type and Force. This provides a powerful tool to identify potential trends and evolve the offer.

Since 2019, the management team has been seeking to implement a series of changes to modernise and professionalise the way in which the charity operates. It is crucial that the Fund effectively supports its members and spends their donations judiciously. During 2023, the CEO conducted a management review resulting internal appointments to the posts of General Manager and Clinical services Manager. Furthermore, an external review of the Funds' HR services was undertaken resulting in a new staff handbook and the transfer of many HR process from paper to online.

Ensuring the financial health of the charity is critical to its ability to continue to provide treatments and services for members and support Forces in the region. During the year a substantial amount of work has been put in place with the accountants DJH Chester Limited to prepare accounts that promote a granular and timely understanding of the current financial status. I am grateful to Martin Lanceley for preparing the accounts and the two Trustees who serve on the finance sub- committee for their challenge and scrutiny in this regard.

During 2023, the Trustees decided to increase the donation rate for members by £1 per month. This represented the first increase since 2015 as Trustees sought to insulate members from increases during a period of low pay increases and the cost of living crisis. The increase was necessary to ensure the Fund can keep pace with the increasing costs of providing its services and the enhanced donation rate still represents excellent value for money for members.

The Fund has made considerable efforts to maximise other income streams to support its work. During 2023, the Fund opened its swimming facilities at weekends to a local club that teaches children to swim. Every effort has been made to minimise disruption or inconvenience to members use of the facilities. Additionally, the Fund opened St Michael's Lodge to members for bed and breakfast stays to attract additional funding.

In December 2023, the Fund held its inaugural charity dinner which was attended by 150 people. The event was a huge success and raised £5,000.

Ensuring that members have access to the best possible infrastructure and equipment is a critical priority for the Fund. During the year, further work was undertaken to refurbish bedrooms to bring them to boutique standard. Investing in the infrastructure of St Michaels' Lodge will continue to be a priority during 2024.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

As part of improving the professional status of the Ben Fund a decision was taken by Trustees in 2021 to change the legal status of the charity from unincorporated to a company limited by guarantee. This is a protracted legal process that takes place in stages; however, the Fund is now listed as a company. The final stages of the process should complete in 2024.

In closing I believe the Ben Fund is in a strong position to continue developing and growing to adapt to the needs of its members. I am grateful to the Chair of Trustees and the wider trustee board for their continued support and scrutiny. I would particularly like to express my gratitude to the staff of the Fund for their continued enthusiasm, hard work and support.

JM Graham

CEO

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The following represents a statistical analysis of the activity and performance of the Fund across the range of its offer to its members and service users.

1.1 Membership

A vibrant and dynamic membership is the lifeblood of the Ben Fund. The Fund provides a unique, flexible and comprehensive offer for potential members. With the current emphasis on the health and wellbeing of staff illustrated by the police covenant, the Trustees believe that all serving officers/ law enforcement agents in the region who are entitled to membership should have the opportunity to learn about the offer and join the Ben Fund.

This involves the opportunity to present the Funds' offer to student officers, officers who are in service but not previously joined and officers who are about to retire from the service. In previous years, the Fund has had a haphazard approach to this important function, relying upon the goodwill of motivated individuals within Force/ Agency to advocate on behalf of the Fund. Given the importance of attracting members and in recognition that donations from members represent 80% of total income a decision was taken to employ a dedicated membership coordinator to undertake this task.

This appointment began in January 2022 and has proved to be very effective. The Fund now has much greater consistency of access to potential members. The post holder has been very successful at building relationships with stakeholders within Forces/ Agencies and is regularly attending events across the region to attract members and raise the profile of the Funds' offer. During 2023, 1,112 new student officers were signed up to become members of the Fund

The total number of donating members on 31 December 2023 was 16,790 (2022 equivalent was 16,334).

Breakdown of current members by Force and status (serving or retired)

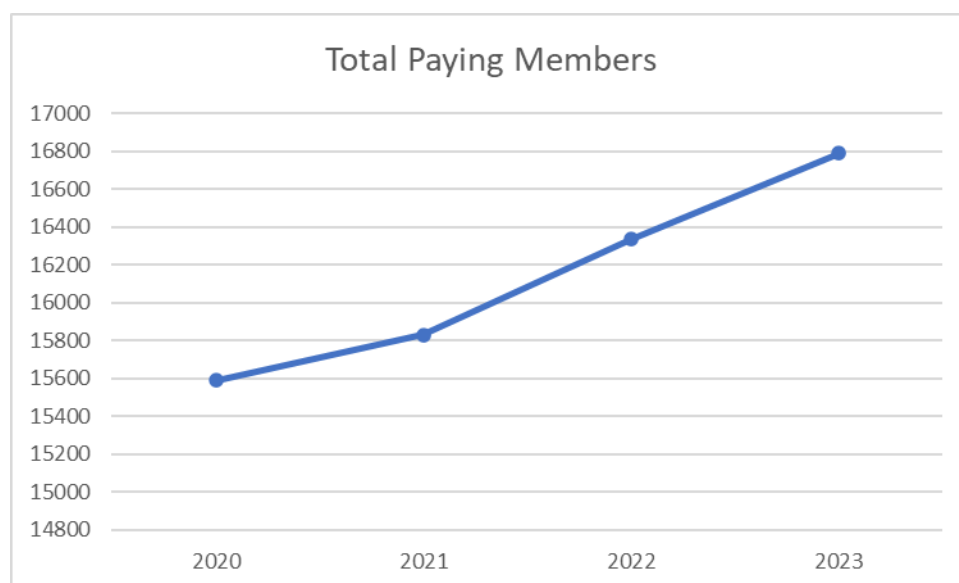
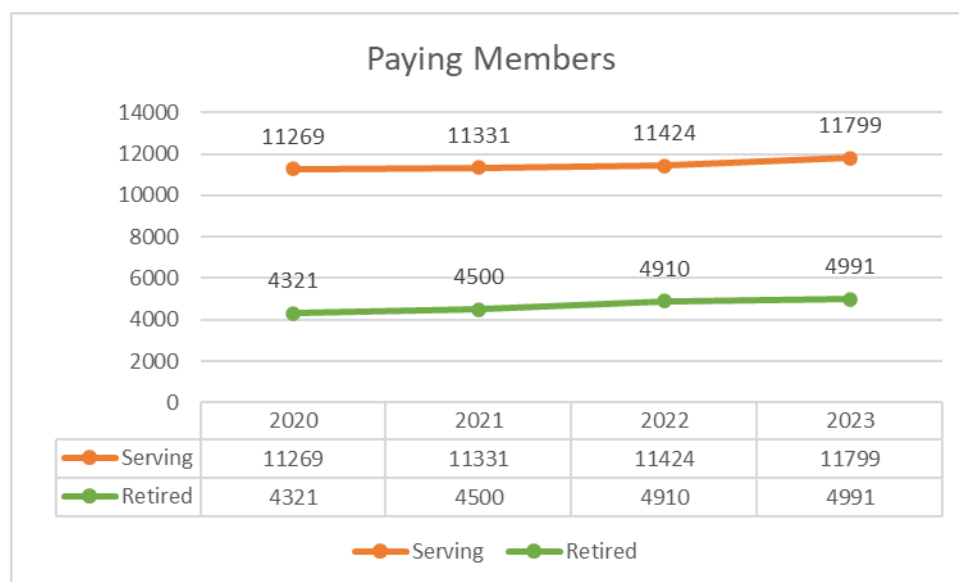
FORCE	2022 Serving Members	2023 Serving Members	2022 Retired Members	2023 Retired Members
Cheshire	1353	1355	756	759
GMP	4046	4181	1288	1323
Merseyside	2570	2667	1837	1820
Lancashire	2270	2355	832	882
Cumbria	730	762	181	187
North Wales	123	176	2	4
NCA	332	303	14	16
Total Members	11424	11799	4910	4991

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Graph illustrating membership trends 2020-2023



1.2 Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy was the first clinical service that the Fund invested in as it expanded its service upon the occupying St Michaels' Lodge, and it remains at the core of the Ben Fund offer. The Fund provides a flexible and bespoke service to its members. Treatment is offered at Cheshire Police HQ, Cumbria Police HQ, Progress House in Manchester and Green Lane in Liverpool and St Michaels' Lodge in Lancashire. Members have the benefit of travelling to their nearest and most convenient location to access treatment. Additionally, treatment is based around the clinical need of the patient. Depending upon symptoms, members may access treatment as an outpatient or inpatient and the number of sessions is predicated upon the clinical needs of each individual.

In addition to providing physiotherapy, the clinicians also support a range of other health and wellbeing programmes by leading a variety of classes and activities.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Physiotherapy Offer delivered at St Michael's Lodge 2022/2023

Physio

	2022				2023			
	In-patient Serving	In-patient Retired	Out- patient	Total	In-patient Serving	In-patient Retired	Out- patient	Total
Cheshire	23	7	23	53	16	4	34	54
Cumbria	3	4	10	17	9	3	10	22
GMP	23	15	105	143	12	9	141	162
Lancashire	6	4	324	334	5	1	334	340
Merseyside	8	23	47	78	18	15	135	168
N. Wales	4	0	1	5	5	0	0	5
NCA	1	1	3	5	3	0	3	6
W. Mids	22	0	28	50	45	0	0	45

Total patients attending St Michael's Lodge for treatment in 2023 - 802 (2022 - 685)

An SLA has been in place since 2015, whereby Cheshire Constabulary pay an additional sum to the Fund to facilitate the treatment of non-Ben Fund members by the physiotherapist sited at Cheshire Police HQ.

Table showing data on Physio/ Fitness Instructor led group classes

Activity	2022	2023 Physio Led	2023 Fitness Instructor Led
Ai Chi	468	260	0
Aqua Fit	104	0	104
Pilates	312	156	0
Stretch	104	52	0
Tai Chi	104	0	52
Yoga	0	0	52

1.3 Mental Health Services

The profile of mental health issues affecting serving and retired officers has greatly increased in recent years. Research commissioned by the College of Policing demonstrates that officers are routinely operating in high stress environments often being exposed to traumatic incidents, the cumulative effect of which can lead to mental distress or breakdown. Furthermore, the legacy impact of the pandemic has had a significantly adverse impact of mental health and perceptions of wellbeing. This has resulted in a substantial increase in the numbers of individuals seeking support. Amongst police charities, the Ben Fund provides a unique service by providing one to one treatment for clients who present with moderate to severe symptoms.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The increase in demand on the Fund for counselling continued to grow during the course of the year. The Fund has tried to better match supply and demand by, in addition to our own therapists, utilising a bank of independent counsellors so that supply can be surged at times of peak demand. As demand has continued to grow, the Trustees, aware of growing waiting times for treatment, took the decision to expand the number of employed counsellors to mitigate demand and enhance service.

The figures below correspond to new clients that were first registered for **counselling** between **01/01/22** and **31/12/23**.

	2022				2023			
	New referrals	Ongoing clients	Clients closed	Sessions closed	New referrals	Ongoing clients	Clients closed	Sessions closed
Cheshire	18	10	8	117	30	4	26	161
Cumbria	4	1	3	8	10	0	10	46
GMP	87	61	26	645	177	33	144	1292
Lancashire	16	2	14	124	60	8	52	350
Merseyside	36	8	28	270	55	11	44	297
NCA	2	1	1	4	7	3	4	56
North Wales	1	0	1	5	-	-	-	-
Retired	16	5	11	99	18	2	16	122

1.4 Holistic and Alternative Therapies

The holistic therapists complement and support the offer provided by mental health practitioners and physiotherapists by providing a range of mainstream alternative therapies to promote health and wellbeing. Holistic therapies play a pivotal role in supporting the Force Wellbeing and Individual Wellbeing programmes.

During 2023, a total of 2,774 holistic therapies were delivered.

1.5 Force Wellbeing Offer

In 2020, a strategic decision was taken to develop the Ben Funds' offer towards a greater emphasis upon prevention rather than simply treatment. A two-day programme was developed that facilitated groups of individuals to attend St Michael's Lodge for a period of recuperation and decompression. The Fund layered in a series of relaxation classes and techniques to promote relaxation and wellbeing.

All Forces in the region and the NW ROCU made donations to secure places for their staff on this programme. The progress of this programme was severely disrupted by the impact of the pandemic and what was intended to be a one-year programme has had to be extended over three years. 2023 was a year where the backlog from previous years was expedited. In 2022, 507 places were provided. During 2023 this increased to 960 places.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The feedback from this programme has been overwhelmingly positive and the Fund is pleased to report that all six Forces renewed this commitment for 2024.

Feedback Data 26/06/23 – 17/05/24 (Force Wellbeing)

Force	Total forms	How satisfied were you with the service you received from The Ben Fund?
Cheshire	70	100% were Very Satisfied/Satisfied
Cumbria	20	100% were Very Satisfied/Satisfied
GMP	87	100% were Very Satisfied/Satisfied
Lancashire	86	100% were Very Satisfied/Satisfied
Merseyside	54	100% were Very Satisfied/Satisfied
North Wales	29	100% were Very Satisfied/Satisfied

1.6 Respite Offer

Members who are suffering physical and or psychological distress and would benefit from a respite break may apply to the Fund for a break free of charge. In previous years, the Ben Fund delivered this offer via its own collection of thirteen holiday lodges situated in the Lake District. In 2021, due to the deteriorating condition of some lodges and the spiralling costs of maintenance the Trustees decided to dispose of the lodges and deliver Respite & Recovery breaks through established holiday operators. This offered a greater choice of locations for members and better accommodation.

The table below shows data relating to the numbers of applications and respite breaks taken. This new approach has proved to be a success with a singular focus upon supporting individuals who are ill, feedback has been positive, and the programme is significantly more cost effective at £85K p.a equating to an average cost per booking of £687.

APPLICATIONS

- 150 members applied for convalescence break
- 149 applications approved
- 1 application not approved
- 0 application successfully appealed

RESPITE BREAKS

- 149 breaks taken
- 99 breaks via Parkdean Ltd (White Cross Bay, Fallbarrow and Yorkshire)
- 26 breaks taken at South Lakes Leisure Village
- 24 breaks taken at St Michael's Lodge
- Lengths of stay vary from Mon-Fri and weekend breaks and are determined on individual requirements of each applicant.

** some data above relates to applicants who were awarded a break in 2022 but took it in 2023.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1.7 Financial Hardship Assistance

Death Benefit Grant

The Fund continues to make an award of £5,000 as a Death Benefit Grant to the named beneficiaries of serving donating members who die in service. Sadly, during 2023 there were 9 recorded deaths and consequential payments. After receiving further information from the Charity Commission, the Trustees have amended the offer to ensure that consideration of relative need is considered prior to payment. Work is currently underway to ensure that any means testing is undertaken in the least intrusive way.

Grants

The Fund offers financial assistance to members in financial distress in the form of a grant usually capped at £5,000. All applications are means tested. There were 62 enquiries regarding financial assistance in 2023. These can be broken down as follows:

Force	Total no. of enquiries	Signposted alternative assistance	to Withdrawn/ Declined	Grants awards
Cheshire	5	4	0	1
Cumbria	5	2	2	1
GMP	32	16	13	3
Lancashire	7	2	4	1
Merseyside	13	5	7	1
North Wales	0	0	0	0
NCA	0	0	0	0
Total	62	29	26	7

Total awarded in grants: £12,522.43

1.8 Bed and Breakfast Breaks

In order to attract income for the charity members can utilise the facilities at St Michael's Lodge for a weekend stay. In 2023 264 weekend breaks were taken which compares with a total of 357 in 2022.

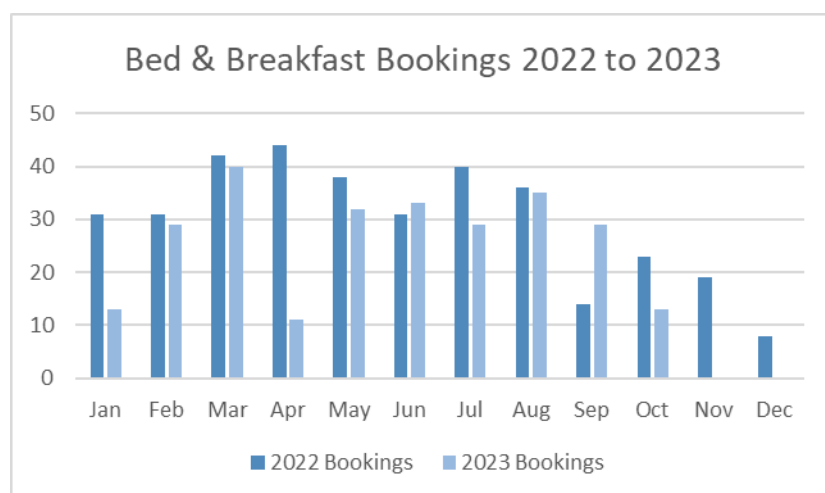
Bed & Breakfast

Month	2022 Bookings	2023 Bookings
Jan	31	13
Feb	31	29
Mar	42	40
Apr	44	11
May	38	32
Jun	31	33
Jul	40	29
Aug	36	35
Sep	14	29
Oct	23	13
Nov	19	0
Dec	8	0
Total	357	264

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023



1.9 Investment and Reserves Policy

The investment portfolio held by the Fund is managed by RBC Brewin Dolphin. The portfolio is held at risk level 5 with investment objectives that favour a diversified investment approach with a good level of liquidity. The aim is for a competitive level of income generation across the invested assets. The charity has a long-term investment time horizon which anticipates staying invested through successive market and economic cycles. The Trustee finance sub-group act on behalf of the wider Board to consider risk appetite and oversee investment performance.

Performance of Investment Portfolio

Portfolio Summary @ 31.12.2023	2022	2023
	£	£
Opening Valuation @ 01.01.2023	827,737	1,110,621
Investment purchases and transfers in	373,964	167,372
Investment sales and transfers out	-	-93,572
Unrealised revaluations of portfolio	-90,682	73,816
Realised gains/losses	-398	7,748
Closing valuation @ 31.12.23	1,110,621	1,265,985

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Financial review

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

At 31 December 2023, the charity held fund balances of £6,324,246 (2022 - £6,385,926). Of this a total of £3,956,391 related to tangible fixed assets and £1,265,985 related to fixed asset investments. Designated funds as disclosed within the notes to the accounts were £744,419. The balance of free reserves was therefore £357,451 (2022 - £486,794).

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that 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 financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In preparing the annual report the trustees had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

CC S. Hatchett - Chair of Trustees

12 July 2024

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Independent auditor's report

To the Trustees of North West Police Benevolent Fund

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of North West Police Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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 charity'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's 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 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.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the Trustees of North West Police Benevolent Fund

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees 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 charity'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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 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 auditor's 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 risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, by for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities including fraud is detailed below.

Our approach was as follows:

We understood how the charity is complying with relevant frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud might occur by discussing with the management and the board of trustees. We enquired of management as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Based on this understanding we designed specific audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors-responsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the Trustees of North West Police Benevolent Fund

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Desirie Lea FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of DJH Audit Limited

18 October 2024

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Chester House
LLoyd Drive
Ellesmere Port
Cheshire
United Kingdom
CH65 9HQ

DJH Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Notes							
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>							
Donations and legacies	3	94,875	-	94,875	116,069	-	116,069
Charitable activities	4	1,578,441	-	1,578,441	1,390,755	-	1,390,755
St Michaels Lodge	5	77,011	-	77,011	72,937	-	72,937
Investments	6	40,793	-	40,793	23,381	-	23,381
Other income	7	9,722	-	9,722	7,775	-	7,775
Total income		<u>1,800,842</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,800,842</u>	<u>1,610,917</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,610,917</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>							
Raising funds	8	<u>5,852</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,852</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Charitable activities	9	<u>1,938,234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,938,234</u>	<u>1,800,451</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,800,451</u>
Total expenditure		<u>1,944,086</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,944,086</u>	<u>1,800,451</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,800,451</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	<u>81,564</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,564</u>	<u>(91,080)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(91,080)</u>
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	90,000	(90,000)	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(61,680)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(61,680)</u>	<u>(190,614)</u>	<u>(90,000)</u>	<u>(280,614)</u>
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		<u>5,641,507</u>	<u>744,419</u>	<u>6,385,926</u>	<u>5,832,121</u>	<u>834,419</u>	<u>6,666,540</u>
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		<u><u>5,579,827</u></u>	<u><u>744,419</u></u>	<u><u>6,324,246</u></u>	<u><u>5,641,507</u></u>	<u><u>744,419</u></u>	<u><u>6,385,926</u></u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15	3,956,391		4,044,092	
Investments	16	1,265,985		1,110,621	
		<u>5,222,376</u>		<u>5,154,713</u>	
Current assets					
Debtors	17	287,709		247,818	
Cash at bank and in hand		961,493		1,200,045	
		<u>1,249,202</u>		<u>1,447,863</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	<u>(147,332)</u>		<u>(216,650)</u>	
Net current assets		1,101,870		1,231,213	
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>6,324,246</u>		<u>6,385,926</u>	
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - designated		744,419		744,419	
Unrestricted funds - general		5,579,827		5,641,507	
		<u>6,324,246</u>		<u>6,385,926</u>	

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12 July 2024

CC S. Hatchett - Chair of Trustees

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash absorbed by operations	22	(182,048)		(9,971)	
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(23,497)		(550)	
Purchase of investments		(167,372)		(373,964)	
Proceeds from disposal of investments		93,572		-	
Investment income received		40,793		23,380	
Net cash used in investing activities		(56,504)		(351,134)	
Net cash used in financing activities		-		-	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(238,552)		(361,105)	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1,200,045		1,561,150	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		961,493		1,200,045	

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The charity is governed by the terms set out in the Governing document adopted in 2011 which formalised and regulated the activities of the Fund and its Trustees and is reviewed annually.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's rule book, the Charities Act 2011 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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include investmentments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 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 the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on the accruals basis and is allocated under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

Costs of generating funds relate to the promotional work undertaken in the year to enhance the charity's standing.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Costs of charitable activities include expenditure relating to convalescence and grant provision for officers in need.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance, regulation and good practice.

Support costs have been allocated on the assumption that they arise in proportion to direct expenditure of the charitable activity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	1% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line and 8% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Donations and gifts	94,875	116,069
Donations and gifts		
Donations - members of the public	19,914	17,788
Donations - Miscellaneous	2,914	20,080
Legacy income	53,774	36,401
Gift aid	10,273	9,215
Grant income	8,000	12,585
PCC Cumbria	-	20,000
	94,875	116,069

4 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Member donations	1,431,978	1,279,787
Merseyside Wellbeing donations	10,400	9,040
Cheshire Wellbeing donations	21,520	7,520
GMP Wellbeing donations	18,622	7,077
North Wales Wellbeing donations	7,200	9,520
Cumbria Wellbeing donations	-	7,040
Lancashire Wellbeing donations	16,735	11,750
Cleveland Wellbeing donations	1,750	-
NWROCU Wellbeing donations	6,400	4,000
Satellite physio - Cheshire	25,000	25,000
Satellite physio - Merseyside	-	6,250
West Midlands Physio & Wellbeing stays	27,430	10,350
West Midlands Counselling services	5,005	-
Holistic Treatments	6,401	13,421
	1,578,441	1,390,755

All income from charitable activities was unrestricted in 2023 and 2022.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

5 St Michaels Lodge

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Facilities hire	48,175	51,261
Bistro	27,543	21,676
Other	1,293	-
	<u>77,011</u>	<u>72,937</u>

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Income from listed investments	26,998	22,320
Interest receivable	13,795	1,061
	<u>40,793</u>	<u>23,381</u>

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Other income	-	7,775
Fundraising income	9,722	-
	<u>9,722</u>	<u>7,775</u>

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

8 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Other fundraising costs	5,852	-
	<u>5,852</u>	<u>-</u>

9 Charitable activities

	St Michaels 2023 £	St Michaels 2022 £
Depreciation and impairment	111,198	124,986
Furnishings and maintenance	98,467	198,320
Services and insurance	203,657	132,564
Housekeeping and reception	278,261	254,276
Physiotherapy	359,867	342,534
Catering	147,947	128,002
Administration	31,730	57,614
Counselling and holistic services	296,059	184,033
Management	179,044	221,523
Site and security	69,351	62,274
	<u>1,775,581</u>	<u>1,706,126</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 11)	62,522	28,176
Share of support costs (see note 12)	92,631	59,299
Share of governance costs (see note 12)	7,500	6,850
	<u>1,938,234</u>	<u>1,800,451</u>

10 Trustees

Trustees are reimbursed for non material expenses incurred on charity business.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

11 Grants payable

	St Michaels 2023 £	St Michaels 2022 £
Discretionary grants		
Serving officers	9,928	1,600
Retired officers	2,594	11,576
Death in service	50,000	15,000
	<u>62,522</u>	<u>28,176</u>

12 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2023 £	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2022 £
Committee expenses	393	-	393	280	-	280
Legal and professional	62,199	-	62,199	30,776	-	30,776
Marketing costs	19,542	-	19,542	27,935	-	27,935
Bad debts	10,497	-	10,497	308	-	308
Audit fees	-	7,500	7,500	-	6,850	6,850
	<u>92,631</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>100,131</u>	<u>59,299</u>	<u>6,850</u>	<u>66,149</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>92,631</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>100,131</u>	<u>59,299</u>	<u>6,850</u>	<u>66,149</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £7,500 (2022 - £6,850) for audit fees.

13 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Revaluation of investments	<u>81,564</u>	<u>(91,080)</u>

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

14 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Admin and Reception	8	8
Catering	7	6
Counselling	8	5
Holistic	4	2
Housekeeping	4	3
Management	4	7
Physio	9	10
Site and Security	5	3
Total	49	44

Employment costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,054,053	913,955
Social security costs	87,417	82,610
Other pension costs	16,978	15,806
	1,158,448	1,012,371

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 January 2023	4,235,776	455,222	4,690,998
Additions	-	23,497	23,497
At 31 December 2023	4,235,776	478,719	4,714,495
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2023	338,652	308,254	646,906
Depreciation charged in the year	47,105	64,093	111,198
At 31 December 2023	385,757	372,347	758,104
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2023	3,850,019	106,372	3,956,391
At 31 December 2022	3,897,124	146,968	4,044,092

16 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments
	£
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2023	1,110,621
Additions	167,372
Valuation changes	81,564
Disposals	(93,572)
At 31 December 2023	1,265,985
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2023	1,265,985
At 31 December 2022	1,110,621

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

17 Debtors

		2023	2022
		£	£
Member loans	19	6,846	29,476
Donations and other trade debtors		255,329	193,801
Gift aid		9,348	-
Prepayments and accrued income		16,186	24,541
		<u>287,709</u>	<u>247,818</u>

18 Member Loans

	2023	2022
	£	£
Balance at 1 January 2023	40,312	71,261
Repayments in the year	(12,132)	(23,589)
Loans written off or converted to grants	(10,498)	(7,360)
	<u>17,682</u>	<u>40,312</u>
Bad debt provision	(10,836)	(10,836)
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>6,846</u>	<u>29,476</u>

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Other taxation and social security		21,931	22,572
Deferred income	20	20,640	101,767
Trade creditors		31,545	42,077
Other creditors		2,617	5,522
Accruals and deferred income		70,599	44,712
		<u>147,332</u>	<u>216,650</u>

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

20 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Other deferred income	20,640	101,767

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	20,640	101,767
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 January 2023	101,767	118,149
Released from previous periods	(119,402)	(95,772)
Resources deferred in the year	38,275	79,390
Deferred income at 31 December 2023	20,640	101,767

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	3,956,391	-	3,956,391	4,044,092	-	4,044,092
Investments	1,265,985	-	1,265,985	1,110,621	-	1,110,621
Current assets/(liabilities)	357,451	744,419	1,101,870	486,794	744,419	1,231,213
	5,579,827	744,419	6,324,246	5,641,507	744,419	6,385,926

North West Police Benevolent Fund

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

22 Cash generated from operations	2023	2022
	£	£
Deficit for the year	(61,680)	(280,614)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(40,793)	(23,381)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(81,564)	91,080
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	111,198	124,986
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(39,891)	94,270
Increase in creditors	11,809	70
(Decrease) in deferred income	(81,127)	(16,382)
Cash absorbed by operations	(182,048)	(9,971)

23 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

24 Movement in funds

	At 1.1.23	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Net movement	At 31.12.23
	£	£		£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted income	5,641,507	1,800,842	(1,862,522)	-	(61,680)	5,579,827
Total	5,641,507	1,800,842	(1,862,522)	-	(61,680)	5,579,827
	At 1.1.23	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Net movement	At 31.12.23
	£	£		£	£	£
Unrestricted designated funds						
Business contingency	523,419	-	-	-	-	523,419
Database and IT	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Health and Safety	40,000	-	-	-	-	40,000
St Michaels Capital	56,000	-	-	-	-	56,000
Disaster emergency	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Total	744,419	-	-	-	-	744,419

THE NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 503045

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 503045

**NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

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NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Reference and Administrative Details for the North West Police Benevolent fund

The registered address of the Charity is:

St Michael's lodge
Northcote Road
Langho
Lancashire
BB6 8BG

Bankers for the Charity are:

National Westminster Bank Plc
Chester Branch
PO Box 8
Chester
CH1 1XA

Auditors for the Charity are:

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chester House
Cheshire Oaks Business Park
Ellesmere Port
CH65 9HQ

Stockbrokers for the Charity are:

Brewin Dolphin Limited
Smithfield Street, London
EC1A9BD

Structure, Governance and Management of the North West Police Benevolent fund

The North West Police Benevolent Fund is an unincorporated charity, registered as a charity and governed by rules approved by the Charity Commissioners. This report has been prepared by the trustees of the Fund to conform to the requirements of the Charity Commissioners' Statement of Recommended Practice. However, the trustees have made the decision to change the structure of the charity to an incorporated charitable company. The transfer of assets will take place in the next financial year.

Trustees for the Charity in 2022:

Chairman: Christopher Rowley Chief Constable Lancashire Constabulary (wef 08 June 2021)
V Chairman R Hanley Lancashire Constabulary
D O'Connor Cheshire Constabulary
I Taylor Lancashire Constabulary
C Trow Greater Manchester Police
E Newton Lancashire Constabulary
J McTear Cumbria Constabulary (wef 08 June 2021)
A Bragg Merseyside Police
D Howard Cheshire Constabulary
M. Jones North Wales Constabulary (wef 31 December 2021)
M Unsworth - National Crime Agency

The Board of Trustees has delegated managerial responsibility for the day to day running of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer, Jeremy Graham. The CEO was supported in the year by a team of three senior managers with portfolio responsibilities for Finance, Operations and Health and Wellbeing. The management structure was revised during the course of the year resulting from the resignation of the Chief Finance Officer in July 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 (FRS 102)". The financial management of the charity is governed by a framework of policies and procedures that comply with the Charity Commission recommended best practice.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

CEO Overview

After two years where the Funds' service provision was substantially disrupted by the pandemic, 2022 represented a welcome opportunity for the Ben Fund to support its members and individuals from the wider police family who had worked so hard to protect others through this very challenging period. The Ben Fund offers a unique health and wellbeing package that allows its members flexible treatments or services based upon individual clinical need whether as an outpatient or through a residential stay.

The Fund has an individual arrangement with each Force in the region (including NW ROCU) to provide a programme of overnight recuperative wellbeing stays for officers and staff who are routinely operating in a high stress environment. Each week throughout the year the Fund has hosted up to twenty such individuals from across the region. A series of classes and treatments are available to encourage them to relax and enhance their wellbeing. The feedback from this programme has been extremely positive and has meant that the throughput at St Michael's Lodge is consistently busy with high occupancy rates of bedrooms.

In order to enhance capacity to better meet the increasing demand of clients for physiotherapy treatments the Fund has re-engineered its timetable to increase the number of patients that can be treated in a single day. As a result of these changes the number of patients treated in 2022 has increased and the waiting list minimised.

The profile and importance of mental health within the Police Service has increased significantly in recent years. A combination of a greater willingness to seek help together with the legacy impact of the pandemic has resulted in a very substantial increase in the number of colleagues requesting counselling support from the Ben Fund. The Trustees monitor waiting times for treatment, and I am grateful for their decision to increase the number of counsellors available to the Fund to provide more support and minimise waiting times.

Attracting new members and retaining existing members is critical to the Fund operating effectively. In January 2022, a dedicated Membership Coordinator was appointed to highlight the benefits of membership and increase the Funds' profile across the region. This has been a successful initiative with the Fund now having a much wider reach within its constituent Forces and agencies. In summer 2022, the Fund promoted a membership "amnesty" to encourage new members. This proved successful particularly amongst the retired cohort.

The Fund seeks to operate as an efficient and professionally run charity that provides effective outcomes and spends members donations efficiently. To support this a programme of modernisation and learning is being developed. This has included more sophisticated use of information and data to enhance services to members and a greater emphasis upon health and safety of members and staff. In August 2022, the Funds' CFO left to join another charity and a decision was made to outsource the Funds' financial reporting to Morris and Co.

Ensuring that members have access to the best possible infrastructure and equipment is a critical priority for the Fund. During the year, a serious structural fault was discovered to the orangery at St Michaels' Lodge that resulted in this pivotal space being put out of service for eight months. An expensive repair was necessitated to rectify this fault and I am grateful to the Trustees for their decision to refurbish the interior of this room. The refurbished Orangery and Link Rooms now provide extremely high-quality accommodation for members and visitors to relax in and attract excellent feedback. Investing in the infrastructure of St Michaels' Lodge will continue to be a priority moving forward.

As part of improving the professional status of the Ben Fund a decision was taken by the Trustees in 2021 to change the legal status of the charity from unincorporated to a company limited by guarantee. This is a protracted legal process that takes place in stages and should complete during 2023.

In October 2022, the Fund was pleased to host delegates from across the UK to St Michaels' Lodge for the Police Charities UK annual conference. This was an excellent opportunity to network with colleagues across the police charity eco system and showcase the Ben Fund offer and facilities.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

In closing I believe that despite a number of challenges and headwinds the Ben Fund is in a strong position to continue developing and growing to meet the needs of its members. I am grateful to the Chair of Trustees and the wider trustee board for their continued support and scrutiny. I would particularly like to express my gratitude to the staff of the Fund for their continued enthusiasm, hard work and support.

JM Graham
CEO The Ben Fund

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The following represents a statistical analysis of the activity and performance of the Fund across the range of its offer to its members and service users. The data presented below is largely reflective of the inputs and outputs of the Fund during 2022 and does not include information in relation to outcomes or quality of service provided. This is a shortcoming that has been identified and will be rectified in subsequent reports. The Fund does collect a range of feedback data in respect of the different elements of its offer. Efforts are currently in hand to interpret and present this in a more user friendly and informative way.

1.1 Membership

A vibrant and dynamic membership is the lifeblood of the Ben Fund. The Fund provides a unique, flexible and comprehensive offer for potential members. With the current emphasis on the health and wellbeing of staff illustrated by the police covenant, the Trustees believe that all serving officers/ law enforcement agents in the region who are entitled to membership should have the opportunity to learn about the offer and join the Ben Fund.

This involves the opportunity to present the Funds' offer to student officers, officers who are in service but not previously joined and officers who are about to retire from the service. In previous years, the Fund has had a haphazard approach to this important function, relying upon the goodwill of motivated individuals within Force/ Agency to advocate on behalf of the Fund. Given the importance of attracting members and in recognition that donations from members represent 80% of total income a decision was taken to employ a dedicated Membership Coordinator to undertake this task.

This appointment began in January 2022 and has proved to be very effective. The Fund now has much greater consistency of access to potential members. The post holder has been very successful at building relationships with stakeholders within Forces/ Agencies and is regularly attending events across the region to attract members and raise the profile of the Funds' offer. During 2022, 1,249 new student officers were signed up to become members of the Fund

In May/ June/ July 2022 the Trustees decided to offer an "amnesty" which was an opportunity for individuals to join the Fund without having to wait to apply for treatment. This proved to be a successful initiative attracting 404 new members. The total number of donating members on 31 December 2022 was 16,334 (2021 equivalent was 16,077).

Breakdown of current members by Force and status (serving or retired)

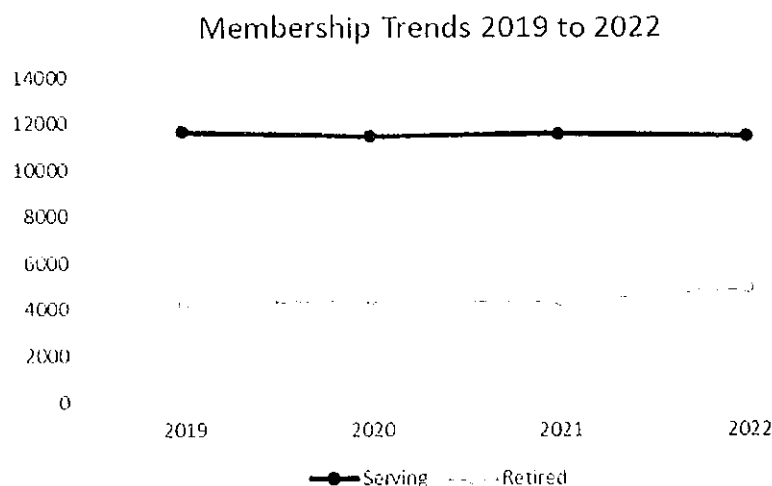
FORCE	2021 Serving Members	2022 Serving Members	2021 Retired Members	2022 Retired Members
Cheshire	1422	1353	727	756
GMP	4177	4046	1208	1288
Merseyside	2545	2570	1785	1837
Lancashire	2252	2270	716	832
Cumbria	790	730	162	181
North Wales	45	123	0	2
NCA	346	332	11	14
TOTAL MEMBERS	11577	11424	4609	4910

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Graph illustrating membership trends 2011-2023



1.2 Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy was the first clinical service that the Fund invested in as it expanded its service upon the occupying of St Michaels' Lodge, and it remains at the core of the Ben Fund offer. The Fund provides a flexible and bespoke service to its members. Treatment is offered at Cheshire Police HQ, Cumbria Police HQ, Progress House in Manchester and Green Lane in Liverpool and St Michaels' Lodge in Lancashire. Members have the benefit of travelling to their nearest and most convenient location to access treatment. Additionally, treatment is based around the clinical need of the patient. Depending upon symptoms, members may access treatment as an outpatient or inpatient and the number of sessions is predicated upon the clinical needs of each individual. In addition to providing physiotherapy, the clinicians also support a range of other health and wellbeing programmes by leading a variety of classes and activities.

Physiotherapy patients attending St Michael's Lodge. Listed by Force, serving and retired

	2021				2022			
	In-patient Serving	In-patient Retired	Out- patient	Total	In-patient Serving	In-patient Retired	Out- patient	Total
Cheshire	17	9	49	75	23	7	23	53
Cumbria	16	4	11	31	3	4	10	17
GMP	9	7	54	70	23	15	105	143
Lancashire	3	0	240	243	6	4	324	334
Merseyside	15	17	76	108	8	23	47	78
N. Wales	1	0	0	1	4	0	1	5
NCA	0	2	4	6	1	1	3	5
W. Mids	8	0	0	8	22	0	28	50
Totals	69	39	434	542	90	54	541	685

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Total patients attending St Michael's Lodge for treatment in 2022 - 685 (2021 - 542)

An SLA has been in place since 2015, whereby Cheshire Constabulary pay an additional sum to the Fund to facilitate the treatment of non-Ben Fund members by the physiotherapist at sited at Cheshire Police HQ.

Total patients attending Satellite locations for treatment in 2022 - 434 (2021 - 267)

	2021		2022	
Force	Members	Non-members*	Members	Non-members*
Cheshire	44	34	104	57
Cumbria	41	0	84	0
GMP	48	0	105	0
Merseyside	71	29	80	4

Table showing data on physio led group classes

Activity	2021	2022
AI Chi	357	468
Aqua Fit	70	104
Pilates	457	312
Stretch	259	104
Tai Chi	81	104

1.3 Mental Health Services

The profile of mental health issues affecting serving and retired officers has greatly increased in recent years. Research commissioned by the College of Policing demonstrates that officers are routinely operating in high stress environments often being exposed to traumatic incidents, the cumulative effect of which can lead to mental distress or breakdown. Furthermore, the legacy impact of the pandemic has had a significantly adverse impact of mental health and perceptions of wellbeing. This has resulted in a substantial increase in the numbers of individuals seeking support.

The increase in demand on the Fund for counselling continued to grow during the course of the year. The Fund has tried to better match supply and demand by, in addition to our own therapists, utilising a bank of independent counsellors so that supply can be surged at times of peak demand. As demand has continued to grow, the Trustees, aware of growing waiting times for treatment, took the decision to expand the number of employed counsellors to mitigate demand and enhance service.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The figures below correspond to new clients that were first registered for counselling between 1/1/22 and 31/12/22.

Force	2021				2022			
	New Referrals 1/1/21-31/12/21	Ongoing clients 2021	Closed off clients 2021	Closed off number of sessions 2021	New Referrals 1/1/22-31/12/22	Ongoing clients 2022	Closed off clients 2022	Closed off number of sessions 2022
Cheshire	11	3	8	41	18	10	8	117
Cumbria	5	1	4	20	4	1	3	8
GMP	48	5	43	375	87	61	26	645
Lancashire	50	4	46	343	16	2	14	124
Merseyside	30	4	26	179	36	8	28	270
NCA	1	0	1	8	2	1	1	4
North Wales	-	-	-	-	1	0	1	5
Retired	12	2	10	82	16	5	11	99

1.4 Holistic and Alternative Therapies

The holistic therapists complement and support the offer provided by mental health practitioners and physiotherapists by providing a range of mainstream alternative therapies to promote health and wellbeing. Holistic therapies play a pivotal role in supporting the Force Wellbeing and Individual Wellbeing programmes.

During 2022, a total of 2,951 holistic therapies were delivered.

1.5 Force Wellbeing Offer

In 2020, a strategic decision was taken to develop the Ben Funds' offer towards a greater emphasis upon prevention rather than simply treatment. A two-day programme was developed that facilitated groups of individuals to attend St Michael's Lodge for a period of recuperation and decompression. The Fund layered in a series of relaxation classes and techniques to promote relaxation and wellbeing.

All Forces in the region and the NW ROCU made donations to secure places for their staff on this programme. The progress of this programme was severely disrupted by the impact of the pandemic and what was intended to be a one-year programme has had to be extended over three years. 2022 was a year where the backlog from previous years was expedited. In 2021, 189 sessions were provided. During 2022 this increased to 507

The feedback from this programme has been overwhelmingly positive and the Fund will seek to continue a refreshed programme into the future.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1.6 Convalescence Offer

Members who are suffering physical and or psychological distress and would benefit from a respite break may apply to the Fund for a break free of charge. In previous years, the Ben Fund delivered this offer via its own collection of thirteen holiday lodges situated in the Lake District. In 2021, due to the deteriorating condition of some lodges and the spiralling costs of maintenance the Trustees decided to dispose of the lodges and deliver convalescence breaks through established holiday operators. This offered a greater choice of locations for members and better accommodation.

2022 was the first full year that the new approach to convalescence was implemented. The table below shows data relating to the numbers of applications and respite breaks taken. This new approach has proved to be a success with a singular focus upon supporting individuals who are ill, feedback has been positive, and the programme is significantly more cost effective.

The following data applies to the calendar year 2022:

APPLICATIONS

- 166 members applied for convalescence break
- 160 applications approved
- 6 applications not approved
- 1 application successfully appealed

CONVALESCENCE BREAKS

- 167 breaks taken
- 95 breaks via Parkdean Ltd (White Cross Bay, Fallbarrow and Yorkshire)
- 52 breaks taken at South Lakes Leisure Village
- 20 breaks taken at St Michael's Lodge
- Lengths of stay vary from Mon-Fri and weekend breaks and are determined on individual requirements of each applicant.

**** some data above relates to applicants who were awarded a break in 2021 but took it in 2022.**

1.7 Financial Hardship Assistance

Death Benefit

The Fund continues to make an award of £5,000 as a Death Benefit Grant to the named beneficiaries of serving donating members who die in service. Sadly, during 2022 there were 3 recorded deaths (6 in 2021) and consequential payments.

Grants and loans

The Fund offers financial assistance to members in financial distress in the form of an interest free loan or a grant usually capped at £5,000. All applications are means tested. In the Autumn of 2022, the Trustees decided to cease the award of loans forthwith and focus solely on the award of grants.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

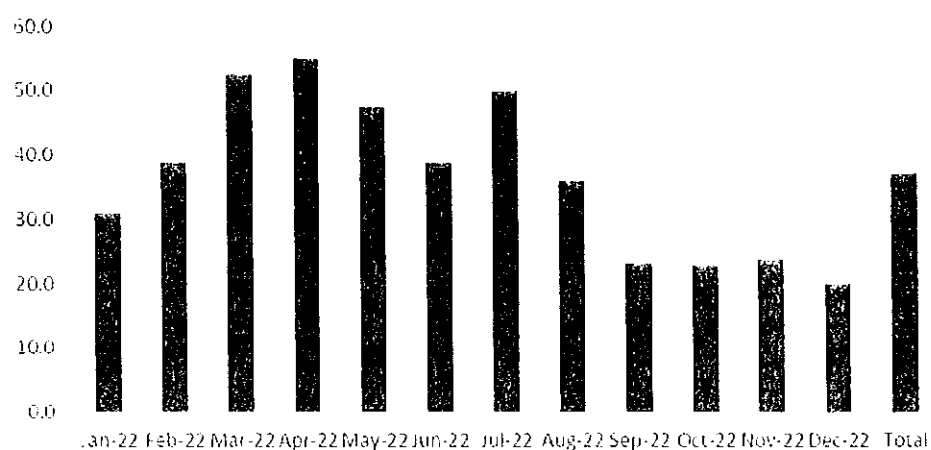
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Force	Total no. of enquiries	Applications Sign-posted to alternative help	Loans awarded	Grants awards
Cheshire	2	1	0	0
Cumbria	1	0	0	0
GMP	13	3	1	1
Lancashire	4	2	0	2
Merseyside	10	5	0	1
North Wales	1	0	0	0
NCA	0	0	0	0

1.8 Bed and Breakfast Breaks

In order to attract income for the charity members can utilise the facilities at St Michael's Lodge for a weekend stay. In 2022 357 weekend breaks were taken which compares with a total of 98 in 2021.

Bed & Breakfast at St Michael's Lodge by percentage of possible bookings - January to December 2022



NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1.9 Investment Policy

The investment portfolio held by the Fund is managed by RBC Brewin Dolphin. The portfolio is held at risk level 5 with investment objectives that favour a diversified investment approach with a good level of liquidity. The aim is for a competitive level of income generation across the invested assets. The charity has a long-term investment time horizon which anticipates staying invested through successive market and economic cycles. The Trustee finance sub-group act on behalf of the wider Board to consider risk appetite and oversee investment performance.

Performance of Investment Portfolio

	2021	2022
	£	£
Opening Valuation – 1/1/22	679,542	827,737
Investment purchases/Transfers in	983,493	373,964
Cash Transfers in	90,416	-
Investment sales/Transfers out	(988,000)	-
Unrealised revaluations	68,094	(91,080)
Realised gains/(losses)	(5,808)	-
Closing Valuation – 31/12/22	827,737	1,110,621
Cash in investment holding account	435,009	75,263

Reserves policy and Review

On 31 December 2022, the charity held fund balances of £6,385,926. Of this amount £4,044,092 is the value of the property and fixed assets. The balance on the fixed asset investment portfolio was £1,110,621. Designated funds as disclosed within the notes to the accounts were £744,419. The balance of free reserves is therefore £486,794. The trustees review the reserves policy annually and are working towards an extended designated funds policy.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Trustees' report (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

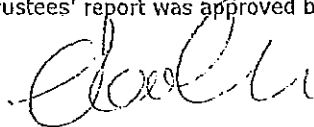
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In preparing the annual report the trustees had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr C Rowley - Chair of Trustees
Dated: 13 June 2023

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Independent auditor's report

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of North West Police Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 charity's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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 charity'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's 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 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.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Independent auditor's report (continued)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees 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 charity'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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 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 auditor's 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 risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, by for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities including fraud is detailed below.

Our approach was as follows:

We understood how the charity is complying with relevant frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud might occur by discussing with the management and the board of trustees. We enquired of management as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Based on this understanding we designed specific audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors-responsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Independent auditor's report (continued)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Desirie Lea FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Chester House
LLoyd Drive
Ellesmere Port
Cheshire
United Kingdom
CH65 9HQ

6 September 2023

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2021 £	Total 2021 £
	Notes						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	116,069	-	116,069	327,739	-	327,739
Charitable activities	4	1,390,755	-	1,390,755	1,527,340	-	1,527,340
St Michaels Lodge	5	72,937	-	72,937	27,140	-	27,140
Investments	6	23,381	-	23,381	19,027	-	19,027
Other income	7	7,775	-	7,775	3,443	-	3,443
Total income		1,610,917	-	1,610,917	1,904,689	-	1,904,689
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	8	1,800,451	-	1,800,451	1,821,414	-	1,821,414
Other	15	-	-	-	666,928	-	666,928
Total resources expended		1,800,451	-	1,800,451	2,488,342	-	2,488,342
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	(91,080)	-	(91,080)	62,287	-	62,287
Net outgoing resources before transfers		(280,614)	-	(280,614)	(521,366)	-	(521,366)
Gross transfers between funds		90,000	(90,000)	-	280,071	(280,071)	-
Net movement in funds		(190,614)	(90,000)	(280,614)	(241,295)	(280,071)	(521,366)
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		5,832,121	834,419	6,666,540	6,073,416	1,114,490	7,187,906
Fund balances at 31 December 2022		5,641,507	744,419	6,385,926	5,832,121	834,419	6,666,540

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

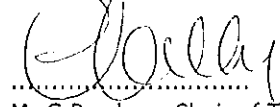
NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Balance sheet

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16	4,044,092		4,168,527	
Investments	17	1,110,621		827,737	
		5,154,713		4,996,264	
Current assets					
Debtors	18	247,818		342,088	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,200,045		1,561,150	
		1,447,863		1,903,238	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	(216,650)		(232,962)	
Net current assets		1,231,213		1,670,276	
Total assets less current liabilities		6,385,926		6,666,540	
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - designated		744,419		834,419	
Unrestricted funds - general		5,641,507		5,832,121	
		6,385,926		6,666,540	

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 13 June 2023



Mr C Rowley - Chair of Trustees

09 AUG 2023

10/10/23

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Statement of cash flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	25		(9,971)		316,374
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(550)		(213,086)	
Proceeds on disposal of tangible fixed assets		-		680,000	
Purchase of Investments		(373,964)		(1,073,908)	
Proceeds on disposal of Investments		-		988,000	
Interest received		23,380		19,027	
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities			(351,134)		400,033
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(361,105)		716,407
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,561,150		844,743
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,200,045		1,561,150

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The charity is governed by the terms set out in the Governing document adopted in 2011 which formalised and regulated the activities of the Fund and its Trustees and is reviewed annually.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's rule book, the Charities Act 2011 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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include investmentments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 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 the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on the accruals basis and is allocated under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

Costs of generating funds relate to the promotional work undertaken in the year to enhance the charity's standing.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Costs of charitable activities include expenditure at the three main sites of the charity including convalescence and grant provision for officers in need.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance, regulation and good practice.

Support costs have been allocated on the assumption that they arise in proportion to direct expenditure of the charitable activity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	1% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line and 8% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Donations and gifts	116,069	327,739
Donations - Members of the public	17,788	6,762
Donations - Miscellaneous	20,080	5,233
Legacy income	36,401	222,668
Gift aid	9,215	14,781
Grant income	12,585	78,295
PCC Cumbria	20,000	-
	<u>116,069</u>	<u>327,739</u>
Grant income as above		
Ribble Valley Council	1,843	24,571
Job Retention Scheme	-	36,484
COVID-19 Sick Pay Rebates	1,715	3,463
Employment Allowance	4,000	4,000
Parkdean Discretionary Discount	-	9,777
	<u>12,585</u>	<u>78,295</u>

4 Charitable activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Member Donations	1,279,787	1,289,152
Lodges	-	141,394
Merseyside Wellbeing donations	9,040	5,208
Cheshire Wellbeing donations	7,520	6,520
GMP Wellbeing donations	7,078	12,519
North Wales Wellbeing donations	9,520	2,880
Cumbria Wellbeing donations	7,040	-
Lancashire Wellbeing donations	11,750	5,480
West Midlands Wellbeing donations	10,350	-
NWROCU Wellbeing donations	4,000	-
Satellite physio - Merseyside	6,250	18,750
Satellite physio - Cheshire	25,000	26,310
Holistic Treatments	13,420	19,127
	<u>1,390,755</u>	<u>1,527,340</u>

All income from charitable activities was unrestricted in 2022 and 2021.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5 St Michaels Lodge

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Venue hire	7,005	-
Bed and Breakfast	44,256	14,874
Bistro	21,676	12,266
Total	72,937	27,140

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Income from listed investments	22,320	18,963
Interest receivable	1,061	64
	23,381	19,027

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Treatment costs reclaimed following legal action	7,775	3,443
	7,775	3,443

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

8 Charitable activities

	St Michaels	White Cross Bay	South Lakeland	Total 2022	Total 2021
	2022	2022	2022		
	£	£	£	£	£
Management	221,523	-	-	221,523	215,785
Site and security	62,274	-	-	62,274	68,543
Depreciation and impairment	124,986	-	-	124,986	193,209
Furnishings and maintenance	198,320	-	-	198,320	181,244
Services and Insurance	132,564	-	-	132,564	276,280
Housekeeping and reception	254,276	-	-	254,276	168,018
Physiotherapy	342,534	-	-	342,534	304,953
Catering	128,002	-	-	128,002	90,549
Administration	57,614	-	-	57,614	33,381
Counselling and holistic services	184,033	-	-	184,033	139,100
	<u>1,706,126</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,706,126</u>	<u>1,671,062</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 10)	28,176	-	-	28,176	44,255
Share of support costs (see note 11)	59,299	-	-	59,299	99,546
Share of governance costs (see note 11)	6,850	-	-	6,850	6,551
	<u>1,800,451</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,800,451</u>	<u>1,821,414</u>

Charitable activities as above were unrestricted in 2022 and 2021.

9 Trustees

Trustees are reimbursed for non material expenses incurred on charity business.

10 Grants payable

	Unrestricted 2022	Unrestricted 2021
	£	£
Serving officers	1,600	4,000
Retired officers	11,576	10,255
Death Benefits	15,000	30,000
Total	<u>28,176</u>	<u>44,255</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

11 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	Support costs	Governance costs	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Committee expenses	280	-	280	883	-	883
Lodges combined insurance	-	-	-	25,120	-	25,120
Legal and professional	30,776	-	30,776	45,163	-	45,163
Marketing costs	27,935	-	27,935	27,448	-	27,448
Bad debts	308	-	308	932	-	932
Audit fees	-	6,850	6,850	-	6,551	6,551
	<u>59,299</u>	<u>6,850</u>	<u>66,149</u>	<u>99,546</u>	<u>6,551</u>	<u>106,097</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>59,299</u>	<u>6,850</u>	<u>66,149</u>	<u>99,546</u>	<u>6,551</u>	<u>106,097</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £6,850 (2021 - £6,551) for audit fees.

12 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2022	Unrestricted funds general 2021
	£	£
Realised and unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	<u>(91,080)</u>	<u>62,287</u>

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

14 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Admin and Reception	8	8
Catering	6	5
Counselling	5	4
Holistic	2	2
Housekeeping	3	3
Management	7	7
Physio	10	8
Site and Security	3	-
Total	44	37

Employment costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	913,955	793,076
Social security costs	82,610	67,144
Other pension costs	15,806	14,477
	1,012,371	874,697

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

15 Other

	Total Unrestricted funds £ 2022	general 2021
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	666,928
	-	666,928

During the year ended 31 December 2021, the trustees made the decision to dispose of the convalescence lodges due to escalating maintenance costs. The proceeds of the sale were £680,000 with an exceptional book loss on disposal of £666,928.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 January 2022	4,235,776	454,672	4,690,448
Additions	-	550	550
At 31 December 2022	4,235,776	455,222	4,690,998
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2022	291,547	230,373	521,920
Depreciation charged in the year	47,105	77,881	124,986
At 31 December 2022	338,652	308,254	646,906
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2022	3,897,124	146,968	4,044,092
At 31 December 2021	3,944,229	224,298	4,168,527

17 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2022	827,737
Additions	373,964
Valuation changes	(91,080)
At 31 December 2022	1,110,621
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2022	1,110,621
At 31 December 2021	827,737

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

18 Debtors

		2022 £	2021 £
Member loans	19	29,476	53,065
Donations and other trade debtors		193,801	250,688
Gift aid		-	4,363
Prepayments and accrued income		24,541	33,972
		<u>247,818</u>	<u>342,088</u>

19 Member Loans

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance at 1 January 2021	71,261	116,495
Loans granted during the year	-	-
Repayments in the year	(23,589)	(24,213)
Loans written off and converted to grants	(7,360)	(21,021)
	<u>40,312</u>	<u>71,261</u>
Bad debt provision	(10,836)	(18,195)
Balance at 31 December 2021	<u>29,476</u>	<u>53,066</u>

20 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Other taxation and social security		22,572	24,711
Deferred income	21	101,767	118,149
Trade creditors		42,077	30,621
Other creditors		5,522	1,492
Accruals and deferred income		44,712	57,989
		<u>216,650</u>	<u>232,962</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

21 Deferred income

	2022 £	2021 £
Lancashire	14,436	24,116
GMP	20,768	3,845
Cheshire	26,360	33,880
Merseyside	16,168	25,208
North wales	7,600	17,120
NWRCO	6,000	-
Merseyside physio	-	6,250
Cheshire physio	6,250	6,250
Lodge bookings	-	480
Employment allowance 2021	2,000	1,000
Bed & Breakfast breaks in advance	2,185	-
	<u>101,767</u>	<u>118,149</u>

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Designated funds 2022 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Designated funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2022 are represented by:					
Tangible assets	4,044,092	-	4,044,092	4,168,527	4,168,527
Investments	1,110,621	-	1,110,621	827,737	827,737
Current assets/ (liabilities)	486,794	744,419	1,231,213	834,419	1,670,276
	<u>5,641,507</u>	<u>744,419</u>	<u>6,385,926</u>	<u>834,419</u>	<u>6,666,540</u>

23 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Notes to the financial statements (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

24 Movement in funds

	At 1.1.21	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Net movement	At 31.12.22
	£	£		£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted income	5,832,121	1,610,917	(1,891,531)	90,000	(190,614)	5,641,507
Total	5,832,121	1,610,917	(1,891,531)	90,000	(190,614)	5,641,507

	At 1.1.21	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Net movement	At 31.12.22
	£	£		£	£	£
Unrestricted designated funds						
Business contingency	523,419	-	-	-	-	523,419
Database and IT	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Orangery reurbishment	50,000	-	-	(50,000)	(50,000)	-
Health and Safety	80,000	-	-	(40,000)	(40,000)	40,000
St Michaels Capital	56,000	-	-	-	-	56,000
Disaster emergency	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Total	834,419	-	-	(90,000)	(90,000)	744,419

25 Cash generated from operations

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deficit for the year	(280,614)	(521,366)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(23,381)	(19,027)
(Gain)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	666,928
Fair value gains and losses on investments	91,080	(62,287)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	124,986	193,209
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease in debtors	94,270	25,103
Increase in creditors	70	20,675
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(16,382)	13,138
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	(9,971)	316,373

THE NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 503045

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 503045

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

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NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Reference and Administrative Details for the North West Police Benevolent fund

The registered address of the Charity is:

St Michael's lodge
Northcote Road
Langho
Lancashire
BB6 8BG

Bankers for the Charity are:

National Westminster Bank Plc
Chester Branch
PO Box 8
Chester
CH1 1XA

Auditors for the Charity are:

Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chester House
Cheshire Oaks Business Park
Ellesmere Port
CH65 9HQ

Stockbrokers for the Charity are:

<u>01.04.22 to 30.06.21</u>	<u>01.07.2021 to 31.12.2021</u>
UBS Investment Management Limited	Brewin Dolphin Limited
Newcastle Upon Tyne	Smithfield Street, London
NE4 7JH	EC1A9BD

Structure, Governance and Management of the North West Police Benevolent fund

The North West Police Benevolent Fund is an unincorporated charity, registered as a charity and governed by rules approved by the Charity Commissioners. This report has been prepared by the trustees of the Fund to conform to the requirements of the Charity Commissioners' Statement of Recommended Practice.

Trustees for the Charity in 2021:

Chairman: Christopher Rowley Chief Constable Lancashire Constabulary (wef 08 June 2021)
V Chairman R Hanley Lancashire Constabulary
D O'Connor Cheshire Constabulary
I Taylor Lancashire Constabulary
J Arrowsmith Merseyside Police (retired 13 January 2022)
C Trow Greater Manchester Police
E Newton Lancashire Constabulary
D Lloyd National Crime Agency
J McTear Cumbria Constabulary (wef 08 June 2021)
D Howard Cheshire Constabulary
M. Jones North Wales Constabulary (wef 31 December 2021)

The Board of Trustees have delegated ultimate managerial responsibility for the running of the charity to the CEO. The CEO was supported in the year by a team of 3 senior managers with portfolio responsibilities for Health and Wellbeing, Operations and Finance.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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)".

The financial management of the charity is governed by a framework of policies and procedures that comply with the Charity Commission recommended best practice.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

CEO Overview – 2021:

The early part of the year was again shaped by the challenges of operating within a restricted environment resulting from the consequences of the pandemic. The Funds' offer is primarily based around providing health care and wellbeing services to clients in a face to face or group setting which was particularly difficult during this period. The Fund approached this challenge with care in order to protect clients and staff, but also a commitment to adapt working practices to maximise the support that could be given to clients. I am very grateful to Ben Fund Staff for their flexibility and determination to provide the best possible support at a time of severe staff and family sickness.

Enhancing the offer

During the year a comprehensive review of the Funds' convalescence offer was completed. The Fund owned and operated thirteen Lodges located in north Lancashire and the Lake District which were used to provide free respite breaks to ill members and their families. When not used for this purpose, they were made available for the wider membership to use at preferential rates. After a thorough analysis of the physical condition of the estate and associated costs, an options paper was considered by the Trustees. A decision was taken to sell the existing estate and purchase bespoke respite breaks for members suffering illness. The sale of the Lodges was completed in December 2021.

The new respite offer should provide members who become ill with a much wider choice of locations and a consistently higher standard of accommodation for their respite breaks.

In June we were delighted to welcome Chief Constable Chris Rowley as our new chair of trustees. On behalf of the staff at the Fund I would like to extend my thanks and best wishes to the outgoing chair, Andy Rhodes, for his dedication and support. Both Chris and Andy were present at the opening ceremony for the Funds' new Health and Wellbeing Studio. This facility, designed by staff, and supported by Trustees demonstrates the Funds' continuing commitment to providing best in class facilities for its members and is already widely utilised.

Just as one new space became available for use, the orangery at St Michael's Lodge had to be temporarily closed to rectify a defect in the roof. As the centerpiece of the St Michael's building this presented significant logistical challenges.

In the Autumn of 2021, the Trustees agreed a process of refurbishment of the existing bedrooms at St Michael's Lodge. Seven bedrooms have now been completed to boutique hotel standard in an ongoing effort to ensure that members and visitors to St Michael's Lodge enjoy the best possible experience.

Membership

A highlight of 2021 occurred in June when Ben Fund membership was extended to officers from North Wales Police. I am grateful to the Chief Officer team and the Police Federation of North Wales for their engagement and look forward to growing the membership and providing support services to members in the coming years.

Professionalising the Funds' approach to membership has and will continue to be a significant focus moving forward. A comprehensive database of members is now in place and a single point of contact has been established to promote and administer in respect of membership.

Business Plan

All charities are now operating in an uncertain environment. The Ben Fund needs to ensure that it continues to upgrade its facilities and develop its offer going forward if it is to attract and retain membership. The Fund has developed a costed plan to ensure the provision of an annual balanced budget. This involves managing and reducing cost pressures whilst finding ways of maximizing income. Examples include increasing membership, broadening the categories of who may become a member and developing the bed and breakfast offer.

I would like to thank the Trustees, the management team and all the staff at the Ben Fund for their continued support during the year.

JM Graham
CEO The Ben Fund
24.05.22

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Activities, Achievement and Performance 2021

1.1 The scope of activity changed in several ways in 2021.

The impact of the Covid pandemic and associated restrictions dictated the pace of Ben. Fund activity for the first 4 months of the year. Whilst the fund endeavoured to ensure service delivery the need to ensure covid security limited the physical footfall of members through St Michaels. As well as reducing the number of members accessing many of the services on offer, there was a subsequent impact on income generating activities and business development opportunities.

The pandemic has led to a rise in demand for the physiological and preventative services, which has led to growth in the counselling provision and the well-being therapy team.

The loss of projected income resulted in a forecast revenue deficit for 2021 of £135k. However, this deficit was mitigated by several one-off income streams. The Fund received an unexpected legacy of £100k, reached a final settlement of £122k with the Noel Paul estate and secured £74k in Covid related business relief funding. For the 12 months to 31.12.2021 the Ben Fund reported an unexpected revenue surplus of £159k.

The most significant change in activity was the disposal of the 13 holiday lodges the Fund owned and used to provide both convalescence breaks and subsidised paid breaks for members. A review of the convalescence provision, which had begun in Autumn 2020, concluded in August 2021. The trustees voted to divest of the 13 lodges and broker a deal to outsource provision to professional holiday providers. This decision has had a dramatic impact on the Ben Funds balance sheet. At 31.12.20 the lodges had a combined balance sheet value of £1,558k. But, due a combination of under-depreciation and poor maintenance the lodges were sold for £880k (net loss of £678k.)

£500k of the proceeds were transferred to the investment portfolio.

The introduction of MiFID11 and subsequent regulatory changes required The Ben Fund was to transfer its investment portfolio mid-year. After evaluating several potential alternatives, the Trustee's opted to engage Brewin Dolphin as the Funds Investment manager. For further detail on the portfolio see 1.9.

As part of the on-going professionalisation agenda, the Senior Management team drew-up a 3 year business plan which captures the underlying financial trend of revenue expenditure exceeding revenue income, and identifies options to close this deficit. Priorities in year 1 (2022) is the recruitment of a membership co-ordinator to maximise opportunities to enrol members, and to develop provision of bed and breakfast weekend breaks at St. Michaels.

1.2 Membership

The funding model of the charity has historically relied upon membership donations from serving and retired police officers. In 2021 membership donations contributed approximately 80% of total income (78% in 2019).

Therefore, identifying trends in membership and implementing appropriate mitigating actions must be a key priority in financial planning.

In 2021 North Wales Constabulary joined the Ben Fund, however Covid restrictions impacted on roll out of the membership recruitment and numbers joining were lower than hoped.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

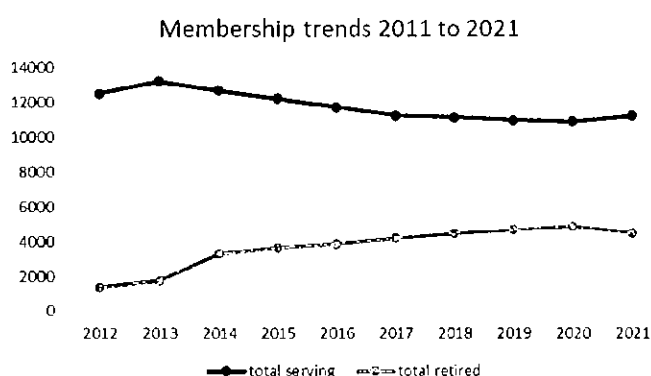
Activities, Achievement and Performance

Total donating members on 31st December 2021 was 16,077 (2020 equivalent was 15,786)

Breakdown of Current Members between Forces 2021

Force	2020 Serving Members	2021 Serving Members	2020 Retired Members	2021 Retired Members
Cheshire	1423	1422	709	727
GMP	4154	4177	1146	1208
Merseyside	2384	2545	1794	1785
Lancashire	2171	2252	699	727
Cumbria	787	790	140	162
North Wales	0	45	0	0
NCA	n/a	n/a	379	346
Total Members	10,919	11,231	4,867	4,846

The graph below demonstrates membership trends over the period 2011 to 2021.



1.3 Physiotherapy

Until April 2021 the Fund was still subject to local and national restrictions, meaning St. Michaels provided a reduced inhouse service for the first quarter of 2021. The physio team continued to work on engaging members in a range of on-line and virtual interventions, with every referral receiving a one-to-one telephone consultation with a physiotherapist in this period.

Covid secure bookings at St. Michaels and the satellite offices resumed from mid-April 2021.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

St Michaels

Constabulary	2020				2021			
	<i>In patient Serving</i>	<i>In patient Retired</i>	<i>Out-patient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>In patient Serving</i>	<i>In patient Retired</i>	<i>Out-patient</i>	<i>Total</i>
Lancashire	6	14	151	171	3	0	240	243
GMP	12	8	62	82	9	7	54	70
Merseyside	9	3	61	73	15	17	76	108
Cheshire	14	1	87	102	17	9	49	75
Cumbria	9	0	5	14	16	4	11	31
NCA/West Mids	14	0	0	14	8	2	4	14
North Wales (wef 01.06.21)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0	0	1

Total patients at St Michaels in 2021 = 542 (2020 = 456)

Satellite Locations

Constabulary	2020		2021	
	Members	Non-Members *	Members	Non-Members *
Merseyside	67	17	71	29
Cumbria	34	0	41	0
Cheshire	20	22	44	34
GMP	24	0	48	0

Total satellite provision in 2021 = 267 (2020 = 184)

* An SLA has been in place since 2015, whereby both Merseyside and Cheshire Constabularies pay an additional sum to the Fund to facilitate the treatment of non-Ben fund members by the physiotherapists in the satellite locations. Merseyside OHU have taken the decision **not** to renew this SLA in 2022.

In addition to providing individual members with one-to-one physiotherapy sessions the Ben Fund also offer a range of physio-led group classes. The table below provides a breakdown of these sessions:

Activity	Sessions delivered 2022
AI Chi	357
Aqua	70
Pilates	457
Stretch	259
Tai Chai	81

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1.4 Wellbeing

Holistic Therapies

Treatments have proved to be a popular addition the Ben fund Offer to both our core members and the wider police family who are able to access then through the Force wellbeing and Specials offer available.

The team of holistic staff have undertaken training in several techniques including full body massage, head, neck, face and shoulder Massage, back massage, reflexology and hypnotherapy.

During 2021 an additional Wellbeing therapist has been recruited to meet the increased demand.

A total of 1,011 holistic therapies were delivered between June and December 2021 (209 in 2020).

Force Wellbeing Offer

The Ben Fund has developed a range of programs aimed at providing respite opportunities for police staff to decompress away from the frontline. The clear purpose of these programs is to facilitate opportunities for individuals/ teams that may be operating under relentless pressure or acute stress to get away from the work- place to an environment where they may actively decompress preventing ill health and absence from work.

During 2021 the Wellbeing programmes have continued to be developed and delivered ensure the charity provides an effective proactive service to our members and forces. By 31.12.21 agreements to provide wellbeing programmes for officers and staff had been negotiated with Cheshire, Cumbria, Lancashire, North Wales and Merseyside Constabularies.

In addition, GMP have also used our Wellbeing programmes for specific teams.

Unfortunately, the continued Coronavirus restrictions did restrict the number of sessions that have been provided in 2021 has been severely impacted the Coronavirus restrictions. In 2021 we able to deliver 189 sessions (in 2020 this was 70)

Support Offer to Specials

The Trustees of the Ben Fund are keen to widen the cohort of members who can benefit from its services. Members of the Special Constabulary play a critical role In frontline policing exercising police powers and are indistinguishable to the public from their regular colleagues. Whilst on duty they potentially face the same physical and mental challenges as other front-line staff. In recognition that they are volunteers, the Fund has developed a bespoke package at a lower price than that offered to regular officers. The proposal is that officers from the Special constabulary can access, Health and Wellbeing Services, Counselling Services and Physiotherapy

At 31st December 2021, 5 of the 6 member forces remained signed up to this offer. Again, delivery has been restricted by the Coronavirus restrictions, but 23 sessions were delivered to specials in 2021.

The continued Coronavirus restrictions have had an obvious impact on the ability to deliver the Wellbeing services, and all unused allocations have been rolled forward to 2022 and reported in the accounts as deferred income.

1.5 Counselling Services.

During the year demand for counselling services continued to grow and the counselling team has been restructured to increase capacity. The counselling team were able to continue operating throughout 2021 adapting the offer to telephone counselling when face-to-face sessions were not recommended by the BACP.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The below figures correspond to "New" clients that were first registered for counselling (following application) between 01/01/2021 to 31/12/2021.

Force	2020				2021			
	New Referrals 1/1/20 – 31/12/20	Ongoing Clients 2020	Closed -off Clients 2020	Closed-off number sessions 2020	New Referrals 1/1/21 – 31/12/21	Ongoing Clients 2021	Closed - off Clients 2021	Closed off Sessions 2021
Cheshire	10	2	8	29	11	3	8	41
Cumbria	4	1	3	11	5	1	4	20
GMP	41	16	25	125	48	5	43	375
Lancashire	30	8	22	90	50	4	46	343
Merseyside	24	5	19	70	30	4	26	179
NCA	2	0	2	8	1	0	1	8
Retired (All Forces)	9	3	6	50	12	2	10	82
Totals	120	35	85	383	157	19	138	1048

1.6 Other Services Offered by the Ben Fund at St Michaels.

Members are also able to access several additional offers, all of which are provided on a not-for-profit basis.

The conference facilities at St. Michaels lodge can be booked by the constituent forces to facilitate away days, team meetings and to host training. In 2021 a total of 31 bookings were made (2020 – 17 bookings)

Bed and Breakfast breaks are available for members at weekends where guests can book one of the 20 bedrooms and enjoy the facilities at St Michaels whilst exploring the Ribble Valley. In 2021 98 bed and breakfast breaks were provided (2020 – 23 bookings)

Pamper breaks Up to 2021 Ben Fund members could book onto pamper breaks on selected weekends. These breaks included a treatment of choice, use of the excellent facilities, including swimming pool, sauna, hot tub and gym, and overnight accommodation, B&B, lunch, and refreshments. In 2021 130 members took advantage of this offer (2020 – 37)

The Bistro at St Michaels is open for members to enjoy breakfast, lunch, coffee, and delicious homemade cakes. In 2021 the Bistro generated £12,325.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1.7 Financial Assistance.

Death Benefits

The Fund continues to make an award of £5,000 as a Death Benefit Grant to serving donating members. Sadly, during 2021 there were 6 recorded deaths (11 in 2020) of serving members each of whose named beneficiaries received the agreed death benefit of £5,000.

Grants and Loans

There were 20 applications for financial assistance in 2021. These can be broken down as follows:

Force	Total number of Applications	Applications sign posted to alternative help.	Loans awarded	Grants awarded	Loans commuted to Grants
GMP	8	6	0	2	3
Lancashire	1	0	0	1	0
Cheshire	3	2	0	1	2
Merseyside	3	2	0	1	0
Cumbria	3	0	0	0	0
NCA	0	0	0	0	0
North Wales	2	2	0	0	0
Total	20	14	0	6	5

The amount in grants (and in loans commuted to grants) made to serving officers amounted to - £9,000

The amount in grants made (and in loans commuted to grants) to retired officers amounted to - £26,276

In addition to the applications included in the table above the Ben Fund offered advice to a further 11 members.

1.8 Convalescence Offer.

Members who are suffering physical or psychological distress and would benefit from a respite break may apply to the Fund for a funded break. Until 31st October 2021 respite breaks were provided at St Michael's Lodge or at one of 13 Lodges situated at South Lakeland Holiday Park or White Cross Bay, Cumbria.

Between 1st January 2021 and 31st October 2021 154 convalescence/respite breaks were taken by members, (81 in 2020.)

With effect from 1st November 2021 the Trustee's had decided that it was no longer feasible for the Ben Fund to continue to maintain the lodge estate, electing to outsource provision.

Between 1st November and 31st December, a further 49 breaks were booked for members directly with Pure Leisure or Parkdean.

As an additional service, when the lodges were not in use for the above purpose, members could apply to use them for holiday breaks. The Ben Fund provided these breaks to members on a preferential basis below market rate.

Between 1st January 2021 and 31st October 2021, the lodges were used a total of 405 times for subsidised paid breaks, (323 in 2020)

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1.9 Investment and Reserves Policy

The investment portfolio held by the Fund was managed on a discretionary basis by UBS until 30th June 2021. After this date the portfolio was transferred to Brewin Dolphin

The portfolio is held at risk level 5 with investment objectives favour a diversified investment approach with a good level of liquidity. The aim is for a competitive level of income generation across the invested assets. This was initially 2.2% however current events have seen this reforecast at 1.6%. The projected capital growth of the portfolio is 4%.

The charity has a long-term investment time horizon which anticipates staying invested through successive market and economic cycles. The history of the investments and the past conversations had indicated the trustees are willing to acceptable volatility and risk in pursuing the objectives.

Performance of Investment portfolio.

The onset of the Coronavirus pandemic in March 2020 led to unprecedented global, economic chaos which saw the portfolio value fall by 8% at 31st December 2020. However, 2021 saw the portfolio recover to its pre-pandemic value, with a year-on-year aggregate rise of 8.5%.

The trustee's agreed to transfer an additional £500k, generated from the sale of the lodges, into the portfolio. Any investments purchased using the additional cash has been identified separately in the table below, and the value has been excluded from the 8.5% aggregate increase.

Portfolio Summary @ 31.12.2021	2020	2021
Opening Valuation @ 01.01.21	742,333	679,542
Investment Purchases and Investment Transfers in	477,868	983,493
Cash Transfers in	0	90,416
Investment Sales and Investment Transfers out	(499,928)	(988,000)
Unrealised revaluation of Portfolio	(49,222)	68,094
Realised gains/losses	8,491	(5,808)
CLOSING VALUATION @ 31.12.21	679,542	827,737
Cash in Investment holding Account	24,886	435,009

There are obvious external pressures on the portfolio including international tensions and conflicts, sanctions, inflation, cost of living crisis and interest rate uncertainty. These are obviously not the best conditions for a thriving stock market; however the Ben Funds financial advisors reassure that over most reasonable time periods, the option of investing in stocks offers the greatest scope to protect wealth. The UK has suffered 6 recessions between 1970 and 2021, and after each recession the stock market has recovered and moved on to make greater gains.

Reserves Policy and Review

On 31 December 2021, the charity held fund balances of £6,666,540. Of this amount £4,996,264 is value of the property and fixed asset portfolio. The balance of £1,670,276 is held in the short-term investment portfolio and cash at the bank.

The Finance and Investment subgroup undertake an annual exercise to review the reserves held by the Fund and align with the future strategy of the Fund. This has allowed the identification of the following reserves to be designated for specific purposes.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Designated use:	Approval	Value @ 31.3.2021	Value @ 31.3.2020
Business Contingency set-aside (3m's operating expenditure + full redundancy provision)	as per reserve policy	£523,419	£528,490
Data Base Phase 2 Development and supporting IT system	Jan-21	£25,000	£92,000
Refurbishment of Orangery, Link Corridor, and additional rooms at St Michaels	Bot agreed to give JG authority to source Feb 2022	£40,000	0
St Michaels capital set-aside: retentions withheld to rectify snagging issues, payable upon completion of refurb of original build	on-going from new-build & other remedial work	0	£45,000
Disaster Emergency Fund in response to a major NW incident	constitution	£100,000	£100,000
Set-up Costs and Amnesty Period for North Wales	Jun-20	0	£24,000
Wellbeing Studio (including Piling, Decking and Equipment)	Mar-20	0	£125,000
Investment in Upgrading Convalescence provision	Decision made to outsource	0	£200,000
Designated Reserves		£688,149	£1,114,490

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

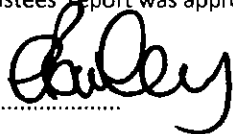
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In preparing the annual report the trustees had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr C Rowley - Chair of Trustees

Dated: 26/07/22

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of North West Police Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 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 charity's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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 charity'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's 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 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees 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 charity'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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 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 auditor's 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 risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, by for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities including fraud is detailed below.

Our approach was as follows:

We understood how the charity is complying with relevant frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud might occur by discussing with the management and the board of trustees. We enquired of management as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Based on this understanding we designed specific audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors-responsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Desirie D Lea

6 October 2022

Senior Statutory Auditor
Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Chester House
Lloyd Drive
Ellesmere Port
Cheshire
United Kingdom
CH65 9HQ

Mitten Clarke Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Notes							
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	327,739	-	327,739	69,776	-	69,776
Charitable activities	4	1,457,686	-	1,457,686	1,382,182	-	1,382,182
Physiotherapy and Wellbeing Donations	6	96,794	-	96,794	21,493	-	21,493
Investments	5	19,027	-	19,027	22,694	-	22,694
Other income	7	3,443	-	3,443	112,468	-	112,468
Total income		1,904,689	-	1,904,689	1,608,613	-	1,608,613
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	8	1,821,413	-	1,821,413	1,668,444	-	1,668,444
Other	14	666,928	-	666,928	-	-	-
Total resources expended		2,488,341	-	2,488,341	1,668,444	-	1,668,444
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	62,286	-	62,286	(40,731)	-	(40,731)
Net outgoing resources before transfers		(521,366)	-	(521,366)	(100,562)	-	(100,562)
Gross transfers between funds		280,071	(280,071)	-	(1,114,490)	1,114,490	-
Net movement in funds		(241,295)	(280,071)	(521,366)	(1,215,052)	1,114,490	(100,562)
Fund balances at 1 January 2021		6,073,416	1,114,490	7,187,906	7,288,468	-	7,288,468
Fund balances at 31 December 2021		5,832,121	834,419	6,666,540	6,073,416	1,114,490	7,187,906

The statement of financial activities Includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		4,168,527		5,495,579
Investments	16		827,737		679,542
			<u>4,996,264</u>		<u>6,175,121</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	15	342,088		367,191	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,561,150		844,743	
		<u>1,903,238</u>		<u>1,211,934</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	(232,962)		(199,149)	
Net current assets			<u>1,670,276</u>		<u>1,012,785</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>6,666,540</u></u>		<u><u>7,187,906</u></u>
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - designated			834,419		1,114,490
Unrestricted funds - general			5,832,121		6,073,416
			<u><u>6,666,540</u></u>		<u><u>7,187,906</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on



Mr C Rowley - Chair of Trustees

26/07/22

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	24		316,374		130,617
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(213,086)		(96,272)	
Proceeds on disposal of tangible fixed assets		680,000		-	
Purchase of investments		(1,073,908)		(477,868)	
Proceeds on disposal of investments		988,000		499,927	
Interest received		19,027		22,694	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			400,033		(51,519)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			716,407		79,098
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			844,743		765,645
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,561,150		844,743

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The charity is governed by the terms set out in the Governing document adopted in 2011 which formalised and regulated the activities of the Fund and its Trustees and is reviewed annually.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's rule book, the Charities Act 2011 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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include investmentments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 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 the foreseeable future. The trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 in reaching this conclusion. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on the accruals basis and is allocated under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

Costs of generating funds relate to the promotional work undertaken in the year to enhance the charity's standing.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Costs of charitable activities include expenditure at the three main sites of the charity including convalescence and grant provision for officers in need.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance, regulation and good practice.

Support costs have been allocated on the assumption that they arise in proportion to direct expenditure of the charitable activity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	1% reducing balance
Licensed land and buildings	4% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line and 8% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
Donations and gifts	327,739	69,776
Donations - Members of the public	6,762	11,006
Donations - Miscellaneous	5,233	16,097
Legacy income	222,668	40,365
Gift aid	14,781	2,308
Grant income	78,295	-
	327,739	69,776
Grant income as above		
Ribble Valley Council	24,571	-
Job Retention Scheme	36,484	-
COVID-19 Sick Pay Rebates	3,463	-
Employment allowance	4,000	-
Parkdean Discretionary Discount	9,777	-
	78,295	-

4 Charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Member Donations	1,289,152	1,276,065
St Michaels	27,140	9,079
Lodges	141,394	97,038
	1,457,686	1,382,182

All income from charitable activities was unrestricted in 2021 and 2020.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
Income from listed investments	18,963	22,217
Interest receivable	64	477
	<u>19,027</u>	<u>22,694</u>

6 Physiotherapy and Wellbeing Donations

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Merseyside Wellbeing donations	5,208	-
Cheshire Wellbeing donations	6,520	12,500
GMP Wellbeing donations	12,519	-
North Wales Wellbeing donations	2,880	-
Lancashire Wellbeing donations	5,480	4,470
Miscellaneous Wellbeing donations	19,127	4,523
Satellite physio - Merseyside	18,750	-
Satellite physio - Cheshire	26,310	-
Total	<u>96,794</u>	<u>21,493</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
Other income	3,443	112,468
Analysis of other income		
Treatment costs reclaimed following legal action	3,443	4,467
Business support grant	-	6,200
Release of VAT provision	-	101,801
	3,443	112,468

In the course of the 2017 audit a concern was raised that VAT may be payable on income received and/or generated by the charity and that the historic VAT registration position may not have been properly addressed with HM Revenue and Customs. A provision for £101,800 was set aside to account for VAT due to HM Revenue and Customs. Hopwood Law were instructed to review the nature, extent and basis of the income received by NWPBF in order to advise as to whether any liability to pay VAT in respect of such income arises historically or in the future. The report concluded that the charity has not incurred a VAT liability. Therefore, the provision can be released.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

8 Charitable activities

	St Michaels	White Cross Bay	South Lakeland	Total 2021	Total 2020
	2021	2021	2021		
	£	£	£	£	£
Management	215,785	-	-	215,785	170,874
Site and security	68,543	-	-	68,543	119,328
Depreciation and impairment	116,381	35,656	41,172	193,209	205,137
Furnishings and maintenance	128,441	8,100	44,702	181,243	108,846
Services and insurance	203,045	13,920	59,315	276,280	235,583
Housekeeping and reception	168,018	-	-	168,018	129,818
Physiotherapy	304,953	-	-	304,953	304,871
Catering	90,549	-	-	90,549	76,456
Administration	33,381	-	-	33,381	24,835
Counselling and holistic services	139,100	-	-	139,100	150,000
	<u>1,468,196</u>	<u>57,676</u>	<u>145,189</u>	<u>1,671,061</u>	<u>1,525,748</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	44,255	-	-	44,255	69,651
Share of support costs (see note 11)	99,546	-	-	99,546	66,305
Share of governance costs (see note 11)	6,551	-	-	6,551	6,740
	<u>1,618,548</u>	<u>57,676</u>	<u>145,189</u>	<u>1,821,413</u>	<u>1,668,444</u>

Charitable activities as above were unrestricted in 2021 and 2020

9 Grants payable

	Unrestricted 2021 £	Unrestricted 2020 £
Grants paid		
Serving officers	4,000	14,651
Retired officers	10,255	-
Death Benefits	30,000	55,000
Total	<u>44,255</u>	<u>69,651</u>

10 Trustees

Trustees are reimbursed for non material expenses incurred on charity business.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

11 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2021	Support costs	Governance costs	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Committee expenses	883	-	883	556	-	556
Combined insurance	25,120	-	25,120	19,211	-	19,211
Legal and professional	45,163	-	45,163	32,056	-	32,056
Marketing costs	27,448	-	27,448	7,470	-	7,470
Bad debts	932	-	932	7,012	-	7,012
Audit fees	-	6,551	6,551	-	6,740	6,740
	<u>99,546</u>	<u>6,551</u>	<u>106,097</u>	<u>66,305</u>	<u>6,740</u>	<u>73,045</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>99,546</u>	<u>6,551</u>	<u>106,097</u>	<u>66,305</u>	<u>6,740</u>	<u>73,045</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £6,551 including VAT (2020- £6,300 including VAT) for audit fees.

12 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2021	Unrestricted funds general 2020
	£	£
Revaluation of investments	68,094	(49,222)
Gain/(loss) on sale of investments	(5,808)	8,491
	<u>62,286</u>	<u>(40,731)</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

13 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
	37	37
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Wages and salaries	793,076	796,749
Social security costs	67,144	67,357
Other pension costs	14,477	13,646
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	874,697	877,752
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

14 Other

	Unrestricted funds general 2021	Total £ 2020
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	666,928	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	666,928	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

During the year, the trustees made the decision to dispose of the convalescence lodges due to escalating maintenance costs. The proceeds of the sale were £680,000 with an exceptional book loss on disposal of £666,928.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Licensed land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2021	4,117,092	2,058,825	408,074	6,583,991
Additions	118,684	-	94,402	213,086
Disposals	-	(2,058,825)	(47,804)	(2,106,629)
At 31 December 2021	4,235,776	-	454,672	4,690,448
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2021	246,946	657,445	184,022	1,088,413
Depreciation charged in the year	44,601	68,626	79,980	193,207
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	(726,071)	(33,628)	(759,699)
At 31 December 2021	291,547	-	230,374	521,921
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2021	3,944,229	-	224,298	4,168,527
At 31 December 2020	3,870,147	1,401,380	224,052	5,495,579

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

16 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2021	679,542
Additions	1,073,908
Valuation changes	62,287
Disposals	(988,000)
At 31 December 2021	827,737
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2021	827,737
At 31 December 2020	679,542

During the year the management of the portfolio was transferred from UBS Investment Management to Brewin Dolphin Investment Management. Investment purchases and disposals above include the book cost of shares transferred between the management providers.

15 Debtors

		2021 £	2020 £
Member loans	16	53,065	78,210
Donations		250,688	250,401
Other debtors		4,363	9,610
Prepayments and accrued Income		33,972	28,970
		342,088	367,191

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

16 Member Loans

	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1 January 2021	116,495	151,354
Loans granted during the year	-	36,635
Repayments in the year	(24,213)	(64,494)
Loans written off and converted to grants	(21,021)	(7,000)
	<u>71,261</u>	<u>116,495</u>
Bad debt provision	(18,195)	(38,285)
Balance at 31 December 2021	<u>53,066</u>	<u>78,210</u>

Included within total loans outstanding is an amount of £68,580 due in more than one year. (2020 - £74,448).

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Other taxation and social security		24,711	20,756
Deferred income	20	118,149	105,011
Trade creditors		30,621	24,645
Other creditors		1,492	11,788
Accruals and deferred income		57,989	36,949
		<u>232,962</u>	<u>199,149</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

20 Deferred income

	2021 £	2020 £
Lancashire	24,116	8,232
GMP	3,845	12,684
Cheshire	33,880	40,400
Merseyside	25,208	10,416
North wales	17,120	-
Merseyside physio	6,250	-
Cheshire physio	6,250	-
Lodge bookings	480	14,400
Employment allowance 2021	1,000	1,200
GMP Membership received in advance	-	17,679
	<u>118,149</u>	<u>105,011</u>

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Designated funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Designated funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2021 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	4,168,527	-	4,168,527	5,495,579	-	5,495,579
Investments	827,737	-	827,737	679,542	-	679,542
Current assets/(liabilities)	835,857	834,419	1,670,276	(101,705)	1,114,490	1,012,785
	<u>5,832,121</u>	<u>834,419</u>	<u>6,666,540</u>	<u>6,073,416</u>	<u>1,114,490</u>	<u>7,187,906</u>

21 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

22 Movement in funds

	At 1.1.20	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Net movement	At 31.12.21
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted income	6,073,416	1,902,900	(2,424,266)	280,071	(241,295)	5,832,121
Total	6,073,416	1,902,900	(2,424,266)	280,071	(241,295)	5,832,121

	At 1.1.20	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Net movement	At 31.12.21
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted designated funds						
Business contingency	528,490	-	-	(5,071)	(5,071)	523,419
Database and IT	92,000	-	-	(67,000)	(67,000)	25,000
Orangery reurbishment	-	-	-	50,000	50,000	50,000
Health and Safety	-	-	-	80,000	80,000	80,000
St Michaels Capital	45,000	-	-	11,000	11,000	56,000
Set-up costs (amnesty period North Wales)	24,000	-	-	(24,000)	(24,000)	-
Wellbeing studio	125,000	-	-	(125,000)	(125,000)	-
Disaster emergency	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Convalescence upgrade	200,000	-	-	(200,000)	(200,000)	-
Total	1,114,490	-	-	(280,071)	(280,071)	834,419

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

24	Cash generated from operations	2021	2020
		£	£
	Deficit for the year	(521,366)	(100,562)
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(19,027)	(22,694)
	Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	666,928	-
	Loss/(gain) on disposal of investments	5,808	(8,491)
	Fair value gains and losses on investments	(68,094)	49,222
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	193,209	205,137
	Movements in working capital:		
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors	25,103	(22,476)
	Increase in creditors	20,675	27,271
	(Decrease)/increase in provisions	-	(101,801)
	Increase in deferred income	13,138	105,011
	Cash generated from operations	316,374	130,617

Accounts

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020



Chester House, Lloyd Drive, Cheshire Oaks Business Park, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire CH65 9HQ

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

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NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Reference and Administrative Details for the North West Police Benevolent fund

The registered address of the Charity is:

St Michael's lodge
Northcote Road
Langho
Lancashire
BB6 8BG

Bankers for the Charity are:

National Westminster Bank Plc
Chester Branch
PO Box 8
Chester
CH1 1XA

Auditors for the Charity are:

Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Chester House
Cheshire Oaks Business Park
Ellesmere Port
Cheshire
CH65 9HQ

Stockbrokers for the Charity are:

UBS Investment Management Limited
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE4 7JH

Structure, Governance and Management of the North west Police Benevolent fund

The North West Police Benevolent Fund is an unincorporated charity, registered as a charity and governed by rules approved by the Charity Commissioners. This report has been prepared by the trustees of the Fund to conform to the requirements of the Charity Commissioners' Statement of Recommended Practice.

Trustees for the Charity in 2020:

Chairman: Andrew Rhodes Chief Constable Lancashire Constabulary (Resigned 31.03.2021)

Chairman: Chris Rowley Chief Constable Lancashire (appointed 31 03 2021)

V Chairman R Hanley Lancashire Constabulary

D O'Connor Cheshire Constabulary

I Taylor Lancashire Constabulary

J Arrowsmith Merseyside Police

C Trow Greater Manchester Police

E Newton Lancashire Constabulary

D Lloyd National Crime Agency

P Senior Cumbria Constabulary (Resigned 11.02.2020)

G Lawrence Cheshire Constabulary (resigned 11.02.2020)

J McTear Cumbria Constabulary (Appointed 08.02.2021)

D Howard Cheshire Constabulary (Appointed 07.07.2021)

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Board of Trustees have delegated ultimate managerial responsibility for the running of the charity to the CEO. The CEO was supported in the year by a team of 3 senior managers with portfolio responsibilities for Health and Wellbeing, Operations and Finance.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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)".

The financial management of the charity is governed by a framework of policies and procedures that comply with the Charity Commission recommended best practice.

1.1 CEO Overview 2020

Inevitably, any review of 2020 will be dominated by the impact that coronavirus had and continues to have on all our personal and professional lives and relationships.

From January to March 2020, The Ben Fund continued with its approach of providing treatments and services to its members whilst diversifying its offer and funding arrangements by providing preventative wellbeing breaks to officers and staff. Three out of the five constituent Forces have an agreement in place to send groups of up to ten individuals at a time to St Michael's Lodge for overnight respite breaks. All five Forces have signed up to a Specials wellbeing package that provides support to this cohort of volunteers.

The success of these programmes has created a positive challenge for the Fund in managing the balance of supply of accommodation, treatments, and services with the increasing demand for our offer.

Responding to the impact of coronavirus

The immediate impact of the pandemic presented a series of significant challenges to the effective functioning of the Ben Fund. St Michael's Lodge and all satellite sites were forced to close causing substantial disruption to the ability to provide treatments and services. The health and wellbeing and convalescence offer had to be suspended forthwith. The Trustees and management team were mindful that the Ben Fund supports an emergency service that needed to operate throughout to protect the public. Accordingly, the Fund took every possible step to provide support to its members. This included:

- Online counselling during lockdowns one and two
- Online physio led exercise classes and telephone advice for clients
- A simplified and pragmatic approach to assessing and awarding grants and loans where appropriate
- Face to face physio assessment for acute cases in lockdown two

I am very proud that at no stage did the Ben Fund cease to deliver its services. Indeed, with safety of clients and staff as its primary priority, the Fund has creatively found ways to provide services to the maximum of its ability throughout. The Fund has carefully calibrated its response to reflect changes to conditions on the ground.

Flexibility of Ben Fund Staff

Despite personal illness faced by Ben Fund staff and families, I have been very impressed by the dedication and flexibility shown by the staff and their collective desire to carry on. I have observed a real sense of mission and desire to support frontline police colleagues. There are numerous examples of staff taking on totally different roles than normal to ensure that the Fund could continue to operate and protect the integrity of our estate. I would like to place on record my gratitude to all staff for their contributions during this difficult period.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Professionalisation Agenda

In every crises there are opportunities. Whilst unable to operate normally the management team has taken the opportunity to use the time available to invest in systems and processes to enhance the good governance of the Ben Fund. Examples include:

- Implementation of rigorous internal financial controls in respect of procurement, how external contracts are awarded and measures to identify and manage potential conflicts of interest.
- A much greater codification of relationships with existing and new suppliers
- A finance subcommittee comprising two Trustees has been set up to provide greater oversight and accountability in respect of financial management.
- In Autumn 2020, convalescence review, with Trustee involvement, was initiated to determine whether the current offer should be reshaped to better match member demand.
- Further works have been completed to enhance the offer to members and staff at St Michael's Lodge including a new and greatly improved Bistro offer and new staff room/ waiting room and relaxation area.
- In Autumn 2020, The Trustees approved the construction of a new health and wellbeing studio to be sited in the garden at the rear of St Michael's Lodge

In summary, despite that challenges presented by the pandemic (including the financial challenges outlined elsewhere in this report) I am optimistic that once conditions allow, the Ben Fund will quickly recover its tempo and continue its dynamic program of change to meet the needs of its members and the wider police family.

I would like to conclude by placing my thanks to the Trustees and the senior management team for their support and dedication to the Ben Fund during this difficult period.

Objectives

The Ben Fund is uniquely positioned to understand that policing is more than a job – protecting the public is a vocation which, whilst rewarding, presents its own unique set of stresses and strains. The Ben Fund has a comprehensive offer which can be tailored to meet the specific needs of each individual through probation, service and retirement.

The Ben Fund aims to support officers of Cheshire Constabulary, Greater Manchester Police, Merseyside Police, Lancashire Constabulary, Cumbria Constabulary and NCA, retired officers of those and previous police forces amalgamated within the constituent forces, together with their dependants, who are in a condition of need and hardship or distress.

The trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Activities, Achievement and Performance

1.2 Membership

The funding model of the charity has historically relied upon membership donations from serving and retired police officers. In 2020 membership donations contributed approximately 78% of total income (75% in 2019). Therefore, identifying trends in membership and implementing appropriate mitigating actions must be a key priority in financial planning.

The graph below demonstrates that over the period 2011 to 2020 serving membership has been gradually falling, largely in line with programme of public sector austerity. (The peak in 2013 was because the Cumbria constabulary joined the Fund) Conversely, the numbers of retired members have steadily risen, suggested many retirees in this period retained their membership of the Fund.

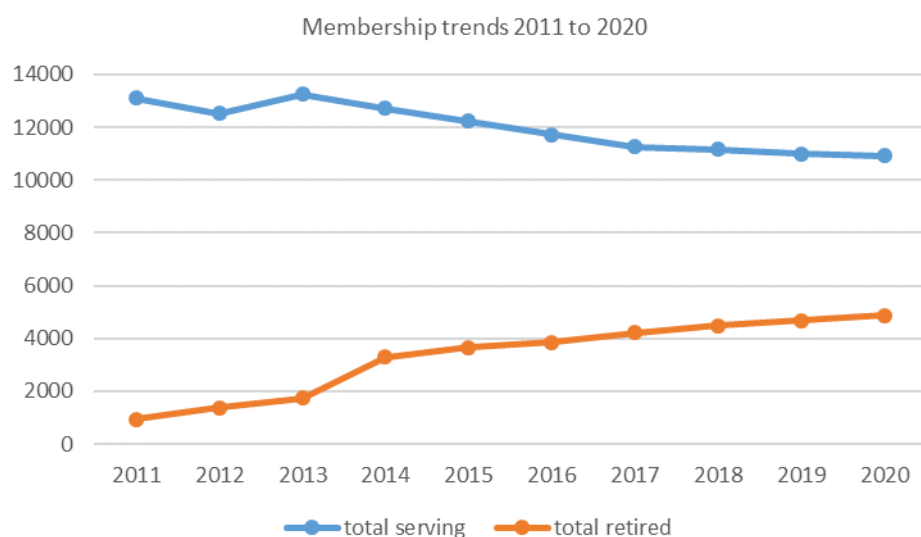
As discussed in the CEO report, the charity has embarked on programme to of income diversification, however the restrictions imposed due to the Coronavirus pandemic halted this progress. The Fund has identified a gap in marketing and during 2020 several mitigating actions were undertaken including an extensive rebranding exercise, a new website and a targeted approach to engage new recruits by offering all probationary officers a 12-month payment amnesty.

Breakdown of Current Members between Forces 2020

Force	2020 Serving Members	2019 Serving Members	2020 Retired Members	2019 Retired Members
Cheshire	1423	1434	709	672
GMP	4154	4192	1146	1053
Merseyside	2384	2335	1794	1708
Lancashire	2171	2192	699	494
Cumbria	787	831	140	113
NCA	n/a	n/a	379	442
Total Members	10,919	10,984	4,867	4,688

Total donating members on 31st December 2020 was 15,786 (2019 equivalent was 15,672)

The graphic below illustrates the ten year trend in both serving and retired membership numbers.



NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1.3 Physiotherapy

Much of 2020 was subject to local and national restrictions, meaning St. Michaels has been only to provide a much-reduced inhouse service, however the physio team have worked hard throughout the restrictions to engage service users in a range of on-line and virtual interventions. Every referral received a one-to-one telephone consultation with a physiotherapist and a bespoke programme to follow.

These virtual sessions are in addition to the figures below.

St Michaels

	2020				2019			
Constabulary	<i>In patient Serving</i>	<i>In patient Retired</i>	<i>Outpatient</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>In patient Serving</i>	<i>In patient Retired</i>	<i>Outpatient</i>	<i>Total</i>
Lancashire	6	14	151	171	12	3	273	288
GMP	12	8	62	82	21	6	6	33
Merseyside	9	3	61	73	25	8	0	33
Cheshire	14	1	87	102	26	8	0	34
Cumbria	9	0	5	14	10	1	0	11
NCA/West Mids	14	0	0	14	12	0	0	12

Total at St Michaels in 2020 = 456 (2019 = 411)

Satellite Locations

	2020		2019	
Constabulary	Members	Non-Members *	Members	Non-Members *
Merseyside	67	17	151	38
Cumbria	34	0	64	0
Cheshire	20	22	193	23
GMP	24	0	84	0

Total satellite provision in 2020 = 184 (2019 = 553)

* An SLA has been in place since 2015, whereby both Merseyside and Cheshire Constabularies pay an additional sum to the Fund to facilitate the treatment of non-Ben fund members by the physiotherapists in the satellite locations.

The Occupational Health Units of both forces have been subject to review. Cheshire have agreed a further year of physiotherapy for non-members and an updated service level agreement has been agreed.

Merseyside have yet to agree as their Occupational Health provision is still to be concluded and the final report will be with Chief Officers at the end of June for decision.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1.4 Wellbeing

Holistic treatments have proved to be a popular addition the Ben fund Offer to both our core members and the wider police family who are able to access then through the Force wellbeing and Specials offer available.

The team of holistic staff have undertaken training in several techniques including full body massage, head, neck, face and shoulder Massage, back massage, reflexology and hypnotherapy.

During 2020 the Wellbeing treatment rooms have been fully refurbished to enhance the experiences on offer.

Force Wellbeing Offer

The Ben Fund has developed a range of programs aimed at providing respite opportunities for staff to decompress away from the frontline. The clear purpose of these programs is to facilitate opportunities for individuals/ teams that may be operating under relentless pressure or acute stress to get away from the work- place to an environment where they may actively decompress preventing ill health and absence from work.

During 2020 the Wellbeing programmes have continued to be developed and delivered ensure the charity provides an effective proactive service to our members and forces. By the end of 2020 agreements had been secured with Cheshire, Cumbria, and Merseyside Constabularies for a fixed amount of money to provide wellbeing programmes for their officers and staff.

Lancashire Constabulary and GMP also use our Wellbeing programmes for specific members. Unfortunately, the number of sessions that have been provided in 2020 has been severely impacted the Coronavirus restrictions. In 2020 we able to deliver 670 sessions (in 2019 this was over 1,200)

Support Offer to Specials

The Trustees of the Ben Fund are keen to widen the cohort of members who can benefit from its services. Members of the Special Constabulary play a critical role in frontline policing exercising police powers and are indistinguishable to the public from their regular colleagues. Whilst on duty they potentially face the same physical and mental challenges as other front- line staff. In recognition that they are volunteers, the Fund has developed a bespoke package at a lower price than that offered to regular officers. The proposal is that officers from the Special constabulary can access, Health and Wellbeing Services, Counselling Services and Physiotherapy.

By 31st December 2020, all 5 member forces have signed up to this offer. Again, delivery has been restricted by the Coronavirus restrictions, but 53 sessions were delivered to specials in 2020.

The Coronavirus restrictions have had an obvious impact on the ability to deliver the Wellbeing services, and all unused allocations have been rolled forward to 2021 and reported in the accounts as deferred income.

1.5 Counselling Services.

During the year demand for counselling services continued to grow and the counselling team has been restructured to increase capacity. The counselling team were able to continue operating throughout 2020 adapting the offer to telephone counselling when face-to-face sessions were not recommended by the BACP.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The below figures correspond to "New" clients that were first registered for counselling (following application) between 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020.

	2020				2019			
Force	New Referrals 1/1/20 – 31/12/20	Ongoing Clients 2020	Closed-off Clients 2020	Closed-off number of sessions	New Referrals 1/1/19 – 31/12/19	Ongoing Clients 2019	Closed-off Clients 2019	Closed-off Sessions 2019
Cheshire	10	2	8	29	13	4	9	38
Cumbria	4	1	3	11	5	1	4	14
GMP	41	16	25	125	59	18	41	196
Lancashire	30	8	22	90	50	9	41	186
Merseyside	24	5	19	70	57	20	37	140
NCA	2	0	2	8	1	0	1	4
Retired (All Forces)	9	3	6	50	7	2	5	17
Totals	120	35	85	383	192	54	138	595

1.6 Other Services Offered by the Ben Fund at St Michaels.

Members are also able to access several additional offers, all of which are provided on a not-for-profit basis.

The conference facilities at St. Michaels lodge can be booked by the constituent forces to facilitate away days, team meetings and to host training. In 2020 a total of 17 bookings were made.

Bed and Breakfast breaks are available for members at weekends where guests can book one of the 24 bedrooms and enjoy the facilities at St Michaels whilst exploring the Ribble Valley. In 2020 23 bed and breakfast breaks were provided.

Pamper breaks Ben Fund members can book onto pamper breaks on selected weekends. These breaks include a treatment of choice, use of the excellent facilities, including swimming pool, sauna, hot tub and gym, and overnight accommodation, B&B, lunch, and refreshments. In 2020 37 members took advantage of this offer.

The Bistro at St Michaels has been renovated during 2020 and is open for members who pre-book a table.

1.7 Financial Assistance.

Death Benefits

The Fund continues to make an award of £5,000 as a Death Benefit Grant to serving donating members.

Sadly, during 2020 there were 11 recorded deaths (9 in 2019) of serving members each of whose named beneficiaries received the agreed death benefit of £5,000.

Grants and Loans

There was a significant drop in the total number of applications for financial assistance in 2020 to 15 applications.

These can be broken down as follows:

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Force	Total number of Applications	Refused /Withdrawn	Loans	Grants
GMP	4	0	3	1
Lancashire	5	0	4	1
Cheshire	0	0	0	0
Merseyside	6	2	2	2
Cumbria	0	0	0	0
NCA	0	0	0	0
Total	15	2	9	4

The amount in loans in 2020 amounted to - £44,439

The amount in grants made to serving officers amounted to - £18,020

The amount in grants made to retired officers amounted to - £1,869 (deferred pending clarification of details)

1.8 Convalescence Offer.

Providing convalescent/ respite breaks to members is key element of the Ben Fund's current offer. Members who are suffering physical or psychological distress and would benefit from a respite break may apply to the Fund for free use of its facilities. Respite breaks can be provided at St Michael's Lodge or at one of our Lodges situated at South Lakeland Holiday Park (four lodges) or White Cross Bay, Cumbria (nine lodges).

As an additional service, when the respite facilities are not in use for the above purpose, members may apply to use them for holiday breaks. The Ben Fund provides these breaks to members on a preferential basis below market rate. Consequently, this service is very popular and oversubscribed. This is the only service that the Fund makes available to members who do not require treatment of some sort and may provide an extra incentive to join or remain as a member of the Fund.

The national and local lockdowns during 2020 meant that ability to provide respite and paid-for breaks of the lodges was limited. The lodges were used a total of 81 times for convalescence/respite breaks were taken by members, (261 in 2019) and 323 paid for breaks were taken (725 in 2019).

1.9 Investment and Reserves Policy

The investment portfolio held by the Fund is currently managed on a discretionary basis by UBS.

The advice from UBS re our investment objectives favour a diversified investment approach with a good level of liquidity. The aim is for a competitive level of income generation across the invested assets together with capital growth at least sufficient to maintain the real value of the assets in the medium to longer term.

The charity has a long-term investment time horizon which anticipates staying invested through successive market and economic cycles. The history of the investments and the past conversations had indicated the trustees are willing to acceptable volatility and risk in pursuing the objectives.

For the UBS investment portfolio, the mandate and balance of assets is in keeping with a Balanced Strategy and attitude to risk. The trustees are seeking the appreciation of the assets over the longer term while accepting that the invested position will mean there is capital volatility together with some fluctuation of income returns.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Performance of Investment portfolio.

The onset of the Coronavirus pandemic in March 2020 led to unprecedented global, economic chaos which saw the Charities portfolio plummet by 20% to £600,000 at the end of April. However, the markets have gradually recovered through out 2020 and by 31st December stood at £679,542 which represents an 8.5% fall in value.

UBS Portfolio Summary @ 31.12.20		
	2020	2019
Opening Valuation	742,333	681,098
Investment Purchases	477,868	273,258
Investment Sales	(499,928)	(272,466)
Unrealised gains/losses	(49,222)	39,082
Realised gains/losses	8,491	21,361
Closing Valuation	679,542	742,333

Unfortunately, in November UBS informed us that following the implementation of MiFID11 and subsequent regulatory changes to their operating model, they would not be able to extend their services beyond April 2021. The transfer to Brewin Dolphin is expected to be completed by the end of April 2021.

Reserves Policy and Review

On 31st December 2020, the charity held fund balances of £7,187,906. Of this amount £5,495,579 is value of the property and fixed asset portfolio. The balance of £1,692,327 is held in the short-term investment portfolio and cash at the bank.

The Finance and Investment subgroup have undertaken an exercise to review the reserves held by the Fund with the future strategy of the Fund. This has allowed the identification of the following reserves to be designated for specific purposes.

Designated use:	Approval	Amount
Going Concern Business Continuity Contingency Reserve (3m's operating expenditure + full redundancy provision)	as per reserve policy agreed by F&I sub group	£528,490
St Michaels capital set-aside: retentions withheld from Monks to rectify snagging issues, payable upon completion of refurb of original build	on-going commitment from new-build snagging list	£45,000
Data Base and supporting IT system	B.O.T January 2020	£92,000
Wellbeing Studio (including Piling, Decking and Equipment)	B.O.T March 2020	£125,000
Set-up Costs and Amnesty Period for North Wales	B.O.T June 2020	£24,000
Disaster Emergency Fund in response to a major NW incident	Constitutional commitment	£100,000
Investment in Upgrading Convalescence provision	tbc pending Convalescence review	£200,000
Designated Reserves at 31.12.2020		£1,114,490

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1.10 Financial Impact of the Coronavirus pandemic and subsequent lockdowns.

The CEO has talked about the general impact, however there have been clearly identifiable financial consequences which have resulted in £100,000 budget variance from the balanced budget presented for approval to the Board of Trustees. These variances are summarised in the table below:

Income Received but Deferred in Year:	
Force Wellbeing and Specials packages deferred	£ 71,000.00
Other 'lost' Income	
Lodge bookings refunded	£ 60,000.00
Fall in value of Investment portfolio	£ 63,000.00
Physiotherapy SLA'S	£ 25,000.00
Projected donations collected	£ 12,000.00
Miscellaneous Wellbeing treatments	£ 10,000.00
Off-set by one off income received:	
Release of VAT provision	£ 101,000.00
Unbudgeted Legacy Income (Noel Paul Will)	£ 40,000.00

The Trustees were briefed the monthly Board meetings and provided with quarterly Management accounts of the projected financial impact of the pandemic.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr C Rowley - Chair of Trustees

Dated: 8 June 2021

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of North West Police Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 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 charity's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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 charity'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's 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 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.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees 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 charity'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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 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 auditor's 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 risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, by for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities including fraud is detailed below.

Our approach was as follows:

We understood how the charity is complying with relevant frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud might occur by discussing with the management and the board of trustees. We enquired of management as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Based on this understanding we designed specific audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

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

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Mrs Desirie Lea FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Mitten Clarke Audit Limited

25 October 2021

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Chester House

Lloyd Drive

Ellesmere Port

Cheshire

United Kingdom

CH65 9HQ

Mitten Clarke Audit Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

		Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Unrestricted funds general 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total 2019 £
	Notes						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	69,776	-	69,776	63,545	-	63,545
Charitable activities	4	1,382,182	-	1,382,182	1,449,976	-	1,449,976
Physiotherapy and Wellbeing Donations	6	21,493	-	21,493	57,500	-	57,500
Investments	5	22,694	-	22,694	29,454	-	29,454
Other income	7	112,468	-	112,468	-	-	-
Total income		1,608,613	-	1,608,613	1,600,475	-	1,600,475
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	8	1,668,444	-	1,668,444	1,585,318	20,251	1,605,569
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	(40,731)	-	(40,731)	60,443	-	60,443
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(100,562)	-	(100,562)	75,600	(20,251)	55,349
Gross transfers between funds		(1,114,490)	1,114,490	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,215,052)	1,114,490	(100,562)	75,600	(20,251)	55,349
Fund balances at 1 January 2020		7,288,468	-	7,288,468	7,212,868	20,251	7,233,119
Fund balances at 31 December 2020		6,073,416	1,114,490	7,187,906	7,288,468	-	7,288,468

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	5,495,579		5,604,443	
Investments	14	679,542		742,333	
		<u>6,175,121</u>		<u>6,346,776</u>	
Current assets					
Debtors	15	367,191		344,715	
Cash at bank and in hand		844,743		765,645	
		<u>1,211,934</u>		<u>1,110,360</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(199,149)		(66,867)	
Net current assets		<u>1,012,785</u>		<u>1,043,493</u>	
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>7,187,906</u>		<u>7,390,269</u>	
Provisions for liabilities	19	-		(101,801)	
Net assets		<u><u>7,187,906</u></u>		<u><u>7,288,468</u></u>	
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - designated		1,114,490		-	
Unrestricted funds - general		6,073,416		7,288,468	
		<u><u>7,187,906</u></u>		<u><u>7,288,468</u></u>	

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 8 June 2021

Mr C Rowley - Chair of Trustees

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

		2020		2019	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	23		130,617		158,575
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(96,272)		(4,320)	
Purchase of investments		(477,868)		(273,258)	
Proceeds on disposal of investments		499,927		293,827	
Interest received		22,694		29,454	
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities			(51,519)		45,703
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			79,098		204,278
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			765,645		561,367
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			844,743		765,645

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The charity is governed by the terms set out in the Governing document adopted in 2011 which formalised and regulated the activities of the Fund and its Trustees and is reviewed annually.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's rule book, the Charities Act 2011 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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include investmentments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 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 the foreseeable future. The trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 in reaching this conclusion. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on the accruals basis and is allocated under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

Costs of generating funds relate to the promotional work undertaken in the year to enhance the charity's standing.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Costs of charitable activities include expenditure at the three main sites of the charity including convalescence and grant provision for officers in need.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance, regulation and good practice.

Support costs have been allocated on the assumption that they arise in proportion to direct expenditure of the charitable activity.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	1% reducing balance
Licensed land and buildings	4% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the charity will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

1.12 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Unrestricted funds general 2019 £
Donations and gifts	69,776	63,545
Donations - Members of the public	11,006	-
Donations - Miscellaneous	16,097	-
Legacy income	40,365	-
Gift aid	2,308	-
	69,776	63,545

4 Charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Member Donations	1,276,065	1,269,060
St Michaels	9,079	30,133
Lodges	97,038	150,783
	1,382,182	1,449,976

All income from charitable activities was unrestricted in 2020 and 2019.

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Unrestricted funds general 2019 £
Income from listed investments	22,217	25,415
Interest receivable	477	4,039
	22,694	29,454

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

6 Physiotherapy and Wellbeing Donations

	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Merseyside Wellbeing donations	-	12,500
Cheshire Wellbeing donations	12,500	25,000
Cumbria Wellbeing donations	-	20,000
Lancashire Wellbeing donations	4,470	-
Miscellaneous Wellbeing donations	4,523	-
Total	21,493	57,500

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Other income	112,468	-
Analysis of other income		
Treatment costs reclaimed following legal action	4,467	
Business support grant	6,200	
Release of VAT provision	101,801	
	112,468	

In the course of the 2017 audit a concern was raised that VAT may be payable on income received and/or generated by the charity and that the historic VAT registration position may not have been properly addressed with HM Revenue and Customs. A provision for £101,800 was set aside to account for VAT due to HM Revenue and Customs. Hopwood Law were instructed to review the nature, extent and basis of the income received by NWPBF in order to advise as to whether any liability to pay VAT in respect of such income arises historically or in the future. The report concluded that the charity has not incurred a VAT liability. Therefore, the provision can be released.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

8 Charitable activities

	St Michaels	White Cross Bay	South Lakeland	Total 2020	Total 2019
	2020	2020	2020		
	£	£	£	£	£
Management	170,874	-	-	170,874	122,340
Site and security	108,517	10,811	-	119,328	97,867
Depreciation and impairment	116,207	62,150	26,780	205,137	196,710
Furnishings and maintenance	46,732	51,752	10,361	108,845	167,458
Services and insurance	89,039	118,823	27,721	235,583	214,158
Housekeeping and reception	116,861	-	-	116,861	132,503
Physiotherapy	304,871	-	-	304,871	258,778
Catering	76,456	-	-	76,456	68,181
Administration	21,425	422	2,988	24,835	16,603
Counselling and holistic services	150,000	-	-	150,000	119,087
Cleaning	12,958	-	-	12,958	16,721
	<u>1,213,940</u>	<u>243,958</u>	<u>67,850</u>	<u>1,525,748</u>	<u>1,410,406</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	69,651	-	-	69,651	50,424
Share of support costs (see note 9)	52,253	10,994	3,058	66,305	139,408
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	5,311	1,118	311	6,740	5,331
	<u>1,341,155</u>	<u>256,070</u>	<u>71,219</u>	<u>1,668,444</u>	<u>1,605,569</u>
Analysis by fund					
Unrestricted funds - general	1,341,155	256,070	71,219	1,668,444	1,585,318
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-	20,251
	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
For the year ended 31 December 2019					
Unrestricted funds - general	1,186,487	287,376	111,455		1,585,318
Restricted funds	20,251	-	-		20,251
	<u>1,206,738</u>	<u>287,376</u>	<u>111,455</u>		<u>1,605,569</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

9 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2020	Support costs	Governance costs	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Committee expenses	556	-	556	1,835	-	1,835
Secretary honoraria	-	-	-	1,550	-	1,550
Combined insurance	19,211	-	19,211	17,013	-	17,013
Legal and professional	32,056	-	32,056	93,824	-	93,824
Marketing costs	7,470	-	7,470	-	-	-
Bad debts	7,012	-	7,012	25,186	-	25,186
Audit fees	-	6,740	6,740	-	5,331	5,331
	<u>66,305</u>	<u>6,740</u>	<u>73,045</u>	<u>139,408</u>	<u>5,331</u>	<u>144,739</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>66,305</u>	<u>6,740</u>	<u>73,045</u>	<u>139,408</u>	<u>5,331</u>	<u>144,739</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £6,300 including VAT (2019- £6,300 including VAT) for audit fees.

10 Trustees

Trustees are reimbursed for non material expenses incurred on charity business.

11 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
	37	31
	<u>37</u>	<u>31</u>
Wages and salaries	796,749	656,367
Social security costs	67,357	59,527
Other pension costs	13,646	9,498
	<u>877,752</u>	<u>725,392</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

12 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Unrestricted funds general 2019 £
Revaluation of investments	(49,222)	39,082
Gain/(loss) on sale of investments	8,491	21,361
	<u>(40,731)</u>	<u>60,443</u>

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Licenced land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2020	4,051,333	2,058,825	377,562	6,487,720
Additions	65,760	-	30,512	96,272
	<u>4,117,093</u>	<u>2,058,825</u>	<u>408,074</u>	<u>6,583,992</u>
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2020	205,775	575,091	102,410	883,276
Depreciation charged in the year	41,171	82,354	81,612	205,137
	<u>246,946</u>	<u>657,445</u>	<u>184,022</u>	<u>1,088,413</u>
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2020	<u>3,870,147</u>	<u>1,401,380</u>	<u>224,052</u>	<u>5,495,579</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>3,845,558</u>	<u>1,483,734</u>	<u>275,151</u>	<u>5,604,443</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

14 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2020	742,333
Additions	477,868
Valuation changes	(40,731)
Disposals	(499,928)
At 31 December 2020	679,542
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2020	679,542
At 31 December 2019	742,333

15 Debtors

		2020 £	2019 £
Member loans	16	78,210	106,680
Donations		250,401	206,764
Other debtors		9,610	6,001
Prepayments and accrued income		28,970	25,270
		367,191	344,715

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

16 Member Loans

	2020 £	2019 £
Balance at 1 January 2020	151,354	199,085
Loans granted during the year	36,635	11,893
Repayments in the year	(64,494)	(59,438)
Loans written off	(7,000)	(186)
	<u>116,495</u>	<u>151,354</u>
Total loans outstanding		
Bad debt provision	(38,285)	(44,674)
	<u>78,210</u>	<u>106,680</u>
Balance at 31 December 2020	<u>78,210</u>	<u>106,680</u>

Included within total loans outstanding is an amount of £74,448 due in more than one year. (2019 - £115,993).

Trustees are considering a potential bad debt write off of £21,000 in the year to 31 December 2021. At the time of approving the accounts, this bad debt had not been confirmed.

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Other taxation and social security		20,756	-
Deferred income	18	105,011	-
Trade creditors		24,645	-
Other creditors		11,788	33,957
Accruals and deferred income		36,949	32,910
		<u>199,149</u>	<u>66,867</u>

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

18 Deferred income

	2020 £	2019 £
Lancashire	8,232	-
GMP	12,684	-
Cheshire	40,400	-
Merseyside	10,416	-
Lodge bookings	14,400	-
Employment allowance 2021	1,200	-
GMP Membership January 2021 received December 2020	17,679	-
	<u>105,011</u>	<u>-</u>

19 Provisions for liabilities

	2020 £	2019 £
Provision for VAT	-	101,801
	<u>-</u>	<u>101,801</u>

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Designated funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total 2019 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2020 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	5,495,579	-	5,495,579	5,604,443	-	5,604,443
Investments	679,542	-	679,542	742,333	-	742,333
Current assets/(liabilities)	(101,705)	1,114,490	1,012,785	1,038,242	5,251	1,043,493
Provisions	-	-	-	(101,801)	-	(101,801)
	<u>6,073,416</u>	<u>1,114,490</u>	<u>7,187,906</u>	<u>7,283,217</u>	<u>5,251</u>	<u>7,288,468</u>

21 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2019 - none).

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

22 Movement in funds

	At 1.1.20	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Net movement	At 31.12.20
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted income fund	7,288,468	1,608,612	(1,709,174)	(100,562)	7,187,906
	<u>7,288,468</u>	<u>1,608,612</u>	<u>(1,709,174)</u>	<u>(100,562)</u>	<u>7,187,906</u>

Designated funds included in the above

	At 31.12.20 £
Business contingency	528,490
Database and IT project	92,000
St Michaels Capital project	45,000
Set-up costs (amnesty period North Wales)	24,000
Wellbeing studio project	125,000
Disaster emergency fund	100,000
Convalescence upgrade project	200,000
	<u>1,114,490</u>
Total as per balance sheet	

NORTH WEST POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

23 Cash generated from operations	2020	2019
	£	£
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(100,562)	55,349
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(22,694)	(29,454)
Gain on disposal of investments	(8,491)	(21,361)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	49,222	(60,443)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	205,137	196,710
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(22,476)	111,974
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	27,271	(73,791)
Increase in provisions	(101,801)	(20,408)
Increase in deferred income	105,011	-
Cash generated from operations	130,617	158,576