

# ACTIVE CHESHIRE

England & Wales · Charity number 701764

## Details

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**Other names** ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED, CHESHIRE AND WARRINGTON SPORTS PARTNERSHIP TRUST LIMITED, CHESHIRE SPORTS TRUST LIMITED, SPORT CHESHIRE LIMITED, SPORT CHESHIRE

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [02401068](#)

**Registered** 1989-07-24

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

## Contact

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**Address** Active Cheshire  
Wyvern House  
The Drummer  
Winsford  
Cheshire  
CW7 1AH

**Phone** 01606330212

**Website** [www.activecheshire.org](http://www.activecheshire.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** 5.1 To provide or assist in the provision of opportunities for the benefit of the inhabitants of Warrington, Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester for physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time and athletic activity, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants;5.2 To relieve the need, hardship and distress of such inhabitants in conditions of need, hardship and distress by providing financial or other assistance so enabling them to participate in the opportunities provided by the Charity;5.3 To disseminate or assist in the dissemination of information encouraging such inhabitants to participate in physical recreation (including sport) so as to promote their health and well-being, and in pursuance of the two first-mentioned main objects, but not otherwise, the Charity may in the interests of social welfare:5.3.1 Provide or assist in the provision of sporting opportunities for disabled people so as to relieve or alleviate their conditions;5.3.2 Provide or assist in the provision of sporting facilities for young persons aged under 25 years of age so as to secure or advance their physical education and training and enhance their education generally;5.3.3 Develop or assist in the development of the capacity and skills of the members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities within Warrington, Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester in such ways that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs in regard to physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time physical and athletic activity, so improving their conditions of life;5.3.4 Provide and assist in the provision of opportunities for physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time physical activity for older people, so as to promote their health and well-being.

**Activities:** As the lead body for sport and physical activity in the Cheshire sub-region, we perform a vital role in bringing together local people and national sports bodies. We use our unique local knowledge, influence and insight to ensure that national funding and resources reach the places where they will have the most impact on participation.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Amateur Sport, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** CHESHIRE
- Cheshire East
- Cheshire West & Chester
- Warrington

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£831,318	£834,776	£432,663	11
2024-03-31	£1,068,248	£884,594	£466,121	9
2023-03-31	£775,311	£767,553	£314,467	9
2022-03-31	£876,441	£886,554	£56,709	11
2021-03-31	£652,717	£753,138	£-355,178	10

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adam Michael Sullivan		2023-06-30
Deborah Louise Watson		2025-12-12
ELAINE ANN SMITHIES		2025-12-12
Eleanor Anne Underhill		2023-09-29
Jonathan Betts		2024-10-01
Joseph Alexander Onions		2023-06-30
Rachel Waterman		2019-12-01
Robert Burchell		2025-12-12
Stephen Law-Lyons		2022-09-30

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 701764

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)**

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 701764**



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

**Contents of the Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025**

<b>CHAIR'S FOREWORD</b> .....	3
<b>REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)</b> .....	4
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE</b> .....	19
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	23
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> .....	24
<b>CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	25
<b>NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	26
<b>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b> .....	27
<b>DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	45
(This does not form part of the financial statements)	

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE  
CHAIR'S FOREWORD  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Active Cheshire has delivered a year of sustained strong financial performance, process improvement and impact delivery. We have capitalised upon numerous years of investment in partnership working, strengthening our position as physical activity system leader and trusted partner to national, regional and local organisations.

Our strong set of results are underpinned by our lean organisational structure and a continued focus of delivering against our strategic priorities.

The detail of what we have delivered is outlined in the forthcoming sections. In previous years we have noted our thanks to those organisations with whom we have partnered to deliver for the communities of Cheshire & Warrington, and I am pleased to report the continued growth in this area. In particular, we would like to recognise both Sport England and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside in working with Active Cheshire to deliver against our shared priorities.

Delivering a £2.99 (for every £1 invested) social return on investment from the Opening Schools Facilities program across Cheshire and Merseyside has been a highlight of the year. This is the culmination of shaping the distribution of in-excess of £1.75m to 51 schools in 3 years, allowing over 16, 300 young people to engage in sport and physical activity, that the young people themselves have been key in the design and implementation of.

There have been a number of changes to our Board during the year, including my recruitment as Chair, following the planned exit of our previous Chair, Martin Pearson. I would like to place on record my thanks, on behalf of the Board, to Martin. Martin spent 6 years as a Trustee at Active Cheshire, including 3 as Chair, and leaves the Board in an excellent position from which I can lead it forward.

Throughout this year, the team and board have worked collaboratively to envisage a new future for Active Cheshire, building upon our previous strategy and delivering for the least active members of our community. We have been led by our values, driven by the data and insight, empowered by the shared purpose we have found with our trusted partners, and motivated to ensure access to physical activity across Cheshire & Warrington becomes more equal. The new 'Playing our Part' strategy delivers a clear mission; uniting, inspiring and empowering partners to tackle inequalities in physical activity. I look forward to updating on our progress in due course.



Mr Jonathan Betts – Trustee and Chair

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Members of the Board and Professional Advisers**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. This report includes the Directors Report for the purposes of the company law.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**Members of the Board and Professional Advisers**

**The Charity**

Charity No.:	701764
Company No.:	02401068
Registered Charity Name:	Active Cheshire
Registered Office:	Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 1AH

<b><u>Trustees</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Jonathan Betts	Chair	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2024
Rachel Waterman	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Stephen Law-Lyons	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Iain Lancaster	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Joseph Onions	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Kate Morris-Bates	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Claire Thompson	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Adam Sullivan	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Eleanor Underhill	Senior Independent Director	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Jonathan Wogel	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023

<b><u>Trustees – resigned in year</u></b>		<b><u>Date of Resignation</u></b>
Martin Pearson	Chair	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2024

<b><u>Chief Executive Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Michael Watson	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Auditor**

Ascendis Audit Limited  
Unit 3, Building 2  
The Colony  
Altrincham Road, Wilmslow  
Cheshire, SK9 4LY

**Bank**

Barclays Bank Plc  
30 St Werburgh Street  
Chester  
Cheshire, CH1 1 XB

**Solicitor**

Mills & Reeve LLP  
8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1 New York Street  
Manchester, M1 4AD

The Trustee recruitment process is open and transparent. All Trustees receive a comprehensive induction and are subject to annual appraisal and development as set out in the Active Cheshire Governance Manual. As a recognised Active Partnership commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must demonstrate compliance as a Tier 3 provider with the Code of Sports Governance.

**Governance**

Active Cheshire's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. For the purpose of charity law, trustees act as members (see notes for member liability). Trustees are further governed by a specific Governance Manual (March 2025 and under current review in line with the Sport England Code for Sport Governance), which sets out procedures for recruitment, deployment, decision-making and the controls in place to ensure probity and transparency. As part of a national network of providers commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must comply with the national Code of Sports Governance as a Tier 3 provider.

**Disclosures**

Active Cheshire has in place a Conflict of Interest Register where any disclosures are made on a regular basis. Declarations of Interest is an agenda item of every meeting and any person with an interest has no part in or presence at a decision.

**Staff**

*As of 31/03/2025*

**Chief Executive Officer**

Board Support

**Head of Data and Insight**

Strategic Lead Active Environments  
Strategic Lead Workforce and Partnerships

**Senior Strategic Lead Mental Health**

Strategic Lead Children and Young People  
Strategic Lead Physical Activity and Health

**Head of Strategy**

**Head of Finance and Compliance**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**INTRODUCTION - OVERVIEW & CHARITABLE OBJECTS**

Active Cheshire is a charity that exists for public benefit. It aims to improve the health and wellbeing of local citizens with a mission to embed physical activity into all aspects of everyday life.

To achieve this it will focus on its charitable objectives to ensure that the necessary resources and information are available to make sport and physical activity happen locally. Trustees will further ensure that, in line with our objects, opportunities to get active are available to everyone, regardless of age, gender, background or ability.

**Active Cheshire's charitable objects are to:**

1. Increase opportunities to get active locally

'In the interests of social welfare, to provide or assist in the provision of opportunities for the benefit of the inhabitants of the County of Cheshire for physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time physical and athletic activity, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants';

2. Provide financial support to enable participation

'To relieve the need, hardship and distress of such inhabitants in conditions of need, hardship and distress by providing financial or other assistance so enabling them to participate in the opportunities provided by the company';

3. Inspire people to get active by promoting local opportunities

'To disseminate or assist in the dissemination of information encouraging such inhabitants to participate in physical recreation (including sport) to promote their health and wellbeing';

4. Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting opportunities for disabled people to relieve or alleviate their conditions';

5. Provide more opportunities for young people to get active

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting facilities for young persons aged under 25 years of age to secure or advance their physical education and training and enhance their education generally';

6. Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally

'Develop or assist in the development of the capacity and skills of the members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities within the county of Cheshire in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs in regard to physical and athletic recreation or other physical and athletic activity, so improving their conditions of life';

7. Provide more opportunities for older people to get active

'Provide and assist in the provision of opportunities for physical and athletic recreation or other physical activity for older people, to promote their health and well-being'.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Public Benefit**

This document sets out the progress made during 2024-25 towards the achievement of our strategic goals and our charitable objects. It further qualifies and quantifies the impact of our work for public benefit and should be read in conjunction with the annexed financial statements.

**Public Benefit Statement**

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

**Charity Operations**

Charity operations are overseen by Trustees and led operationally by the CEO, Mike Watson.

**Our Culture**

Staff turnover is now very low and we have embedded our new values -

- **Collaboration:** We will work, and learn, together with others to achieve our common goals.
  
- **Integrity:** We always do what we say we're going to do in the right way and to the best of our ability, to achieve the best outcomes.
  
- **Inclusivity:** We celebrate diversity, welcome all opinions and strive to tackle inequality.
  
- **Passion:** We have pride and belief in everything we do and are committed to making a real difference.
  
- **Innovation:** We want to break the mould and develop brave new ideas to ensure our communities have the best possible future.

We continue to strive to be the best we can be and promote a happy workplace and a good work/life balance for all our staff.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**PROGRESS AGAINST CHARITABLE OBJECTS & STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

The progress we are delighted to detail here has in no small part been made possible by the investment of our strategic partners. Our principal investor, Sport England, via the Uniting the Movement strategy, has seen Active Cheshire recognised as a System Partner. This guarantees 5 years of funding (2022-27) to deliver against the agreed priorities. We would like to place on record, our thanks to Sport England, for their continued support and investment.

We continued to deliver against the final year of our Active Cheshire CONNECTED strategy which focuses our attention on providing the greatest possible impact upon people and communities who have the greatest difficulty in becoming active. Our role is to facilitate their opportunities as a specialised infrastructure organisation, allow the development of strategies, plans and policies to chime with organisation development in communities. We do with our communities, not to them.

Significantly, we have also spent this year developing our new strategy, Playing our Part. We have worked collaboratively as a Team and Board, with partners and strategic allies to ensure we articulate our role in the Sport and Physical Activity system through to 2031. This considerable investment of time, effort, energy, knowledge and skill will pay dividends long into the future, for Active Cheshire and the wider system.

The 5 Strategic Objectives of Active Cheshire CONNECTED strategy, and their impacts, are herein detailed:

- More healthy, more active people
- Greater health equity
- Increased participation in Sport, Physical Activity and Movement
- High quality partnerships with key stakeholders
- A coordinated, functioning physical activity system

**1. More healthy, more active people**

With the delivery of our strategy, Active Cheshire's role as a strategic partner for Cheshire & Warrington focused on helping organisations in communities to enable people to become more active, more often, living longer, happier, healthier lives. Where 2023/4 was a year in which our system leadership role became embedded in everything we do, 2024/5 was a year to capitalise on the opportunities this presents, however, the shifting macro-economic factors made this challenging for everyone.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Because of the strong foundations built in 2023/4, this was a year where the power of collaboration became embedded. In-excess of 115 partners from 80+ organisations now consider themselves a partner in the All Together Active System. These partners represent over 15 different sectors including the public, private and VCSFE sectors, HE/FE, Sport, Leisure, community safety and statutory services.

The final year of the Opening Schools Facilities fund has seen Active Cheshire lead the coordination of the distribution of £587,776 to 51 schools, enabling 7,551 individuals to become physically active in both extra-curricular and community activities.

Across the 3 years of the contract, Active Cheshire has co-ordinated the distribution of c£1.75m. The Social Return on Investment from this programme across its 3 years, has seen £2.99 of social return from every £1 invested.

## **2. Greater health equity**

Our collaborative approach to embedding Physical Activity into the ever evolving health system, through All Together Active, has moved forward leaps and bounds. In October 2024, we delivered a joint Health and Physical Activity Conference which saw over 150 colleagues from across the spectrum of sectors join together to listen, learn and share their experiences of how collaborative working could transform the lives of our communities. The feedback was hugely positive, with 'increased collaboration,' 'increased confidence talking about physical activity,' and 'a deeper understanding of the cross sector opportunities' being some of the positive feedback received.

By building closer alignment, finding commonality and shared ground, we have been able to focus our impact alignment with All Together Fairer, Cheshire and Merseyside's Marmot Principles based Health Strategy.

This alignment has led to a further 2 years of committed health system funding in the All Together Active Programme (2025-27) with a closer focus in the role physical activity can play in Fall prevention, Prehabilitation and Addiction recovery.

## **3. Increased participation in Sport, Physical Activity and Movement**

In 2024/5 we have invested significantly in the Move Metrics system, Pulse. The system is a comprehensive data system, allowing Active Cheshire and the wider system, to make data driven decisions based upon the latest insight.

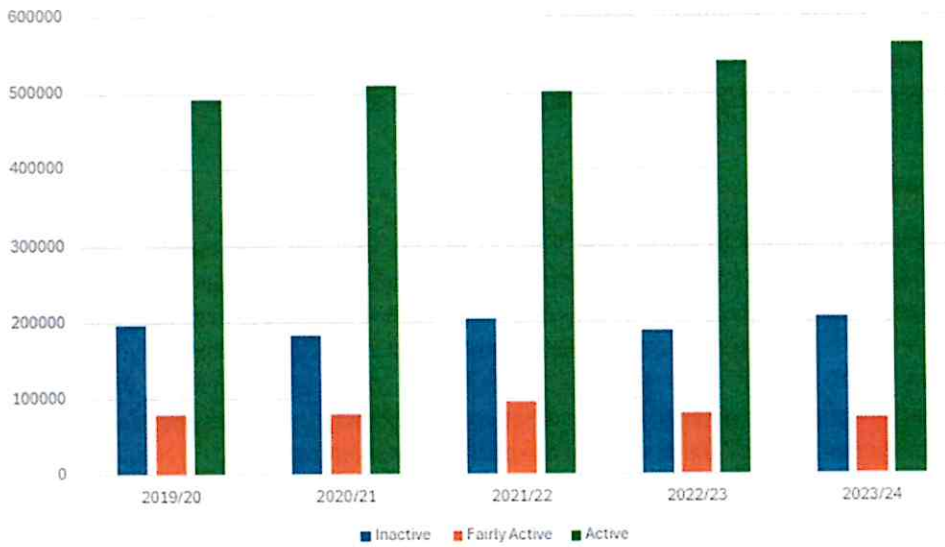
This first stage development has put data and insight at our finger tips, allowing us to draw comparisons from hyper-local data, all the way up to national level data. The data is drawn from many sources, and covers health, census, macro-economics and population level data. The system is used to allow us to meet our goal of making data informed decisions.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

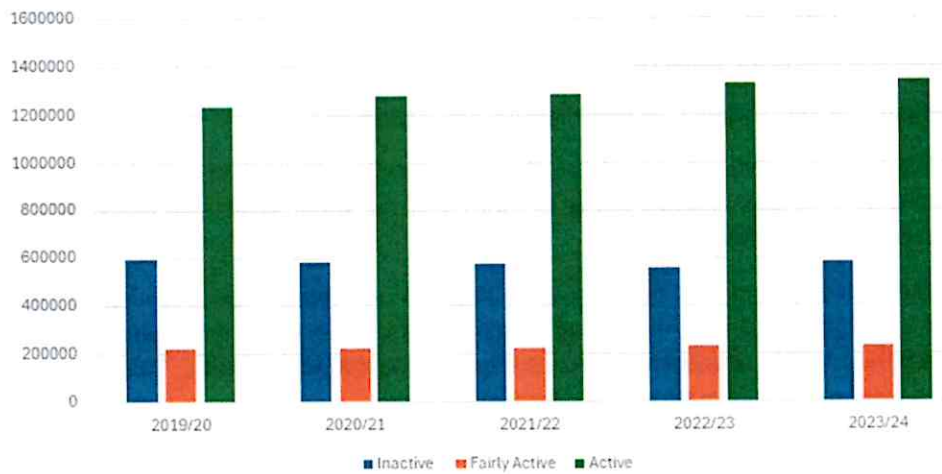
We can see from the Pulse data that the latest Sport England Active Lives Survey shows:

- 'Inactive Adults' have increased from 23.6% to 26.1%
- 'Inactive Children' have decreased from 29.5% to 27.2%

Active Lives Survey Cheshire and Warrington



Active Lives Survey Cheshire and Merseyside



**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**4. High quality partnerships with key stakeholders**

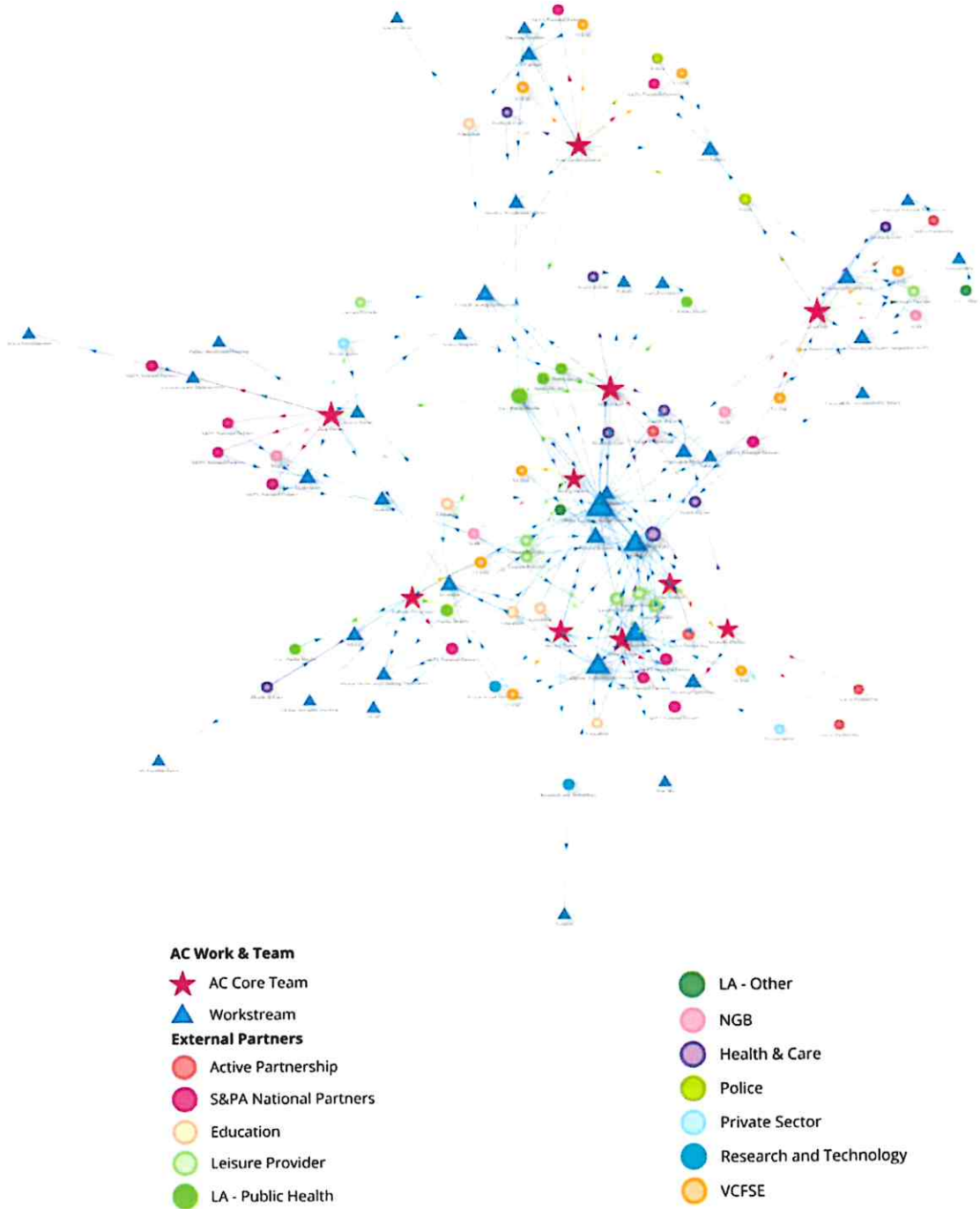
Active Cheshire's system partner role is to create a connected, collaborative eco-system of partners, willing to join together to tackle inactivity in our communities. Our Strategic partnerships grew to include the following organisations in 2024/5

Active Partnerships Network	Active Partnership Network National Children and Young People group	EWBA and WLWC (Active Warrington)
Sport England System Partners Network	Active Warrington Strategy Board & Warrington PE reference group	C&M PA Sub-group
Cheshire East Council, Warrington Council & Cheshire West and Chester Council	Cheshire East Connected Communities	System P, Public Health Research Hub
NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB/ICP & Population Health Board	Active Environments (member and part of national steering group)	The University of Chester
Cheshire & Merseyside Population Health Board Physical Activity Board	Integrated Sustainable Transport Taskforce	Sport England System Partners MEL development
Cheshire East Mental Health Partnership Board	Cheshire and Warrington LEP Growth Hub	Winsford Primary Care Network
Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Cheshire and Warrington Mental health prevention subgroups	Chester Sustainability Forum	The Mersey Forest
Community mental health transformation voluntary sector alliance (East and West)	C&M Nursing, Midwifery & AHP Workforce Development Programme Board	The Chartered Institute for Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA)
Connect, Move, Thrive Place Partnership	All Together Smoke Free	Cheshire West and Chester Joint Intelligence Group
Cheshire Sport & Violence Reduction Board	Cheshire County Football Association	England Netball
British Triathlon Federation	British Cycling	Archery GB

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**5. A coordinated, functioning physical activity system**

The Active Cheshire baseline Social Network Analysis has been developed to better visualise the growth in personal, organisational and workstream based relationships. This network analysis will allow the impact of our work to be seen and developed over time.



**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Financial Review**

Sport England remains the principal funding source of Active Cheshire with £638,353 achieved, although not all of this income contributes to the charity's overhead costs (£34,944 are restricted funds).

The key factors likely to affect future financial performance are:

1. **Availability of public funds** including Lottery which is at risk given the incalculable impact of the unpredictability of future lottery sales which impacts on Sport England investment. Active Cheshire's current funding award commits funds from Sport England through until March 2027.
2. Our ability to present and grow a strong **value proposition to the local marketplace**, ie the performance and impact of new services (eg Active Kids and Active Workplace) which will support income diversification and is funded directly by the client recipient on behalf of beneficiaries.
3. **Pension liability** and any debt arising from crystallisation. Whilst currently a surplus, any return to deficit would impact our annual accounts and balance sheet and distort the view of income growth given its size. This would affect viability and confidence in the organisation. The unpredictable nature of the figure is a challenge which we hope to mitigate through a personalised review of any future specific liability as a somewhat untraditional local government employer (atypical in size and scale).

Active Cheshire achieved an in-year position that was more favourable than anticipated with an in year operating deficit of (pre pension adjustments) £33,458. A net deficit for 2024-25 was budgeted, however this was due to income being recognised in 2023-24 with the associated expenditure budgeted to occur 2024-25. This compares to the prior year operating surplus of £151,654 and thus gives a cumulative operating surplus of £432,663 (£466,121 last year). Active Cheshire has now exceeded the £300,000 required in the Surplus Reserve Policy and will continue to investigate opportunities to determine suitable investment opportunities for the surplus.

The organisation's defined benefit pension scheme has a gross accounting surplus at the reporting date of £1.004m. In line with FRS 102 requirements Active Cheshire can only recognise this as an asset on the balance sheet to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the plan. The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events. Accordingly, Active Cheshire has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

At the end of the financial year the bank and cash balance stood at £575,777. The trade debtors were £8,730 and trade creditors were £33,115. Prepayments and accrued income were £4,418 and deferred income, accruals and other creditors stood at £134,342. There were no concerns regarding any of the balance sheet balances.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Financial Review (continued)**

The charity anticipates a trading deficit of £48.9k in the 2025-26 financial year. 2025-26 is year one of a planned two year investment budget, at the end of which Active Cheshire expect reserves levels to align with the reserves policy. The trustees have no concerns about the organisation remaining a going concern over the coming years.

**Reserves Policy**

Active Cheshire has in place a Reserves Policy to manage its levels of reserves and balances. We define "Reserves" as that part of our income funds that is freely available for operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits and not tied up in fixed assets. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that the Charity's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, considering risks associated with individual income streams, expenditure varying from budget, planned activity levels and organisational commitments. We use our reserves policy to inform our treasury management approach (eg the way in which we manage cash, liquid assets and debt).

The reserves that we have set aside provide financial stability and the means for the development of our principal activity.

**Decision Making**

The Board makes strategic decisions on behalf of the Charity. Operational decisions are the responsibility of the CEO. The specifics of this arrangement are set out clearly within our Scheme of Delegation.

The process for making decisions is presented below. Operational decisions that may affect the strategic direction of the business will be discussed at the sub-groups and endorsed formally at Board. Equally, where strategic decisions are determined by the Board, these can be given substance through sub-group discussions with CEO.

1. Strategic Direction (Trustees agree strategy for the Charity and an Annual Business Plan)
2. Operational Implementation (CEO is responsible for delivery of the Annual Business Plan within agreed parameters and budget).
3. Operational Review / Legislative Change (Each year a mid-year business review takes place taking into consideration changes in the micro and macro environment and reflecting on progress to date/lessons learned). Regular performance reviews also take place quarterly at both Subgroup and Board.
4. Proposal to Amend / Review (the review may result in immediate change where deemed necessary or most likely to inform priorities within the following year's business plan).
5. Sub-group Review & Recommendation: scrutiny, advocacy and challenge is applied by subgroup members who will challenge any change or recommendations to ensure that proposals are robust, viable and align to charitable objects. A refined Business Plan is then presented to the entire Board with Budget for approval.
6. Return to point 1 to begin the cycle again

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Decision Making (continued)**

A NOMCOM Committee exists with delegated responsibility as set out in the Terms of Reference agreed by the Board. This group is the primary group responsible for making recommendations for the remuneration and pay policy for key management personnel although the People and Performance Subgroup can also recommend changes for Board consideration.

**Remuneration of key management personnel**

Active Cheshire is committed to ensuring that we pay our people fairly and in a way which ensures we attract and retain the right skills to have the greatest impact in delivering our charitable objectives. Our approach to executive pay is in line with the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (AECVO) Good Pay Guide. In line with Active Cheshire's commitment to equality and diversity (see separate policy), Active Cheshire is committed to equal pay.

Active Cheshire remuneration policy and procedure sits with the Nomination Committee (NOMCOM), which meets quarterly. The Committee is comprised of the Chair of Active Cheshire (also NOMCOM Chair), the Senior Independent Director and the chair of GFR and P&P. Meetings are minuted.

The Committee sets the pay structure for the organisation and the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management.

The CEO is in attendance for the meeting (leaving for the discussion regarding the CEO's remuneration) and no members of the executive are members of the committee. Decisions by NOMCOM require ratification by full Board.

NOMCOM meets annually to ensure that any remuneration is decided in the context of wider financial performance.

The Committee will consider facts prepared by the CEO to provide context for decision-making including:

- § The organisation's current financial position
- § Any existing or emerging risks that may impact on the organisation's financial stability
- § Comparing the competitiveness of Active Cheshire salary banding against credible independent market benchmarks
- § RPI as at 31 December
- § Public and Third-Sector pay awards and any related sensitivities
- § Individual and Team performance
- § Past-performance benchmarks
- § The significance of employees in delivering Active Cheshire's charitable vision and purpose

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Remuneration of key management personnel (continued)**

The Committee will consider the reflections and recommendations of the Chair, during his formal appraisal of the CEO against agreed objectives to determine the remuneration package (including any annual bonus) of the Chief Executive.

Discussion will take place within the meeting and any conclusions drawn will be presented to full Board for ratification and will be minuted in line with data protection laws.

The Chair will provide feedback to the CEO and will write formally to set out any decisions made and ensure inclusion of pay within published documentation (eg Annual Accounts/Reports) will be made to ensure legal compliance.

**Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity.

**Managing Risk**

Risks are appraised regularly at an operational and strategic level and are recorded within a Risk Register. The register scores risks based on potential impact and likelihood and sets out plans for mitigation. Risk is discussed at every Board (and sub-group) meeting and reported via operational management meetings. A root and branch review is conducted annually with a detailed appraisal of macro and micro environment at the annual Strategic Planning Day.

**Key risks**

There are 2 core risks actively managed by Trustees as follows:

(Key: 'L'= Low, 'M'=Medium, 'H'=High)

1. **Pension liability:** there is one staff member still enrolled in the Local Government (Defined Benefit) Pension Scheme (as at end of year 2025), originally a Final Salary Pension Scheme but converted to a Career Average Pension Scheme in 2014. The Local Government Pension Scheme was closed to new employees in 2015 and replaced with a Direct Contribution Benefit Scheme. The Defined Benefit Pension Scheme has been a surplus for the past three years, but there is uncertainty about what will happen next year. There is a further risk of debt crystallisation should staff leave and/or the scheme close.

Impact: H      Likelihood of increased costs: H

Mitigation: In 2022/23 the Trustees invited Cheshire Pension Fund (CPF) to meet to discuss the challenge, along with our accountants. CPF recognised the likelihood of our scheme closure at some

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Key risks (continued)**

point in the next 5-10 years and confirmed that it would collaborate with Active Cheshire proactively to determine a repayment plan should debt crystallise.

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of unplanned costs: M

2. Future funding from major funder: Sport England continues to be the largest funder investing in Active Cheshire, representing 77% of total annual income. Their mandate recognising Active Cheshire as their 'agent' locally also gives credibility to the organisation. Sport England remains a lottery distributor nationally and continues to invest into a network of Active Partnerships like Active Cheshire. Funds have reduced with changes to the structure of lottery ticket pricing structure and income levels.

Impact: H Likelihood of reduced funding: M

Mitigation: Active Cheshire recognised the risk of dependency on a single funder in 2014 and committed to diversifying income which is progressing well. New products relating to the CONNECTED Strategy have been developed and are generating income locally. Relationships with Sport England remain strong and Active Cheshire has secured funding through to 2027. Contract performance remains strong with most contracts exceeding requirements in terms of output, innovation and impact. Active Cheshire invested in a dedicated manager, now embedded in role, to further develop relationships with Sport England and our national counterparts. This will provide greater visibility, an opportunity to promote our work and increase partnership and funding prospects.

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of reduced income: L

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business; and
- State whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the company's website.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

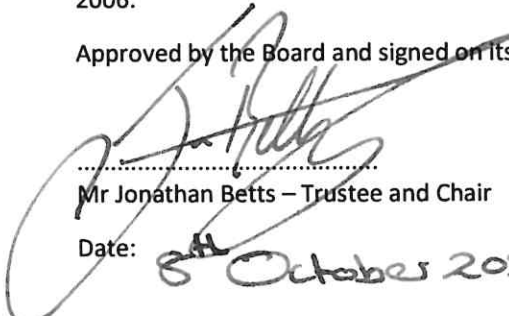
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Ascendis Audit Limited will be recommended for re-appointment under Section 485 of Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Mr Jonathan Betts – Trustee and Chair

Date: 8 October 2025

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Active Cheshire "the charitable company" for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### 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 charitable company 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 Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

### 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 (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

In connection with our audit of the financial statements 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- The information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 18, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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.

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of laws, regulations and guidance that affect the charitable company, focusing on those that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws, regulations and guidance that we identified included the Companies Act 2006, tax legislation, health and safety legislation, and employment legislation.
- We enquired of the Trustees and reviewed correspondence and Trustee meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the Trustees have in place, where necessary, to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks.
- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.


## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Byrne BA (Double Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of  
Ascendis Audit Limited  
Statutory Auditor  
Unit 3, Building 2  
The Colony  
Altrincham Road  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 4LY

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**


	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/25 Total funds £	31/3/24 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	733,593	34,944	768,537	991,064
Other trading activities	3	46,731	-	46,731	68,199
Investment income	4	<u>16,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,050</u>	<u>8,985</u>
<b>Total</b>		796,374	34,944	831,318	1,068,248
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5				
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching		241,731	-	241,731	385,695
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities		<u>559,749</u>	<u>33,296</u>	<u>593,045</u>	<u>498,899</u>
<b>Total</b>		801,480	33,296	834,776	884,594
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(5,106)	1,648	(3,458)	183,654
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		1,648	(1,648)	-	-
<b>Other recognised Losses</b>					
Net interest/service cost of defined benefit 19 scheme		<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>(32,000)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(33,458)	-	(33,458)	151,654
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>466,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>466,121</u>	<u>314,467</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>432,663</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>432,663</u></u>	<u><u>466,121</u></u>

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AT 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/25 Total funds £	31/3/24 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	13	8,334	-	8,334	5,752
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	14	16,009	-	16,009	10,359
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>556,121</u>	<u>19,656</u>	<u>575,777</u>	<u>652,758</u>
		572,130	19,656	591,786	663,117
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(147,801)	(19,656)	(167,457)	(202,748)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		<u>424,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>424,329</u>	<u>460,369</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		432,663	-	432,663	466,121
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>					
	19	-	-	-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		<u>432,663</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>432,663</u>	<u>466,121</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	17			432,663	466,121
Restricted funds				-	-
Pension Reserve				-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
				<u>432,663</u>	<u>466,121</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Mr Jonathan Betts -Trustee and Chair

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	31/3/25 £	31/3/24 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash used by operations		<u>(86,733)</u>	<u>(63,257)</u>
<b>Net cash used by operating activities</b>		<u>(86,733)</u>	<u>(63,257)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(6,298)	-
Interest received		<u>16,050</u>	<u>8,985</u>
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>		9,752	8,985
		<u>(76,981)</u>	<u>(54,272)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		(76,981)	(54,272)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>652,758</u>	<u>707,030</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	18	<u>575,777</u>	<u>652,758</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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**RECONCILIATION OF NET (DEFICIT)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
<b>Net (deficit)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	(3,458)	183,654
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	3,716	3,251
Interest received	(16,050)	(8,985)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(5,650)	47,417
Decrease in creditors	(35,291)	(256,594)
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>(32,000)</u>
<b>Net cash used by operating activities</b>	<u>(86,733)</u>	<u>(63,257)</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charitable company is registered in England and Wales.

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (£) and transactions are rounded to the nearest £.

**Going concern**

The balance sheet shows net funds of £432,663 (2024 £466,121) at the year end date. The trustees have reviewed the charity's expected cashflows for the foreseeable future and have concluded that it is able to meet its financial obligations, including cash contributions to the Cheshire Pension Fund, as they fall due. Thus the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis and no material uncertainties exist as to whether the charitable company is able to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

**Income (including government grants)**

All incoming resources are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of provision of specified services is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

All Grant income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds, having performed the obligations under any grant conditions, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Trading income is recognised on delivery of the goods or service as per the contract and as delivered at the balance sheet date as a proportion of the total contract value. Where the amount of income is contingent on future events, this is only recognised where the amount of income can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the economic benefits will be received. When this cannot be estimated reliably, income is only recognised to the value of the goods and service that it is considered probable will be recovered. Goods or services provided to the client which at the balance sheet date have not been billed, have been recognised as income and are included in debtors as accrued income.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Expenditure**

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

**Grants payable**

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the Charity's objects. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant awarded. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the one-year or multi-year grant. Grant awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Charity.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The provision for a multi-year grant is recognised at its present value where settlement is due over more than one year from the date of the award, there are no unfulfilled performance conditions under the control of the Charity that would permit the Charity to avoid making the future payment(s), settlement is probable, and the effect of discounting is material.

**Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

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

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

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

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charity contributes to a defined benefit pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested when a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of material reduction in the scheme membership or reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the Statement of Financial Activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of the return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme surplus (to the extent that it can be recovered) is recognised in full on the Balance Sheet, net of related deferred tax.

The charity also contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. Contributions to this scheme are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

**Irrecoverable vat**

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against an individual expense code.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Cash at bank**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash held on deposit with a maturity of twelve months or less.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Financial assets are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs) and subsequently held at cost, less any impairment.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form. Financial liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (after deducting transaction costs) and subsequently held at amortised cost.

**Key judgements and estimates**

The accounting policies above which, represent key judgements and estimates are:-

Creditors - there is £102,684 included in deferred income, this represents an estimate of the income received for which work has not yet been undertaken. This is shown in note 15.

Pension - The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability/surplus depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension's liability/asset. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability/asset at 31 March 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability/asset.

FRS 102 requires that defined benefit plan surpluses are recognised only to the extent that they are recoverable either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. The accounting valuation of the Cheshire Pension Fund at 31 March 2025 identified an accounting surplus of £1.004m. The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events. Accordingly, Active Cheshire judge that there is insufficient evidence to support the recoverability of the plan's surplus and therefore has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

**Taxation**

The Trustees consider that requirements for the exemption from taxation set out in the Income Tax Act 2007, Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are met and, therefore, no provision is made for taxation.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Grants and contracts	<u>768,537</u>	<u>991,064</u>

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

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Sport England	638,353	768,848
Champs Public Health Collaborative	86,400	172,400
Other Local Commissions	43,784	49,816
	<u>768,537</u>	<u>991,064</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Sundry income	<u>46,731</u>	<u>68,199</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>16,050</u>	<u>8,985</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

2025	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 6)	Support costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching		241,731		241,731
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>503,674</u>	-	<u>89,371</u>	<u>593,045</u>
	<u>503,674</u>	<u>241,731</u>	<u>89,371</u>	<u>834,776</u>
2024	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 6)	Support costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	-	385,695	-	385,695
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>419,278</u>	-	<u>79,621</u>	<u>498,899</u>
	<u>419,278</u>	<u>385,695</u>	<u>79,621</u>	<u>884,594</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**6. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>241,731</u>	<u>385,695</u>
The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:		
	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Project Delivery Expenditure	3,054	-
Champs Public Health- National Partner	-	3,019
ICS Strategy	91,395	84,732
Opening School Facilities*	26,616	26,616
Tackling Inequality*	-	162,780
Moving Communities*	-	26,400
AT Fest	-	22,706
CWP Mental Health	7,186	14,218
Opening School Facilities*	12,000	12,000
Children & Young People*	71,230	33,224
CWG QBR	<u>30,250</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>241,731</u>	<u>385,695</u>

\* Fully funded by Sport England

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

2025	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Accountancy and Professional Services	-	(4,965)	(4,965)
Audit	-	7,750	7,750
Payroll and HR	2,723	-	2,723
Other	<u>83,720</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>83,863</u>
	<u>86,443</u>	<u>2,928</u>	<u>89,371</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

2024	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Accountancy and Professional Services	-	2,275	2,275
Audit	-	7,500	7,500
Payroll and HR	3,508	-	3,508
Other	<u>64,540</u>	<u>1,798</u>	<u>66,338</u>
	<u>68,048</u>	<u>11,573</u>	<u>79,621</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

**8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Auditors remuneration-audit fee	7,750	7,500
Depreciation - owned assets	3,716	3,251
Lease payments-Rent/Photocopier/Container	<u>10,689</u>	<u>10,561</u>

**9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no payments to trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024 £0)

**Trustees' expenses**

There was £143 paid to trustees for expenses paid in 2024-25 (2024 £1,798).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**10. STAFF COSTS**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	359,549	310,092
Social security costs	32,414	27,711
Other pension costs	<u>48,723</u>	<u>40,491</u>
	<u>440,686</u>	<u>378,294</u>

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

	31/3/25	31/3/24
Partnership Services	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 (pro-rata) was:

	31/3/25	31/3/24
£60,000 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and Chief Executive. The total employee Benefits of the key management personnel were £80,711 (2024 £81,931). The Trust purchased no Consultancy services from Trustees during the year (2024 £0).

**11. EX GRATIA PAYMENTS**

The charity made no settlement payment during the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024 £0).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	802,006	189,058	991,064
Other trading activities	68,199	-	68,199
Investment income	<u>8,985</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,985</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>879,190</b>	<b>189,058</b>	<b>1,068,248</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	196,637	189,058	385,695
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>498,899</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>498,899</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>695,536</b></u>	<u><b>189,058</b></u>	<u><b>884,594</b></u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>183,654</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>183,654</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>			
Actuarial gain on defined benefit scheme	<u>(32,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(32,000)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>151,654</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>151,654</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>314,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>314,467</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u><b>466,121</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>466,121</b></u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Totals
	£	£	£
At 1 April 2024	16,580	31,795	48,375
Additions	-	6,298	6,298
31 March 2025	<u>16,580</u>	<u>38,093</u>	<u>54,673</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 April 2024	16,580	26,043	42,623
Charge for year	-	<u>3,716</u>	<u>3,716</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>16,580</u>	<u>29,759</u>	<u>46,339</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 March 2024	-	<u>5,752</u>	<u>5,752</u>
At 31 March 2025	-	<u>8,334</u>	<u>8,334</u>

**14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Trade debtors	8,730	2,626
Prepayments and accrued income	4,418	3,369
Other Debtors	195	255
VAT	2,666	4,109
	<u>16,009</u>	<u>10,359</u>

**15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Trade creditors	33,115	86,072
Social security and other taxes	12,999	8,318
Accruals and deferred income	120,278	108,358
Sundry Creditor	1,065	-
	<u>167,457</u>	<u>202,748</u>

Deferred income included above represents monies being held on behalf of other organisations or has been received but no work commissioned at the balance sheet date.

Balance at 1 April 2024	85,667
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(85,667)
Amount Deferred in year	<u>102,684</u>
Balance at 31 March 2025	<u>102,684</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**16. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

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

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Within one year - Building Lease	<u>-</u>	<u>2,531</u>

**17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/24	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/25
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	466,121	(33,458)	432,663
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Sport Welfare Officer	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>466,121</u>	<u>(33,458)</u>	<u>432,663</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and (losses)	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	796,374	(801,480)	1,648	(30,000)	(33,458)
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Sport Welfare Officer	34,944	(33,296)	(1,648)	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>831,318</u>	<u>(834,776)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>(33,458)</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 25**

**17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/24 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General fund	474,198	(8,077)	466,121
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Tackling Inequality	(159,731)	159,731	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>314,467</u>	<u>151,654</u>	<u>466,121</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and (losses) £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	879,190	(695,536)	(32,000)	151,654
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Tackling Inequality/Moving Communities	189,058	(189,058)	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,068,248</u>	<u>(884,594)</u>	<u>(32,000)</u>	<u>151,654</u>

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or terms of an agreement.

The balances on the restricted funds (currently there is no restricted balance) are held within the charity in order to provide, in future periods, the specific delivery of activities in accordance with the restrictions under which the income was provided.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**18. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

Cash and cash equivalent	At 1/4/24	Cash flows	At 31/3/25
Cash	<u>£ 652,758</u>	<u>(£76,981)</u>	<u>£575,777</u>

**19. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity participates in the Cheshire Pension fund, part of the local government scheme, a defined benefit statutory scheme in accordance with local government pension scheme regulations 1997 as amended, Cheshire West and Chester Council administers the fund.

The total contribution made for the year ended 31 March 2025 was £13,000 (2024 - £13,000) of which employer's contributions totalled £10,000 (2024 - £10,000) and employees' contributions totalled £3,000 (2024 - £3,000).

Robert Bilton FFA of Hymans Robertson carried out a full actuarial valuation at 31 March 2022.

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Fair value of plan assets	<u>2,050,000</u>	<u>2,016,000</u>
Defined benefit obligation	<u>1,046,000</u>	<u>1,306,000</u>
Surplus not recognised	<u>1,004,000</u> <u>(1,004,000)</u>	<u>710,000</u> <u>(710,000)</u>
Net surplus/(liability)	<u>                  -</u>	<u>                  -</u>

Active Cheshire has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

The plan has a gross accounting surplus at the reporting date of £1.004m. In line with FRS 102 requirements Active Cheshire has not recognised an asset on the balance sheet as it is unable to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the plan.

The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**19. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Current service cost	5,000	6,000
Net interest from defined benefit asset/liability	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>(28,000)</u>
	<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>(22,000)</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>31,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation	1,306,000	1,306,000
Current service cost	5,000	6,000
Contributions by scheme participants	3,000	3,000
Interest cost	63,000	62,000
Actuarial gains	(321,000)	(62,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>(9,000)</u>
	<u>1,046,000</u>	<u>1,306,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets	2,016,000	1,887,000
Contributions by employer	10,000	10,000
Contributions by scheme participants	3,000	3,000
Interest income	98,000	90,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(67,000)	35,000
Benefits paid	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>(9,000)</u>
	<u>2,050,000</u>	<u>2,016,000</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**19. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
Actuarial gains	<u>254,000</u>	<u>97,000</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/25	31/3/24
Equities	49%	50%
Bonds	38%	36%
Property	12%	12%
Cash	1%	2%

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages)

	31/3/25	31/3/24
Discount rate	5.85%	4.85%
Future salary increases	3.40%	3.45%
Future pension increases	2.70%	2.75%

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	31/3/25	31/3/24
Retiring today:		
Males	21.0	21.1
Females	23.3	23.4
Future:		
Males	22.9	23.0
Females	26.0	26.0

**Defined contribution scheme**

The company makes contributions to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. The cost for the period was £38,678 (2024 - £30,709).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

During the year Active Cheshire made no related party transactions (2024 £112).

**21. FUNDRAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity raises charitable funds in-house and does not engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator to carry out these activities. The charity has not bound itself to a voluntary scheme for regulating fund-raising and has not received any complaints with respect to its fund-raising. The charity avoids unreasonable intrusion into a person's privacy, unreasonable persistent approaches and undue pressure on persons in connection with fund-raising.

**22. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

**23. DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING FROM PUBLIC BODIES**

	Sport England	Champs Public Health Collaborative	Local Commissions	Alder Hey Children's NHS	RSPH	Non- Public	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue grants	638,353	86,400	30,000	-	500	-	755,253
Capital grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Membership Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sponsorship income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	-	-	44,647	13,284	-	18,134	76,065
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>638,353</b>	<b>86,400</b>	<b>74,647</b>	<b>13,284</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>18,134</b>	<b>831,318</b>
Salaries	413,781	-	-	13,284	500	-	427,565
Overheads/Support costs	51,068	-	-	-	-	-	51,068
Inactivity projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local delivery projects	71,230	91,395	77,099	-	-	2,007	241,731
Capital facilities projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clubs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Young people	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other costs	144,412	-	-	-	-	-	144,412
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>680,491</b>	<b>91,395</b>	<b>77,099</b>	<b>13,284</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>864,776</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(42,138)</b>	<b>(4,995)</b>	<b>(2,452)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,127</b>	<b>(33,458)</b>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**23. DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING FROM PUBLIC BODIES - continued**

	Sport England	Champs Public Health Collaborative	Local Commissions	Alder Hey Children's NHS	RSPH	Non- Public	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash Reconciliation</b>							
Released to income Statement	610,324	91,395	62,099	13,284	-	2,007	779,109
Transfer to deferred grant	27,734	66,400	8,550	-	-	-	102,684
<b>Cash received during financial year</b>	<b>638,058</b>	<b>157,795</b>	<b>70,649</b>	<b>13,284</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>881,793</b>
<b>Deferred grant reconciliation</b>							
Opening balance	70,167	-	15,000	-	500	-	85,667
Transfers in	27,734	66,400	8,550	-	-	-	102,684
Release to income Statement	(70,167)	-	(15,000)	-	(500)	-	(85,667)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>27,734</b>	<b>66,400</b>	<b>8,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>102,684</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>680,491</b>	<b>91,395</b>	<b>77,099</b>	<b>13,284</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>864,776</b>
<b>Deferred grant reconciliation</b>							
Opening balance	70,167	-	15,000	-	500	-	85,667
Cash received	638,058	157,795	70,649	13,284	-	2,007	881,793
Release to income Statement	(680,491)	(91,395)	(77,099)	(13,284)	(500)	(2,007)	(864,776)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>27,734</b>	<b>66,400</b>	<b>8,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>102,684</b>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Grants and contracts	768,537	991,064
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Sundry income	<u>46,731</u>	<u>68,199</u>
	815,268	1,059,263
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	<u>16,050</u>	<u>8,985</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	831,318	1,068,248
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Bad debts	-	(1,020)
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Contribution to partners	241,731	385,695
Wages	359,549	310,092
Social Security	32,414	27,711
Pensions	48,723	40,491
Equipment and facilities	2,519	4,316
Insurance	2,911	2,858
Telephone	3,071	3,170
Printing, postage and photocopying	1,090	1,029
Sundry office costs	29,543	11,503
Travelling expenses	7,619	7,516
Training fees	2,265	4,266
Rent and premises costs	15,931	9,921
Marketing	3,611	25,125
Refreshments	2,534	1,537
Computer expenses	3,549	2,713
Professional fees	89,005	54,868
Memberships and subscriptions	15,433	12,748
Defined benefit scheme service cost	5,000	(4,000)
Defined benefit scheme net interest	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>(28,000)</u>
	831,498	873,559

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	31/3/25	31/3/24
	£	£
<b>Support Costs</b>		
<b>Finance</b>		
Bank charges	350	482
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Trustees' expenses	143	1,798
Auditors' remuneration	7,750	7,500
Auditors' remuneration for non-audit work	-	-
Accountancy fees	(4,965)	2,275
Other	-	-
	<u>2,928</u>	<u>11,573</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>834,776</b>	<b>884,592</b>
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>	<b><u>(3,458)</u></b>	<b><u>183,654</u></b>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 701764

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 701764



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

**Contents of the Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2024.**

<b>CHAIR'S FOREWORD</b> .....	3
<b>REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)</b> .....	4
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE</b> .....	21
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	25
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> .....	26
<b>CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	27
<b>NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	28
<b>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b> .....	29
<b>DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	48

(This does not form part of the financial statements)

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE  
CHAIR'S FOREWORD  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The last period has been a steady step forward for Active Cheshire.

We have again produced a strong set of financial results which has been underpinned by a strong delivery focus in the areas we set out to make a difference in the last year.

The detail of what we have delivered is outlined in the forthcoming sections. Last year I wrote about the maturity of our relationship with our main funder and key strategic partners, I am pleased to say this has continued along with new partners joining our collaborative approach.

Our decision over a year ago, to bring our Finance & Compliance function in-house has given us a stronger and more agile approach in this key area. This has been demonstrated by the positive auditors' report (noting we changed auditors for this year, as our previous auditor changed their business model for the size of charity they worked with).

In December 2023, the board along with the CEO and his team took time to review our current strategy and delivery programme. The outcome from this initial review was to initiate a facilitated review of our future strategy through to 2030. This work is a collaboration between board, the CEO and operational team and includes our strategic partners. This piece of work is on schedule to complete by early 2025 ready for full roll-out from April 2025.

At board level, we said 'goodbye' to three trustees. I would like to record my thanks for their commitment on behalf of the board during their term of office. We completed our trustee recruitment campaign during 2023 and have been pleased with how the new trustees including a new 'Senior Independent Director' have settled in after their induction.

With the board being at full strength and performing well alongside a strong CEO and stable operational time, I took the decision to start the process to recruit my replacement. We are at the final stages of recruiting a new Chair after an external recruitment campaign and transition should occur during Q4 2024.

This is the right time for a new Chair to come in and sign off a new strategy with a renewed board and strong and stable operational team.

**Mr Martin Bryan Pearson – Chair, Active Cheshire**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Members of the Board and Professional Advisers**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. This report includes the Directors Report for the purposes of the company law.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Members of the Board and Professional Advisers

**The Charity**

Charity No.:	701764
Company No.:	02401068
Registered Charity Name:	Active Cheshire
Registered Office:	Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 1AH

**Trustees**

<b><u>Trustees</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Martin Pearson	Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2017
Rachel Waterman	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Stephen Law-Lyons	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Iain Lancaster	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Joseph Onions	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Kate Morris-Bates	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Claire Thompson	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Adam Sullivan	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Eleanor Underhill	Senior Independent Director	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Jonathan Wogel	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023

**Trustees – resigned in year**

		<b><u>Date of Resignation</u></b>
Gale Butler	Trustee	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2023
Susan Sellers	Senior Independent Director	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
William Evans	Vice-Chair	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Simon Gerrard	Trustee	22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024
Heather Barnes	Trustee/Vice-Chair	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024

**Chief Executive Officer**

	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Michael Watson	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

<b><u>Auditor</u></b>	<b><u>Bank</u></b>	<b><u>Solicitor</u></b>
Ascendis Audit Limited Unit 3, Building 2 The Colony Altrincham Road, Cheshire Wilmslow, SK9 4LY	Barclays Bank Plc 30 St Werburgh Street Chester Cheshire, CH1 1 XB	Mills & Reeve LLP 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> Floor 1 New York Street Manchester, M1 4AD

The Trustee recruitment process is open and transparent. All Trustees receive a comprehensive induction and are subject to annual appraisal and development as set out in the Active Cheshire Governance Manual. As a recognised Active Partnership commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must demonstrate compliance as a Tier 3 provider with the Code of Sports Governance.

### **Governance**

Active Cheshire's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. For the purpose of charity law, trustees act as members (see notes for member liability). Trustees are further governed by a specific Governance Manual (May 2018 and under current review in line with the Sport England Code for Sport Governance), which sets out procedures for recruitment, deployment, decision-making and the controls in place to ensure probity and transparency. As part of a national network of providers commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must comply with the national Code of Sports Governance as a Tier 3 provider.

### **Disclosures**

Active Cheshire has in place a Conflict of Interest Register where any disclosures are made on a regular basis. Declarations of Interest is an agenda item of every meeting and any person with an interest has no part in or presence at a decision.

### **Staff**

*As of 31/03/2024*

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

Board Support

#### **Head of Data and Insight**

Strategic Lead Active Environments  
Strategic Lead Workforce and Partnerships

#### **Senior Strategic Lead Mental Health**

Strategic Lead Children and Young People  
Strategic Lead Physical Activity and Health

#### **Head of Finance and Compliance**

**Head of Strategy**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**INTRODUCTION - OVERVIEW & CHARITABLE OBJECTS**

Active Cheshire is a charity that exists for public benefit. It aims to improve the health and wellbeing of local citizens with a mission to embed physical activity into all aspects of everyday life.

To achieve this it will focus on its charitable objectives to ensure that the necessary resources and information are available to make sport and physical activity happen locally. Trustees will further ensure that, in line with our objects, opportunities to get active are available to everyone, regardless of age, gender, background or ability.

**Active Cheshire's charitable objects are to:**

1. Increase opportunities to get active locally

'In the interests of social welfare, to provide or assist in the provision of opportunities for the benefit of the inhabitants of the County of Cheshire for physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time physical and athletic activity, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants';

2. Provide financial support to enable participation

'To relieve the need, hardship and distress of such inhabitants in conditions of need, hardship and distress by providing financial or other assistance so enabling them to participate in the opportunities provided by the company';

3. Inspire people to get active by promoting local opportunities

'To disseminate or assist in the dissemination of information encouraging such inhabitants to participate in physical recreation (including sport) to promote their health and wellbeing';

4. Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting opportunities for disabled people to relieve or alleviate their conditions';

5. Provide more opportunities for young people to get active

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting facilities for young persons aged under 25 years of age to secure or advance their physical education and training and enhance their education generally';

6. Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally

'Develop or assist in the development of the capacity and skills of the members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities within the county of Cheshire in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs in regard to physical and athletic recreation or other physical and athletic activity, so improving their conditions of life';

7. Provide more opportunities for older people to get active

'Provide and assist in the provision of opportunities for physical and athletic recreation or other physical activity for older people, to promote their health and well-being'.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**PROGRESS AGAINST CHARITABLE OBJECTS**

The progress we are delighted to detail here has in no small part been made possible by the investment of our strategic partners. Our principal investor, Sport England, via the Uniting the Movement strategy, has seen Active Cheshire recognised as a System Partner. This guarantees 5 years of funding to deliver against the agreed priorities. We would like to place on record, our thanks to Sport England, for their continued support and investment.

We continue to deliver against our Active Cheshire CONNECTED strategy which focuses our attention on providing the greatest possible impact upon people and communities who have the greatest difficulty in becoming active. Our role is facilitate their opportunities as a specialised infrastructure organisation, allow the development of strategies, plans and policies to chime with organisation development in communities. We do with our communities, not to them.

- **Increase opportunities to get active locally**

With the delivery of a new strategy in 2022, Active Cheshire became a strategic partner for Cheshire & Warrington focused on helping more people to become more active, more often, living longer, happier, healthier lives.

2023/4 was a year in which our system leadership role became embedded in everything we do. Our vision for more people to be more active, more often require long-term generational reform of system wide policies and processes.

For local people and organisation in Cheshire & Warrington, we continued to focus on working collaboratively, finding common ground from which we could influence the physical activity system.

In 2022, we focused our efforts on creating a physical activity system which would utilise the power of sport and physical activity to help tackle health inequalities. This work was underpinned by the creation of the All Together Active Strategy, a physical activity strategy for Cheshire and Merseyside, embedded in the Integrated Care System for Cheshire & Merseyside (NHS Cheshire & Merseyside).

Because of the strong foundations built in 2022, 2023 was a year where the power of collaboration became embedded. In-excess of 115 partners from 80+ organisations now consider themselves a partner in the All Together Active System. These partners represent over 15 different sectors including the public, private and VCSFE sectors, HE/FE, Sport, Leisure, community safety and statutory services.

We have however been able to directly impact over 18,000 people through the successful projects including the Together Fund, Children and Young People programs and Opening School Facilities Funding.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

- **Provide financial support to enable participation**

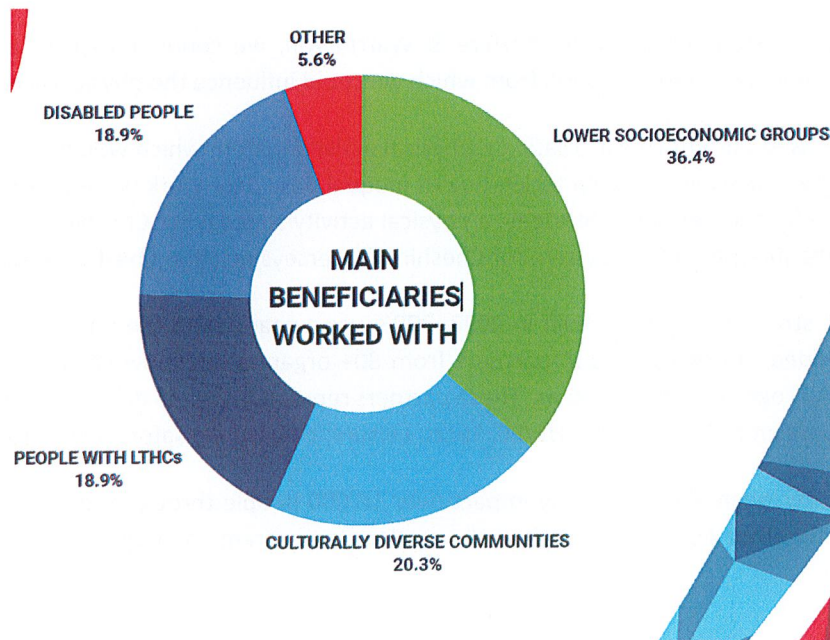
We have been able to distribute in-excess of £385,000 to local community based organisations throughout 2023/24, mainly through the Together Fund. A continuation of the phase 4 Tackling Inequalities Fund, Together Fund provided an opportunity for Active Cheshire to invest in community priorities, driven by local intelligence.

We trialled, and successfully delivered a new approach to the Together Fund in 2022/23, in that we coordinated multiple organisations around a known issue affecting a part of the population.

Across Cheshire East, Warrington and Cheshire West and Chester we successfully co-ordinated projects which assisted people with Long Term Health Conditions (LTHC's), those from Culturally Diverse Communities, those people with disabilities and people living in lower socio-economic groups. In total, 92 different organisations have worked together on these projects, 9 of which are partners to Active Cheshire.

- **Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities**

Active Cheshire is proud of our work in inclusive sport and physical activity and our long- established partnership with Activity Alliance, the lead body for inclusive sport. We utilise our funding to deliver accessible projects across Cheshire and Warrington - the numbers can be seen below:



**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

- **Provide more opportunities for young people to get active**

In March 2023, 27% of children and young people across Cheshire and Warrington are categorised by Sport England as 'inactive'. Whilst this is lower than the Northwest (32.9%) and England (32.4%), there is still a need to lower inactivity levels. We know it is important to embed good habits and create positive relationships around physical activity and movement into the lives of young people in the hope that this continues through their lives and subsequently future generations.

Throughout 2023/24 we have worked with key strategic partners to ensure consistency and togetherness, whilst trusting that working together will have a far greater impact for children and young people.

In partnership with Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust, we have invested significantly in the Beyond, the Cheshire and Merseyside Transformation Board for Children and Young People. Indeed, we have seconded a team member to lead the Healthy weight and obesity work stream. Here, we have been able to help align this stream of work, with professionals from Acute and Public Health settings, with physical activity priorities for young people, ensuring a clear framework is in place to enable more young people to benefit from physical activity.

- **Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally**

2023/24 was an exciting year for Active Cheshire, and we focused heavily on ensuring we had the right skills and experience necessary internally to lead and develop a physical activity system. Our People Plan focuses on developing a deployable, skilled and available workforce both internally and across the wider system.

As previously detailed, becoming a Sport England System Partner has also allowed us to influence the wider system to develop their skills and capacity. The All Together Active governance structure includes a workforce group, which aligns with the needs of the Cheshire and Warrington Skills Improvement Priorities (SIP) and the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMPSA) analysis of the future of the Sport and Leisure sector. Furthermore, our work to lead and shape the Local Skills Accountability Board (LSAB) in Cheshire and Warrington will ensure collaboration between employers in the Sport and Physical Activity Sector, and those education and skills providers designing and delivering education courses and qualifications for the future.

- **Provide more opportunities for older people to get active**

Our strategy focuses on a life course, meaning that whatever stage people or communities are in, they remain a priority. Age Well (along with Start Well and Live Well) ensures that the knowledge and insight widely available about the decline in physical activity into later life is shared and utilised.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Public Benefit**

This document sets out the progress made during 2023-24 towards the achievement of our strategic goals and our charitable objects. It further qualifies and quantifies the impact of our work for public benefit and should be read in conjunction with the annexed financial statements.

**Public Benefit Statement**

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

**Charity Operations**

Charity operations are overseen by Trustees and led operationally by the CEO, Mike Watson.

**Progress against Strategic Plan objectives**

Active Cheshire's CONNECTED Strategy set out a clear vision for a more active Cheshire and Warrington, through partnership, influence and delivering change.

The following sets out our achievement against those impact objectives.

**Impact Objective 1. More healthy, more active people**

We have been able to demonstrate that through our partnership and the delivery of the final 6-months of the Together Fund, in-excess of 90 partners and over 4,000 people have been positively, directly, impacted by our work.

In addition, our management of the Opening School Facilities Fund for Cheshire and Merseyside has seen us distribute £578,590 (£587,784 2022/23) to schools, leading to 6,561 young people accessing new physical activity opportunities.

**Objective 2. Greater Health Equity**

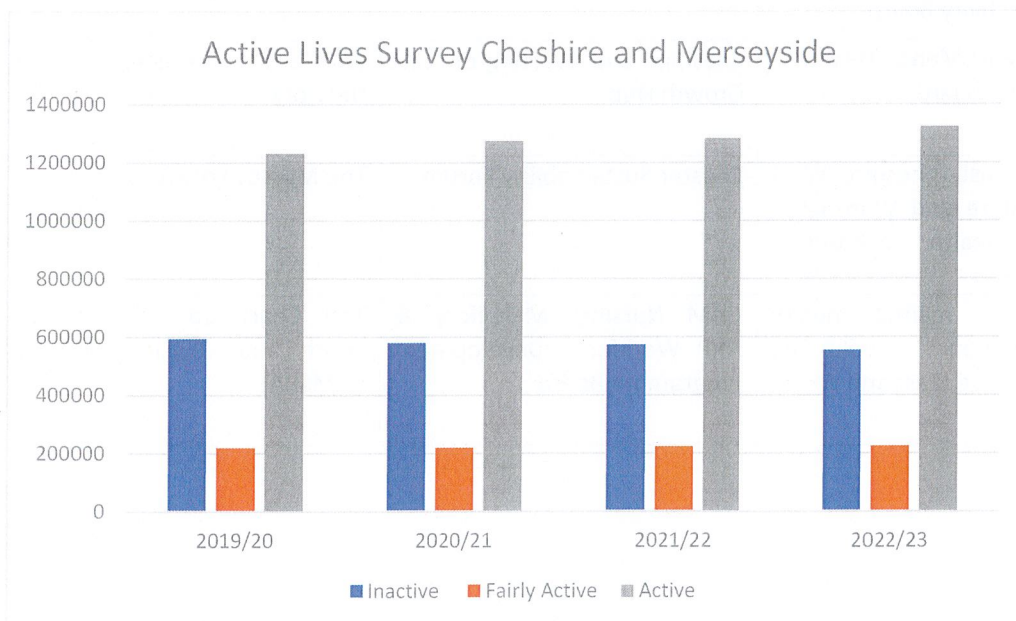
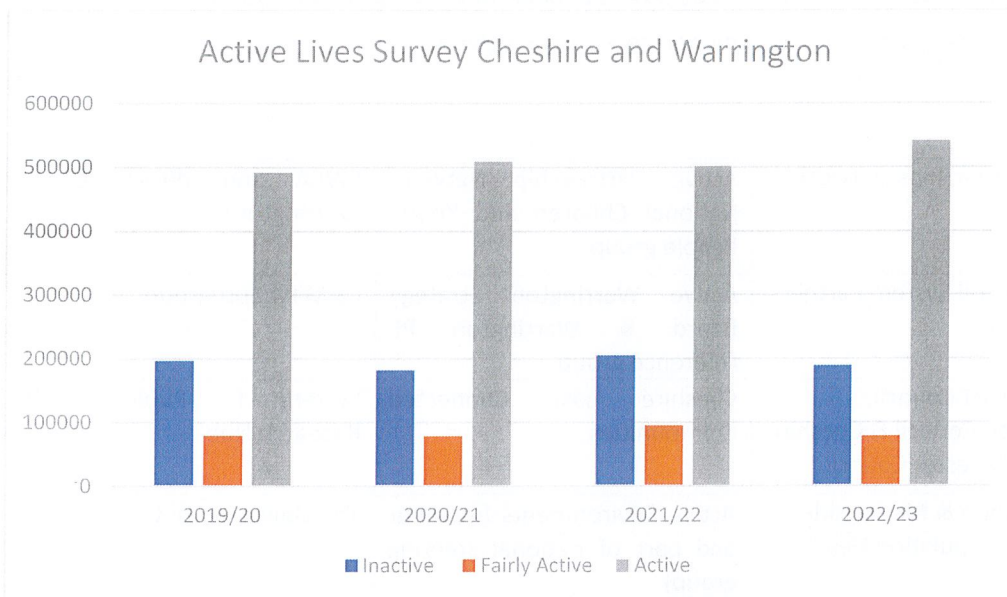
In 2022, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside published its 5 year forward plan and interim strategy, Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership (ICP) Interim Strategy. The All Together Active Strategy features prominently on page 30 of the strategy, stating 'We want a Cheshire and Merseyside in which far fewer people suffer health inequalities resulting from physical inactivity.'

Throughout 2023/24 significant work has been undertaken to embed physical activity as a health prevention priority which will become visible in the revamped NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICP strategy.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Objective 3. Increased Participation in Sport, Physical Activity and Movement**

In 2022/23, Sport England’s Active Lives survey data shows that post pandemic levels of activity have returned to pre-pandemic across England. A year further on, and it is pleasing to see that the number of active people has increased further, however, sadly, stark inequalities remain driving reasons as to why we have stubbornly high inactivity across Cheshire and Warrington.



**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

However, we know from additional research that this masks some underlying factors affecting historically underrepresented communities and we continue to work hard to understand this further and, work to combat it.

**Objective 4. High quality partnerships with key strategic stakeholders**

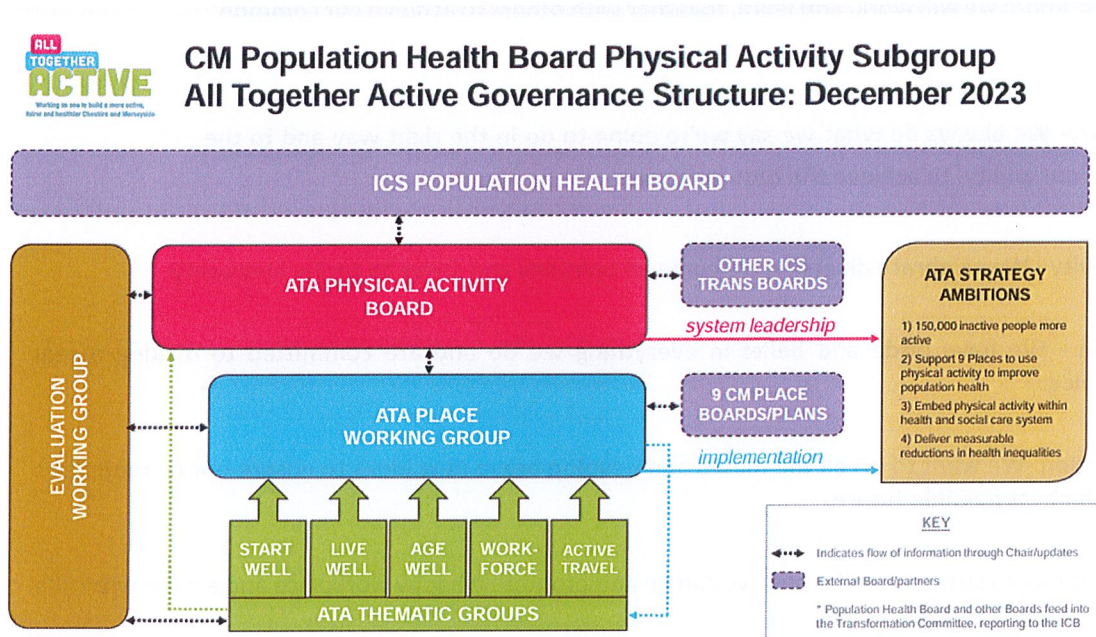
Much of the focus of our work in 2023/24 has been developing meaningful and mutual partnerships with our systems partners. These include;

Active Partnerships Network	Active Partnership Network National Children and Young People group	EWBA and WLWC (Active Warrington)
Sport England System Partners Network	Active Warrington Strategy Board & Warrington PE reference group	C&M PA Sub-group
Cheshire East Council, Warrington Council & Cheshire West and Chester Council	Cheshire East Connected Communities	System P, Public Health Research Hub
NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB/ICP & Population Health Board	Active Environments (member and part of national steering group)	The University of Chester
Cheshire & Merseyside Population Health Board Physical Activity Board	Integrated Sustainable Transport Taskforce	Sport England System Partners MEL development
Cheshire East Mental Health Partnership Board	Cheshire and Warrington LEP Growth Hub	Winsford Primary Care Network
Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Cheshire and Warrington Mental health prevention subgroups	Chester Sustainability Forum	The Mersey Forest
Community mental health transformation voluntary sector alliance (East and West)	C&M Nursing, Midwifery & AHP Workforce Development Programme Board	The Chartered Institute for Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA)

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Objective 5: A co-ordinated, functioning, physical activity system**

The foundations of a physical activity system are clear to see within the structures that surround All Together Active. 130 individuals from 22 sectors regularly come together to combine their resources, share learning and drive forward the physical activity agenda.



**CM Population Health Board Physical Activity Subgroup**  
**All Together Active Governance Structure: December 2023**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ATA PHYSICAL ACTIVITY BOARD</b></p> <p>Overall accountability for ensuring that the aims of the All Together Active strategy are achieved, with main decision-making responsibilities.</p> <p>Co-chaired by Active Cheshire and MSP, membership consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic representatives from the subregional health system</li> <li>• Strategic representatives from national organisations</li> <li>• Chairs of each of the 7 All Together Active working/thematic groups</li> <li>• Strategic representatives from other subregional Transformation Boards/partnerships</li> <li>• Representatives of the Place Working Group</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ATA PLACE WORKING GROUP</b></p> <p>Responsible for the implementation of the All Together Active strategy across the 9 Cheshire and Merseyside Places:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheshire East</li> <li>• Cheshire West and Chester</li> <li>• Halton</li> <li>• Knowsley</li> <li>• Liverpool</li> <li>• Sefton</li> <li>• St Helens</li> <li>• Warrington</li> <li>• Wirral</li> </ul> <p>x3 strategic reps from each Place, who between them represent each Place's Health &amp; Wellbeing Board, Place-based Partnership Board, All Together Fairer work and VCSE representation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ATA EVALUATION WORKING GROUP</b></p> <p>Representatives from local academic institutions and research stakeholders, working together to build a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework to ensure that the All Together Active ambitions are measured and evaluated, with learning shared to benefit all stakeholders.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ATA THEMATIC GROUPS</b></p> <p>Strategic/operational partners with specific interest and expertise within life-course and themes from the All Together Active strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Start Well (0-18 years)</li> <li>2. Live Well (working age adults)</li> <li>3. Age Well (adults in later life)</li> <li>4. Workforce (staff development)</li> <li>5. Active Travel (walking &amp; wheeling)</li> </ol>		

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Our Culture**

Staff turnover is now very low and we have embedded our new values -

**Collaboration: we will work, and learn, together with others to achieve our common goals.**

**Integrity- We always do what we say we're going to do in the right way and to the best of our ability, to achieve the best outcomes.**

**Inclusivity - We celebrate diversity, welcome all opinions and strive to tackle inequality.**

**Passion - We have pride and belief in everything we do and are committed to making a real difference.**

**Innovation -We want to break the mould and develop brave new ideas to ensure our communities have the best possible future.**

We continue to strive to be the best we can be and promote a happy workplace and a good work/life balance for all our staff.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Financial Review**

Sport England remains the principal funding source of Active Cheshire with £768,848 achieved, although not all of this income contributes to the charity's overhead costs (£189,058 are restricted funds).

The key factors likely to affect future financial performance are:

1. **Availability of public funds** including Lottery which is at risk given the incalculable impact of the unpredictability of future lottery sales which impacts on Sport England investment. Active Cheshire's current funding award commits funds from Sport England through until March 2027.
2. Our ability to present and grow a strong **value proposition to the local marketplace**, ie the performance and impact of new services (eg Active Kids and Active Workplace) which will support income diversification and is funded directly by the client recipient on behalf of beneficiaries.
3. **Pension liability** and any debt arising from crystallisation. Whilst currently a surplus, any return to deficit would impact our annual accounts and balance sheet and distort the view of income growth given its size. This would affect viability and confidence in the organisation. The unpredictable nature of the figure is a challenge which we hope to mitigate through a personalised review of any future specific liability as a somewhat untraditional local government employer (atypical in size and scale).

Active Cheshire achieved an in-year position that was more favourable than anticipated with an in year operating surplus of (pre pension adjustments) £151,654. This compares to the prior year operating surplus of £24,758 and thus gives a cumulative operating surplus of £466,121 (£314,467 last year). Active Cheshire has now exceeded the £300,000 required in the Surplus Reserve Policy and will investigate opportunities to determine suitable investment opportunities for the surplus.

The organisation's defined benefit pension scheme has a gross accounting surplus at the reporting date of £710,000. In line with FRS 102 requirements Active Cheshire can only recognise this as an asset on the balance sheet to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the plan. The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events. Accordingly, Active Cheshire has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

At the end of the financial year the bank and cash balance stood at £652,758. The trade debtors were £2,626 (net of £3,324 bad debt provision), and trade creditors were £86,072. Prepayments were £3,369 and deferred income, accruals and other creditors stood at £116,676. There were no concerns regarding and of the balance sheet balances.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Financial Review** (continued)

The charity anticipates a trading deficit of £95,356 in the 2024-25 financial year. This is due to funds received in 2023\_24, with expenditure of those funds expected 2024\_25. The trustees have no concerns about the organisation remaining a going concern over the coming years.

**Reserves Policy**

Active Cheshire has in place a Reserves Policy to manage its levels of reserves and balances. We define "Reserves" as that part of our income funds that is freely available for operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits and not tied up in fixed assets. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that the Charity's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, considering risks associated with individual income streams, expenditure varying from budget, planned activity levels and organisational commitments. We use our reserves policy to inform our treasury management approach (eg the way in which we manage cash, liquid assets and debt).

The reserves that we have set aside provide financial stability and the means for the development of our principal activity.

**Decision Making**

The Board makes strategic decisions on behalf of the Charity. Operational decisions are the responsibility of the CEO. The specifics of this arrangement are set out clearly within our Scheme of Delegation.

The process for making decisions is presented below. Operational decisions that may affect the strategic direction of the business will be discussed at the sub-groups and endorsed formally at Board. Equally, where strategic decisions are determined by the Board, these can be given substance through sub-group discussions with CEO.

1. Strategic Direction (Trustees agree strategy for the Charity and an Annual Business Plan)
2. Operational Implementation (CEO is responsible for delivery of the Annual Business Plan within agreed parameters and budget.
3. Operational Review / Legislative Change (Each year a mid-year business review takes place taking into consideration changes in the micro and macro environment and reflecting on progress to date/lessons learned). Regular performance reviews also take place quarterly at both Subgroup and Board.
4. Proposal to Amend / Review (the review may result in immediate change where deemed necessary or most likely to inform priorities within the following year's business plan).
5. Sub-group Review & Recommendation: scrutiny, advocacy and challenge is applied by subgroup members who will challenge any change or recommendations to ensure that proposals are robust, viable and align to charitable objects. A refined Business Plan is then presented to the entire Board with Budget for approval.
6. Return to point 1 to begin the cycle again

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Decision Making** (continued)

A NOMCOM Committee exists with delegated responsibility as set out in the Terms of Reference agreed by the Board. This group is the primary group responsible for making recommendations for the remuneration and pay policy for key management personnel although the People and Performance Subgroup can also recommend changes for Board consideration.

**Remuneration of key management personnel**

Active Cheshire is committed to ensuring that we pay our people fairly and in a way which ensures we attract and retain the right skills to have the greatest impact in delivering our charitable objectives. Our approach to executive pay is in line with the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (AECVO) Good Pay Guide. In line with Active Cheshire's commitment to equality and diversity (see separate policy), Active Cheshire is committed to equal pay.

Active Cheshire remuneration policy and procedure sits with the Nomination Committee (NOMCOM), which meets quarterly. The Committee is comprised of the Chair of Active Cheshire (also NOMCOM Chair), the Senior Independent Director and Vice-Chairs. Meetings are minuted.

The Committee sets the pay structure for the organisation and the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management.

The CEO is in attendance for the meeting (leaving for the discussion regarding the CEO's remuneration) and no members of the executive are members of the committee. Decisions by NOMCOM require ratification by full Board.

NOMCOM meets annually to ensure that any remuneration is decided in the context of wider financial performance.

The Committee will consider facts prepared by the CEO to provide context for decision-making including:

- § The organisation's current financial position
- § Any existing or emerging risks that may impact on the organisation's financial stability
- § Comparing the competitiveness of Active Cheshire salary banding against credible independent market benchmarks
- § RPI as at 31 December
- § Public and Third-Sector pay awards and any related sensitivities
- § Individual and Team performance
- § Past-performance benchmarks
- § The significance of employees in delivering Active Cheshire's charitable vision and purpose

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Remuneration of key management personnel (continued)**

The Committee will consider the reflections and recommendations of the Chair, during his formal appraisal of the CEO against agreed objectives to determine the remuneration package (including any annual bonus) of the Chief Executive.

Discussion will take place within the meeting and any conclusions drawn will be presented to full Board for ratification and will be minuted in line with data protection laws.

The Chair will provide feedback to the CEO and will write formally to set out any decisions made and ensure inclusion of pay within published documentation (eg Annual Accounts/Reports) will be made to ensure legal compliance.

**Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity.

**Managing Risk**

Risks are appraised regularly at an operational and strategic level and are recorded within a Risk Register. The register scores risks based on potential impact and likelihood and sets out plans for mitigation. Risk is discussed at every Board (and sub-group) meeting and reported via operational management meetings. A root and branch review is conducted annually with a detailed appraisal of macro and micro environment at the annual Strategic Planning Day.

**Key risks**

There are 3 core risks actively managed by Trustees as follows:

(Key: 'L'= Low, 'M'=Medium, 'H'=High)

1. Team stability: given strategic changes the team has expanded and some long-serving employees have moved on to new careers. This has caused internal disruption and affected organisational memory, placing increased dependency on fewer, longer-serving staff.

Impact: H      Likelihood of continued turnover: M

Mitigation: a new induction process has enabled recruits to bed into the team and establish themselves, their networks, confidence and competences. A clearer performance-management system has been introduced to ensure regular engagement with staff to ensure that they are progressing well and feel supported. Careful financial management has been applied to income targets to ensure that responsibilities are shared across the team and reserves are used responsibly as contingency to alleviate pressure on individuals. The organisational has also invested into a new CRM system to ensure that relationships and engagement is recorded and accessible by the whole team. There has been no staff turnover in 2023-24.

Mitigated Impact: H      Mitigated likelihood of continued turnover: L

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Key risks (continued)**

2. Pension liability: there is 1 staff member still enrolled in the Local Government (Defined Benefit) Pension Scheme (as of end of year 2024), originally a Final Salary Pension Scheme but converted to a Career Average Pension Scheme in 2014. The Local Government Pension Scheme was closed to new employees in 2015 and replaced with a Direct Contribution Benefit Scheme. The Defined Benefit Pension Scheme has been a surplus for the past two years, but there is uncertainty about what will happen next year. There is a further risk of debt crystallisation should staff leave and/or the scheme close.

Impact: H      Likelihood of increased costs: H

Mitigation: In 2022/23 the Trustees invited Cheshire Pension Fund (CPF) to meet to discuss the challenge, along with our accountants. CPF recognised the likelihood of our scheme closure at some point in the next 5-10 years and confirmed that it would collaborate with Active Cheshire proactively to determine a repayment plan should debt crystallise.

Mitigated Impact: M      Mitigated likelihood of unplanned costs: M

3. Future funding from major funder: Sport England continues to be the largest funder investing in Active Cheshire, representing 72% of total annual income. Their mandate recognising Active Cheshire as their 'agent' locally also gives credibility to the organisation. Sport England remains a lottery distributor nationally and continues to invest into a network of Active Partnerships like Active Cheshire. Funds have reduced with changes to the structure of lottery ticket pricing structure and income levels.

Impact: H      Likelihood of reduced funding: M

Mitigation: Active Cheshire recognised the risk of dependency on a single funder in 2014 and committed to diversifying income which is progressing well. New products relating to the Blueprint Strategy have been developed and are generating income locally. Relationships with Sport England remain strong and Active Cheshire has secured funding through to 2027. Contract performance remains strong with most contracts exceeding requirements in terms of output, innovation and impact. Active Cheshire invested in a dedicated manager, now embedded in role, to further develop relationships with Sport England and our national counterparts. This will provide greater visibility, an opportunity to promote our work and increase partnership and funding prospects.

Mitigated Impact: M      Mitigated likelihood of reduced income: L

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.
- The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions,

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Ascendis Audit Limited, who were appointed during the year, will be recommended for re-appointment under Section 485 of Companies Act 2006

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Martin Bryan Pearson – Trustee and Chair

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Active Cheshire "the charitable company" for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### 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 charitable company 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 Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

### 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 (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE

In connection with our audit of the financial statements 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- The information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 21, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of laws, regulations and guidance that affect the charitable company, focusing on those that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws, regulations and guidance that we identified included the Companies Act 2006, tax legislation, health and safety legislation, and employment legislation.
- We enquired of the Trustees and reviewed correspondence and Trustee meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the Trustees have in place, where necessary, to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks.
- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Ascendis Audit Limited*

Paul Byrne BA (Double Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

Ascendis Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor

Unit 3, Building 2

The Colony

Altrincham Road

Cheshire

Wilmslow SK9 4LY

Date:

*27<sup>th</sup> September 2024*

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**


	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/24 Total funds £	31/3/23 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	802,006	189,058	991,064	727,672
Other trading activities	3	68,199	-	68,199	46,121
Investment income	4	<u>8,985</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,985</u>	<u>1,518</u>
<b>Total</b>		879,190	189,058	1,068,248	775,311
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	5	196,637	189,058	385,695	236,602
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities		<u>498,899</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>498,899</u>	<u>530,951</u>
<b>Total</b>		695,536	189,058	884,594	767,553
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		183,654	-	183,654	7,758
<b>Other recognised gains</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	19	<u>(32,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(32,000)</u>	<u>250,000</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		151,654	-	151,654	257,758
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>314,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>314,467</u>	<u>56,709</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>466,121</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>466,121</u></u>	<u><u>314,467</u></u>

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/24 Total funds £	31/3/23 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	13	5,752	-	5,752	9,003
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	14	10,359	-	10,359	57,776
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>625,458</u>	<u>27,300</u>	<u>652,758</u>	<u>707,030</u>
		635,817	27,300	663,117	764,806
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(175,448)	(27,300)	(202,748)	(459,342)
		<u>460,369</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>460,369</u>	<u>305,464</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		466,121	-	466,121	314,467
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>					
	19	-	-	-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		<u>466,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>466,121</u>	<u>314,467</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	17			(466,121)	(314,467)
Pension Reserve				-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
				<u>(466,121)</u>	<u>(314,467)</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 27 Sept 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr Martin Bryan Pearson -Trustee and Chair

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	31/3/24 £	31/3/23 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash (used by)/generated from operations		<u>(63,257)</u>	<u>200,598</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<u>(63,257)</u>	<u>200,598</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(4,550)
Interest received		<u>8,985</u>	<u>1,518</u>
<b>Net cash provided/(used in) investing activities</b>		<u>8,985</u>	<u>(3,032)</u>
		<u>(54,272)</u>	<u>197,566</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		(54,272)	197,566
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>707,030</u>	<u>509,464</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u>652,758</u>	<u>707,030</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
<b>Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	183,654	7,758
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	3,251	2,996
Interest received	(8,985)	(1,518)
Decrease /(Increase) in debtors	47,417	(32,875)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(256,594)	207,238
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>(32,000)</u>	<u>17,000</u>
<b>Net cash (used)/provided by operating activities</b>	<u>(63,257)</u>	<u>200,598</u>

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

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charitable company is registered in England and Wales.

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (£) and transactions are rounded to the nearest £.

**Going concern**

The balance sheet shows an overall surplus of £466,121 (2023 £314,467) at the year end date. The trustees have reviewed the charity's expected cashflows for the foreseeable future and have concluded that it is able to meet its financial obligations, including cash contributions to the Cheshire Pension Fund, as they fall due. Thus the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis and no material uncertainties exist as to whether the charitable company is able to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

**Income (including government grants)**

All incoming resources are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of provision of specified services is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

All Grant income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds, having performed the obligations under any grant conditions, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Trading income is recognised on delivery of the goods or service as per the contract and as delivered on the balance sheet date as a proportion of the total contract value. Where the amount of income is contingent on future events, this is only recognised where the amount of income can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the economic benefits will be received. When this cannot be estimated reliably, income is only recognised to the value of the goods and service that it is considered probable will be recovered. Goods or services provided to the client which at the balance sheet date have not been billed have been recognised as income and are included in debtors as accrued income.

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

**Expenditure**

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

**Grants payable**

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the Charity's objects. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant awarded. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the one-year or multi-year grant. Grant awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Charity.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The provision for a multi-year grant is recognised at its present value where settlement is due over more than one year from the date of the award, there are no unfulfilled performance conditions under the control of the Charity that would permit the Charity to avoid making the future payment(s), settlement is probable, and the effect of discounting is material.

**Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

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

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

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

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

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charity contributes to a defined benefit pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested when a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of material reduction in the scheme membership or reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the Statement of Financial Activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of the return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme surplus (to the extent that it can be recovered) is recognised in full on the Balance Sheet, net of related deferred tax.

The charity also contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. Contributions to this scheme are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

**Irrecoverable vat**

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

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

**Cash at bank**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash held on deposit with a short maturity of three months or less.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Financial assets are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs) and subsequently held at cost, less any impairment.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form. Financial liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (after deducting transaction costs) and subsequently held at amortised cost.

**Key judgements and estimates**

The accounting policies above which, represent key judgements and estimates are:-

Creditors - there is £85,667 included in deferred income, this represents an estimate of the income received for which work has not yet been undertaken. This is shown in note 16.

Pension - The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability/surplus depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension's liability/asset. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability/asset at 31 March 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability/asset.

FRS 102 requires that defined benefit plan surpluses are recognised only to the extent that they are recoverable either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. The accounting valuation of the Cheshire Pension Fund at 31 March 2024 identified an accounting surplus of £710K. The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events. Accordingly, Active Cheshire judge that there is insufficient evidence to support the recoverability of the plan's surplus and therefore has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

**Taxation**

The Trustees consider that requirements for the exemption from taxation set out in the Income Tax Act 2007, Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are met and, therefore, no provision is made for taxation.

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

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Grants and contracts	<u>991,064</u>	<u>727,672</u>

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

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Sport England	768,848	616,715
Champs Public Health Collaborative	172,400	73,441
Other Local Commissions	49,816	37,516
	<u>991,064</u>	<u>727,672</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Sundry income	<u>68,199</u>	<u>46,121</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>8,985</u>	<u>1,518</u>

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

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

2024	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 6)	Support costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching		385,695		385,695
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>419,278</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,621</u>	<u>498,899</u>
	<u><u>419,278</u></u>	<u><u>385,695</u></u>	<u><u>79,621</u></u>	<u><u>884,594</u></u>
2023	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 6)	Support costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	-	236,602	-	236,602
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>473,337</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,614</u>	<u>530,951</u>
	<u><u>473,337</u></u>	<u><u>236,602</u></u>	<u><u>57,614</u></u>	<u><u>767,553</u></u>

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

**6. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>385,695</u>	<u>236,602</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Champs Public Health- National Partner	3,019	9,657
ICS Strategy	84,732	42,228
Opening School Facilities*	26,616	26,616
Tackling Inequality*	162,780	102,098
Moving Communities*	26,400	-
AT Fest	22,706	3,945
CWP Mental Health	14,218	-
Opening School Facilities*	12,000	12,000
Children & Young People*	<u>33,224</u>	<u>40,058</u>
	<u>385,695</u>	<u>236,602</u>

\* Fully funded by Sport England

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

2024	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Accountancy and Professional Services	-	2,275	2,275
Audit	-	7,500	7,500
Payroll and HR	3,508	-	3,508
Other	<u>64,540</u>	<u>1,798</u>	<u>66,338</u>
	<u>68,048</u>	<u>11,573</u>	<u>79,621</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

2023	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Accountancy and Professional Services	-	26,233	26,233
Audit	-	9,500	9,500
Payroll and HR	888	-	888
Other	<u>18,647</u>	<u>2,346</u>	<u>20,993</u>
	<u>19,535</u>	<u>38,079</u>	<u>57,614</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

**8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Auditors remuneration-audit fee	7,500	9,500
Depreciation - owned assets	3,251	2,996
Lease payments-Rent/Photocopier/Container	<u>10,561</u>	<u>11,515</u>

**9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no payments to trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024 (2023 £0)

**Trustees' expenses**

There was £1,798 paid to trustees for expenses paid in 2023-24 (2023 £285).

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

**10. STAFF COSTS**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	310,092	318,063
Social security costs	27,711	34,749
Other pension costs	<u>40,491</u>	<u>18,666</u>
	<u>378,294</u>	<u>371,478</u>

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

	31/3/24	31/3/23
Partnership Services	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 (pro-rata) was:

	31/3/24	31/3/23
£60,000 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and Chief Executive. The total employee Benefits of the key management personnel were £67,113 (2023 £65,292). The Trust purchased no Consultancy services from Trustees during the year (2023 £0)

**11. EX GRATIA PAYMENTS**

The charity made no settlement payment during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 (2023 None).

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

**12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	625,574	102,098	727,672
Other trading activities	46,121	-	46,121
Investment income	<u>1,518</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,518</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>673,213</b>	<b>102,098</b>	<b>775,311</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	134,504	102,098	236,602
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>530,951</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>530,951</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>665,455</u></b>	<b><u>102,098</u></b>	<b><u>767,553</u></b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>7,758</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,758</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>			
Actuarial gain on defined benefit scheme	<u>250,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>250,000</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>257,758</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>257,758</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>56,709</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,709</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b><u><u>314,467</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>-</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>314,467</u></u></b>

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

**13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Totals
	£	£	£
At 1 April 2023 and at 31 March 2024	<u>16,580</u>	<u>31,795</u>	<u>48,375</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 April 2023	16,485	22,888	39,373
Charge for year	<u>95</u>	<u>3,156</u>	<u>3,251</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>16,580</u>	<u>26,044</u>	<u>42,624</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 March 2023	<u>95</u>	<u>8,908</u>	<u>9,003</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>5,752</u>	<u>5,752</u>

**14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Trade debtors	2,626	57,871
Prepayments and accrued income	3,369	1,155
Other Debtors	255	-
VAT	4,109	(1,250)
	<u>10,359</u>	<u>57,776</u>

**15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Trade creditors	86,072	63,394
Social security and other taxes	8,318	14,342
Accruals and deferred income	<u>108,358</u>	<u>381,606</u>
	<u>202,748</u>	<u>459,342</u>

Deferred income included above represents monies being held on behalf of other organisations or has been received but no work commissioned at the balance sheet date.

Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023	319,671
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(304,671)
Amount Deferred in year	<u>70,667</u>
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	<u>85,667</u>

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

**16. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

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

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Within one year - Building Lease	<u>2,531</u>	<u>10,215</u>

**17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/23	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/24
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	474,198	(8,077)	466,121
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Tracking Inequality	(159,731)	159,731	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>314,467</u>	<u>151,654</u>	<u>466,121</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and (losses)	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	879,190	(727,536)	-	151,654
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Tracking Inequality/Moving Communities	189,058	(189,058)	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,068,248</u>	<u>(916,594)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,654</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 24**

**17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/23 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General fund	289,709	24,758	314,467
Defined benefit scheme fund	<u>(233,000)</u>	<u>233,000</u>	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>56,709</u>	<u>257,758</u>	<u>314,467</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and (losses) £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	673,213	(648,455)	233,000	257,758
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Tackling Inequality	102,098	(102,098)	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>775,311</u>	<u>(750,553)</u>	<u>233,000</u>	<u>257,758</u>

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or terms of an agreement.

The balances on the restricted funds (currently there is no restricted balance) are held within the charity in order to provide, in future periods, the specific delivery of activities in accordance with the restrictions under which the income was provided.

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

**18. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

Cash and cash equivalent	At 1/4/23	Cash flows	At 31/3/24
Cash	<u>£ 707,030</u>	<u>(£54,272)</u>	<u>£652,758</u>

**19. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity participates in the Cheshire Pension fund, part of the local government scheme, a defined benefit statutory scheme in accordance with local government pension scheme regulations 1997 as amended, Cheshire West and Chester Council administers the fund.

The total contribution made for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £13,000 (2023 - £12,000) of which employer's contributions totalled £10,000 (2023 - £9,000) and employees' contributions totalled £3,000 (2023 - £3,000).

Robert Bilton FFA of Hymans Robertson carried out a full actuarial valuation at 31 March 2022.

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Fair value of plan assets	<u>2,016,000</u>	<u>1,887,000</u>
Defined benefit obligation	<u>1,306,000</u>	<u>1,306,000</u>
Surplus not recognised	<u>710,000</u> <u>(710,000)</u>	<u>581,000</u> <u>(581,000)</u>
Net surplus/(liability)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Active Cheshire has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

The plan has a gross accounting surplus at the reporting date of £710k. In line with FRS 102 requirements Active Cheshire has not recognised an asset on the balance sheet as it is unable to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the plan.

The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events.

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

**19. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Current service cost	6,000	20,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	<u>(28,000)</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<u>(22,000)</u>	<u>26,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>125,000</u>	<u>(651,000)</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation	1,306,000	2,767,000
Current service cost	6,000	20,000
Contributions by scheme participants	3,000	3,000
Interest cost	62,000	76,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	(62,000)	(1,552,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(9,000)</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>
	<u>1,306,000</u>	<u>1,306,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets	1,887,000	2,534,000
Contributions by employer	10,000	9,000
Contributions by scheme participants	3,000	3,000
Expected return	90,000	70,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	35,000	(721,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(9,000)</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>
	<u>2,016,000</u>	<u>1,887,000</u>

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

**19. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
Actuarial gains	<u>97,000</u>	<u>831,000</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/24	31/3/23
Equities	50%	48%
Bonds	36%	36%
Property	12%	13%
Cash	2%	3%

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages)

	31/3/24	31/3/23
Discount rate	4.85%	4.75%
Future salary increases	3.45%	3.65%
Future pension increases	2.75%	2.95%

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	31/3/24	31/3/23
Retiring today:		
Males	21.1	21.2
Females	23.4	23.6
Future:		
Males	23.0	23.1
Females	26.0	26.3

**Defined contribution scheme**

The company makes contributions to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. The cost for the period was £30,709 (2023 - £11,203).

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

**20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

During the year Active Cheshire paid £112 (2023 £0) to the Lancashire Football Association of which one of the trustees, Simon Gerrard, is CEO.

All related party transactions have taken place on an arm's length basis and the individuals connected to Active Cheshire and its related party are not involved in any decisions relating to such transactions.

**21. FUNDRAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity raises charitable funds in-house and does not engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator to carry out these activities. The charity has not bound itself to a voluntary scheme for regulating fund-raising and has not received any complaints with respect to its fund-raising. The charity avoids unreasonable intrusion into a person's privacy, unreasonable persistent approaches and undue pressure on persons in connection with fund-raising.

**22. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

**23. DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING FROM PUBLIC BODIES**

	Sport England	Champs Public Health Collaborative	Local Commissions	Alder Hey Children's NHS	RSPH	Non- Public	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue grants	768,848	172,400	27,500	-	6,600	-	975,348
Capital grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Membership Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sponsorship Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	-	-	44,918	15,716	-	32,266	92,900
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>768,848</b>	<b>172,400</b>	<b>27,500</b>	<b>15,716</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>32,266</b>	<b>1,068,248</b>
Salaries	378,294	-	-	-	-	-	378,294
Overheads/Support costs	61,508	-	-	-	-	-	61,508
Inactivity projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Delivery projects	222,404	87,751	52,834	-	-	22,706	385,695
Capital facilities projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clubs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Young People	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other costs	91,097	-	-	-	-	-	91,097
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>753,303</b>	<b>87,751</b>	<b>52,834</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,706</b>	<b>916,594</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>15,545</b>	<b>84,649</b>	<b>19,584</b>	<b>15,716</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>9,560</b>	<b>151,654</b>

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

**23. DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING FROM PUBLIC BODIES - continued**

	Sport England	Champs Public Health Collaborative	Local Commissions	Alder Hey Children's NHS	RSPH	Non- Public	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash Reconciliation</b>							
Released to Income Statement	537,740	1,751	37,384	(3,108)	-	22,706	596,923
Transfer to deferred grant	70,167	-	15,000	-	500	-	85,667
<b>Cash received during financial year</b>	<b>607,907</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>52,834</b>	<b>(3,108)</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>22,706</b>	<b>682,590</b>
<b>Deferred grant reconciliation</b>							
Opening balance	215,563	86,000	15,000	3,108	-	-	319,671
Transfers in	70,167	-	15,000	-	500	-	85,667
Release to Income Statement	(215,563)	(86,000)	(15,000)	(3,108)	-	-	(319,671)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>70,167</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85,667</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>753,303</b>	<b>87,751</b>	<b>52,834</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,706</b>	<b>916,594</b>
<b>Deferred grant reconciliation</b>							
Opening balance	215,563	86,000	15,000	3,108	-	-	319,671
Cash received	607,907	1,751	52,834	(3,108)	500	22,706	682,590
Release to Income Statement	(753,303)	(87,751)	(52,834)	-	-	(22,706)	(916,594)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>70,167</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85,667</b>

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

**24. CONTINGENT LIABILITY**

Active Cheshire is subject to a potential claim for retrospective service charges arising from the 2019-24 lease agreement for their main office accommodation at Wyvern House, Winsford. The outcome of the potential claim is uncertain at the date of approval of the financial statements.

The outcome of the liability is dependent upon negotiations between the two parties (Active Cheshire and Cheshire West and Chester Council, the Landlord) which may include legal dispute resolution due to the inaction of the landlord to enact their invoicing obligations.

The potential financial exposure in respect of the potential claim is £4,556 for the 2023/4 financial year. Active Cheshire should not recognise a provision for a potential claim because it is not 'probable' (defined in FRS102 as 'more likely than not') that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the claim. This amount is below materiality.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	31/3/24	31/3/23
	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Grants and contracts	991,064	727,672
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Sundry income	<u>68,199</u>	<u>46,121</u>
	1,059,263	773,793
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	<u>8,985</u>	<u>1,518</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	1,068,248	775,311
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Bad debts	(1,020)	3,455
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Contribution to partners	385,695	236,602
Contribution to partners wages allocated	-	3,809
Wages	310,092	310,445
Social Security	27,711	34,749
Pensions	40,491	18,667
Equipment and facilities	4,316	254
Insurance	2,858	3,176
Telephone	3,170	3,450
Printing, postage and photocopying	1,029	1,055
Sundry office costs	11,503	7,491
Travelling expenses	7,516	5,022
Training fees	4,266	3,942
Rent and premises costs	9,921	11,515
Marketing	25,125	30,827
Refreshments	1,537	1,195
Computer expenses	2,713	6,273
Professional fees	54,868	15,780
Memberships and subscriptions	12,748	14,004
Expected return on pension scheme assets / FRS102 Contribution	(4,000)	11,000
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	(28,000)	6,000
	<u>873,559</u>	<u>725,256</u>





**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 701764

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 701764



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

**Contents of the Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2023.**

<b>CHAIR'S FOREWORD</b> .....	3
<b>REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)</b> .....	4
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED</b> .....	22
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	26
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> .....	27
<b>CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	28
<b>NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	29
<b>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b> .....	30
<b>DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	48
(This does not form part of the financial statements)	

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**CHAIR'S FOREWORD**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

The last year has been a positive year for the charity, continuing the trend of recent years.

The activities detailed in the 'Achievements and Performance' section of this report highlight some notable milestones that have reached our target groups across Cheshire and Warrington. These encompass all age ranges, demographics and abilities.

Underpinning the achievements of the Active Cheshire team are the continuing development and maturity of our relationship with our key strategic partners. Without this level of engagement and support, our task would be much more difficult. We are grateful to those organisations we work with for the partnership, insight and delivery on the ground. This approach is embodied in the success of the Together Fund, which brings different organisations together to support key objectives by utilising their local intelligence. Testimonies from those taking part in these activities demonstrate a positive outcome for those involved.

I am delighted to say our Operational team led by Mike Watson our CEO, continues to grow in influence, insight and maturity. Their focus and dedication are very much appreciated by the board.

The board took the decision this year to bring our Finance & Compliance function in-house and although not part of this report I am pleased to report ahead of time that we will see the benefit of this in future years.

Many of the actions from the external governance report delivered in the previous year have been implemented. Changes to the board agenda and structure are now 'routine business' including the key change of 'board time only' at our quarterly board meetings.

The financial performance of the charity remains in a strong position with our main funder Sport England now supporting a multi-year funding agreement. We are grateful for this level of future proofing and in the confidence in our ability to deliver against our shared objectives.

The board has undergone some transition during the year with Trustees leaving. I would like to record my thanks for their commitment to the charity during their term of office and wish them well for the future. A recruitment campaign has started and will complete later in 2023.

The board looks forward to continuing to provide oversight and governance control over our operational activities and implementation of our charity objectives and strategy to deliver locally across our region.

**Mr Martin Bryan Pearson – Chair, Active Cheshire**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Members of the Board and Professional Advisers**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. This report includes the Directors Report for the purposes of the company law.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Members of the Board and Professional Advisers

**The Charity**

Charity No.: 701764  
 Company No.: 02401068  
 Registered Charity Name: Active Cheshire Limited  
 Registered Office: Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 1AH

**Trustees**

<b><u>Trustees</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Martin Pearson	Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2017
Susan Sellers	Senior Independent Director	29 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
William Evans	Vice-Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2014
Heather Barnes	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Rachel Waterman	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Stephen Law-Lyons	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Iain Lancaster	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Simon Gerrard	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Gale Butler	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Joseph Onions	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Kate Morris-Bates	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Claire Thompson	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Adam Sullivan	Trustee	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Trustees – resigned in year**

		<b><u>Date of Resignation</u></b>
Paula Cohen	Trustee	3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2023
Davinder Gill	Trustee	2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023
Dr Paul Hancock OBE	Chair	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022
Gale Butler	Trustee	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2023

**Chief Executive Officer**

	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Michael Watson	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Auditor**

Beever and Struthers  
St George's House  
215-219 Chester Road  
Manchester, M15 4JE

**Bank**

Barclays Bank Plc  
30 St Werburgh Street  
Chester  
Cheshire, CH1 1XB

**Solicitor**

Mills & Reeve LLP  
8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1 New York Street  
Manchester, M1 4AD

The Trustee recruitment process is open and transparent. All Trustees receive a comprehensive induction and are subject to annual appraisal and development as set out in the Active Cheshire Limited Governance Manual. As a recognised Active Partnership commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must demonstrate compliance as a Tier 3 provider with the Code of Sports Governance.

**Governance**

Active Cheshire's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. For the purpose of charity law, trustees act as members (see notes for member liability). Trustees are further governed by a specific Governance Manual (May 2018 and under current review in line with the Sport England Code for Sport Governance), which sets out procedures for recruitment, deployment, decision-making and the controls in place to ensure probity and transparency. As part of a national network of providers commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must comply with the national Code of Sports Governance as a Tier 3 provider.

**Disclosures**

Active Cheshire has in place a Conflict of Interest Register where any disclosures are made on a regular basis. Declarations of Interest is an agenda item of every meeting and any person with an interest has no part in or presence at a decision.

**Staff**

*As of 31/03/2023*

**Chief Executive Officer**

Board Support

**Local Area Team Manager**

Strategic Partnership Manager Active Minds  
Strategic Lead for Physical Activity and Health

**Head of Finance and Compliance**

**Head of Strategy**

Strategic Lead for Active Kids  
Interim National Contracts Officer

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**INTRODUCTION - OVERVIEW & CHARITABLE OBJECTS**

Active Cheshire Limited is a charity that exists for public benefit. It aims to improve the health and wellbeing of local citizens with a mission to embed physical activity into all aspects of everyday life.

To achieve this it will focus on its charitable objectives to ensure that the necessary resources and information are available to make sport and physical activity happen locally. Trustees will further ensure that, in line with our objects, opportunities to get active are available to everyone, regardless of age, gender, background or ability.

**Active Cheshire Limited's charitable objects are to:**

1. Increase opportunities to get active locally  

'In the interests of social welfare, to provide or assist in the provision of opportunities for the benefit of the inhabitants of the County of Cheshire for physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time physical and athletic activity, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants';
2. Provide financial support to enable participation  

'To relieve the need, hardship and distress of such inhabitants in conditions of need, hardship and distress by providing financial or other assistance so enabling them to participate in the opportunities provided by the company';
3. Inspire people to get active by promoting local opportunities  

'To disseminate or assist in the dissemination of information encouraging such inhabitants to participate in physical recreation (including sport) to promote their health and wellbeing';
4. Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities  

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting opportunities for disabled people to relieve or alleviate their conditions';
5. Provide more opportunities for young people to get active  

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting facilities for young persons aged under 25 years of age to secure or advance their physical education and training and enhance their education generally';
6. Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally  

'Develop or assist in the development of the capacity and skills of the members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities within the county of Cheshire in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs in regard to physical and athletic recreation or other physical and athletic activity, so improving their conditions of life';
7. Provide more opportunities for older people to get active  

'Provide and assist in the provision of opportunities for physical and athletic recreation or other physical activity for older people, to promote their health and well-being'.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**PROGRESS AGAINST CHARITABLE OBJECTS**

The progress we are delighted to detail here has in no small part been made possible by the investment of our strategic partners. Our principal investor, Sport England, via the Uniting the Movement strategy, has seen Active Cheshire recognised as a Systems Partner. This guarantees 5 years of funding to deliver against the agreed priorities. We would like to place on record, our thanks to Sport England, for their continued support and investment.

We continue to engage with Schools and Workplaces through our Active Plans. The Bronze Silver and Gold offers have allowed us to be more flexible in what we offer and how we deliver. This has been vital in our success in offering support during lockdown. The virtual aspect of our delivery has been so well received that this will continue to be an option post COVID and lead us to being more of a consultant/partner to our customers than simply hands on delivery.

- **Increase opportunities to get active locally**

With the delivery of a new strategy in 2022, Active Cheshire became a strategic partner for Cheshire & Warrington focused on helping more people to become more active, more often, living longer, happier, healthier lives.

2021 was a transition year for Active Cheshire, from KPI's and income generation, to an impact and learning focused organisation, and 2022 was a year to put this into action.

For local people and organisation in Cheshire & Warrington, we continued to focus on working collaboratively, finding common ground from which we could influence the physical activity agenda.

2022 was a year where we focused our efforts on creating a physical activity system which would utilise the power of sport and physical activity to help tackle health inequalities. This work was underpinned by the creation of the All Together Active Strategy, a physical activity strategy for Cheshire and Merseyside, embedded in the Integrated Care System for Cheshire & Merseyside (NHS Cheshire & Merseyside).

A physical activity system is a place where common goals, positive activities, strategic relationships and shared priorities align to enable our place to prosper and facilitate greater levels of physical activity. In 2022, we have made significant strides forward in building the foundations of this system.

We have however been able to directly impact over 11,000 people through the successful projects including the Together Fund, Children and Young People programs and Opening School Facilities Funding.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

- **Provide financial support to enable participation**

We have been able to distribute in-excess of £150,000 to local community based organisations throughout 2022/23, mainly through the Together Fund. A continuation of the phase 4 Tackling Inequalities Fund, Together Fund provided an opportunity for Active Cheshire to invest in community priorities, driven by local intelligence.

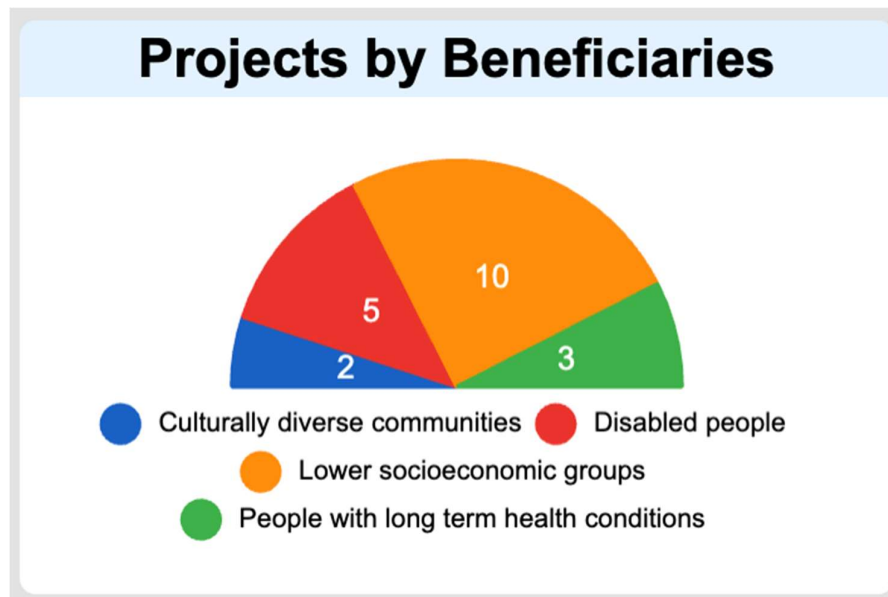
We trialled, and successfully delivered a new approach to the Together Fund in 2022/23, in that we coordinated multiple organisations around a known issue affecting a part of the population.

Across Cheshire East, Warrington and Cheshire West and Chester we successfully co-ordinated projects which assisted people with Long Term Health Conditions (LTHC's), those from Culturally Diverse Communities, those people with Disabilities and people living in a lower socio-economic groups. In total, 92 different organisations have worked together on these projects, 9 of which are partners to Active Cheshire.

- **Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities**

Active Cheshire is proud of our work in inclusive sport and physical activity and our long-established partnership with Activity Alliance, the lead body for inclusive sport.

We utilise our funding to deliver accessible projects across Cheshire and Warrington - the numbers can be seen below.



**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

- **Provide more opportunities for young people to get active**

29% of children and young people across Cheshire and Warrington are categorised by Sport England as 'less active'. Whilst this is lower than the Northwest (34%) and England (32%), there is still a need to lower inactivity levels. We know it is important to embed good habits and create positive relationships around physical activity and movement into the lives of young people in the hope that this continues through their lives and subsequently future generations.

Throughout 2022/23 we have worked with key strategic partners to ensure consistency and togetherness, whilst trusting that working together will have a far greater impact for children and young people.

In partnership with Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust, we have invested significantly in the Beyond, the Cheshire and Merseyside Transformation Board for Children and Young People. Indeed, we have seconded a team member to lead the Healthy weight and obesity work stream. Here, we have been able to help align this stream of work, with professionals from Acute and Public Health settings, with physical activity priorities for young people, ensuring a clear framework is in place to enable more young people to benefit from physical activity.

- **Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally**

2022/23 was a building year for Active Cheshire, and we focused heavily on ensuring we had the right skills and experience necessary internally to lead and develop a physical activity system. We took time to invest in our reflective practice skills and focused our collective CPD was driven by our desire to effectively communicate our new systemic role with our partners.

As previously detailed, becoming a Sport England System Partner has also allowed us to influence the wider system to develop their skills and capacity. The All Together Active governance structure includes a workforce group, which aligns with the needs of the Cheshire and Warrington Skills Improvement Priorities (SIP) and the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMPSA) analysis of the future of the Sport and Leisure sector.

- **Provide more opportunities for older people to get active**

Our strategy focuses on a life course, meaning that whatever stage people or communities are in, they remain a priority. Age Well (along with Start Well and Live Well) ensures that the knowledge and insight widely available about the decline in physical activity into later life is shared and utilised.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Public Benefit**

This document sets out the progress made during 2022-23 towards the achievement of our strategic goals and our charitable objects. It further qualifies and quantifies the impact of our work for public benefit and should be read in conjunction with the annexed financial statements.

**Public Benefit Statement**

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

**Charity Operations**

Charity operations are overseen by Trustees and led operationally by the CEO, Mike Watson.

**Progress against Strategic Plan objectives**

Initial strategic plans were drawn up that included visions for growth and specific projects that required stakeholder engagement. As we emerged from Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdown the plan was revised to focus on reconnecting with stakeholders and restarting face to face engagement.

The following sets out our achievement against those impact objectives.

**Impact Objective 1. More healthy, more active people**

We have been able to demonstrate that through our partnership and the delivery of the Together Fund, in-excess of 90 partners and over 14,000 people have been positively, directly, impacted by our work.

In addition, our management of the Opening School Facilities Fund for Cheshire and Merseyside has seen us distribute £587,784 to schools, leading to 4,298 young people accessing new physical activity opportunities.

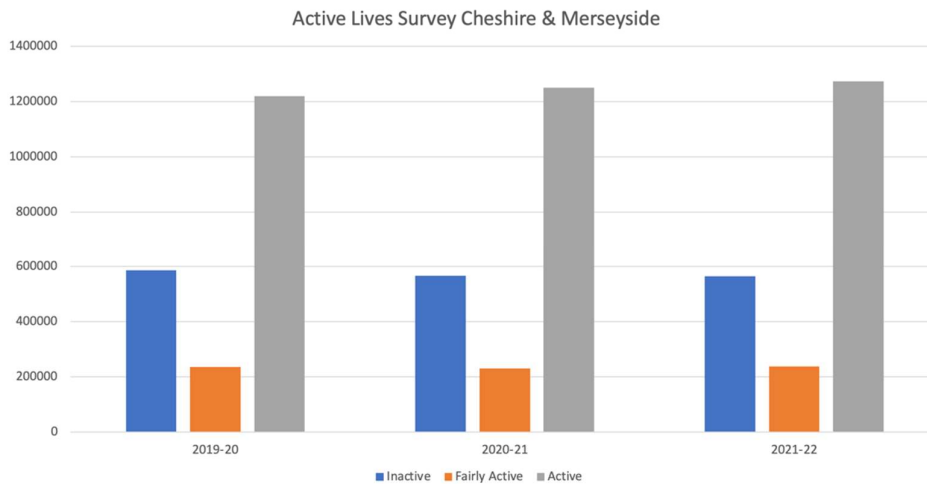
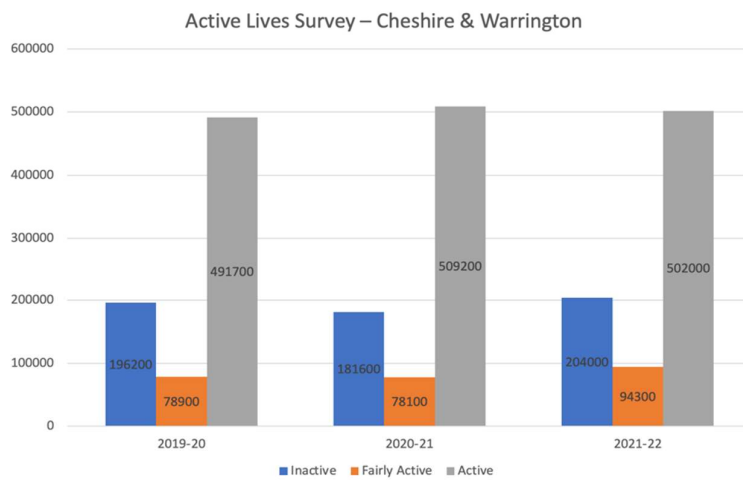
**Objective 2. Greater Health Equity**

In 2022, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside published its 5 year forward plan and interim strategy, Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership (ICP) Interim Strategy. The All Together Active Strategy features prominently on page 30 of the strategy, stating 'We want a Cheshire and Merseyside in which far fewer people suffer health inequalities resulting from physical inactivity.'

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Objective 3. Increased Participation in Sport, Physical Activity and Movement**

Sport England’s Active Lives survey data shows that post pandemic levels of activity have returned to pre-pandemic across England.



**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

However, we know from additional research that this masks some underlying factors affecting historically underrepresented communities and we continue to work hard to understand this further and, work to combat it.

**Objective 4. High quality partnerships with key strategic stakeholders**

Much of the focus of our work in 2022/23 has been developing meaningful and mutual partnerships with our systems partners. These include;

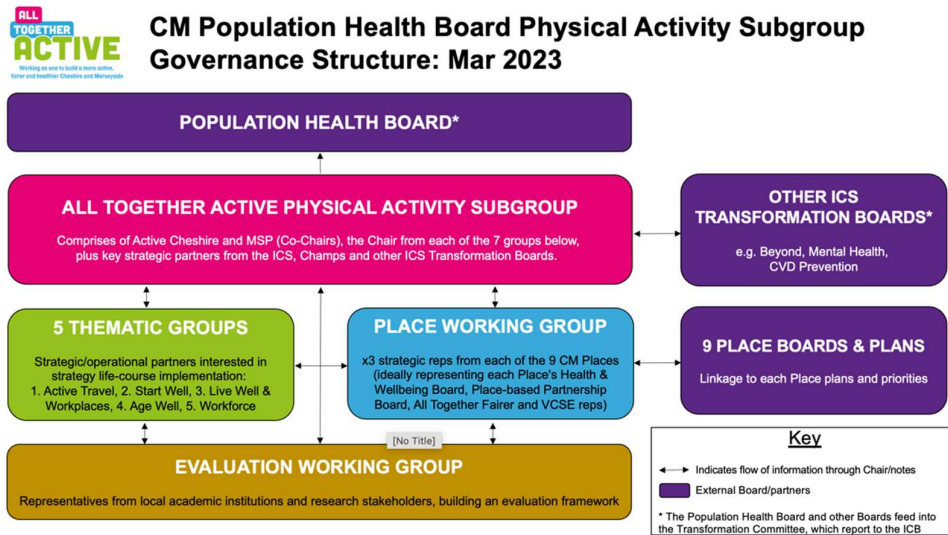
- Active Partnerships Network
- Sport England System Partners Network
- Cheshire East Council, Warrington Council & Cheshire West and Chester Council
- Cheshire & Merseyside Population Health Board
- Cheshire & Merseyside Population Health Board Physical Activity Subgroup
- Cheshire East Mental health partnership board
- Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Cheshire and Warrington Mental health prevention subgroups
- Community mental health transformation voluntary sector alliance (East and West)
- Active Partnership Network National Children and Young People group
- Warrington PE reference group
- Cheshire East Connected Communities (branch off into local areas)
- Active Environments (member and part of national steering group)
- Integrated Sustainable Transport Taskforce
- LEP Growth Hub
- Chester Sustainability Forum
- C&MHCP Population Health Board
- C&MHCP Population Health Physical Activity Subgroup

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

- C&M Nursing, Midwifery & AHP Workforce Development Programme Board
- EWBA and WLWC (Active Warrington)
- C&M PA Sub-group
- System P, Public Health Research Hub
- Winsford PCN
- System Partners MEL development

**Objective 5: A co-ordinated, functioning, physical activity system**

The foundations of a physical activity system are clear to see within the structures that surround All Together Active. 115 individuals from 18 sectors regularly come to get combine their resources, share learning and drive forward to physical activity agenda.



**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Our Culture**

Staff turnover is now very low and we have embedded our new values -

**Collaboration: we will work, and learn, together with others to achieve our common goals.**

**Integrity- We always do what we say we're going to do in the right way and to the best of our ability, to achieve the best outcomes.**

**Inclusivity - We celebrate diversity, welcome all opinions and strive to tackle inequality.**

**Passion - We have pride and belief in everything we do and are committed to making a real difference.**

**Innovation -We want to break the mould and develop brave new ideas to ensure our communities have the best possible future.**

We continue to strive to be the best we can be and promote a happy workplace and a good work/life balance for all our staff.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Financial Review**

Sport England remains the principal funding source of Active Cheshire with £652,167 achieved, although not all of this income contributes to the charity's overhead costs (£102,098 are restricted funds).

The key factors likely to affect future financial performance are:

1. **Availability of public funds** including Lottery which is at risk given the incalculable impact of Brexit on future Government Funds and the unpredictability of future lottery sales which impacts on Sport England investment. Active Cheshire's current funding award commits funds from Sport England through until March 2027.
2. Our ability to present and grow a strong **value proposition to the local marketplace**, ie the performance and impact of new services (eg Active Kids and Active Workplace) which will support income diversification and is funded directly by the client recipient on behalf of beneficiaries.
3. **Pension liability** and any debt arising from crystallisation. This impacts on our annual accounts and balance sheet and distorts the view of income growth given its size. This can affect viability and confidence in the organisation. The unpredictable nature of the figure is a challenge which we hope to mitigate through a personalised review of the company's specific liability as a somewhat untraditional local government employer (atypical in size and scale).

Active Cheshire achieved an in-year position that was more favourable than anticipated with an in year operating surplus of (pre pension adjustments) £24,758. This compares to the prior year operating surplus of £16,887 and thus gives a cumulative operating surplus of £314,467 (£289,709 last year). Active Cheshire has now exceeded the £300,000 required in the Surplus Reserve Policy and will investigate opportunities to determine suitable investment opportunities for the surplus.

The organisation's defined benefit pension scheme has a gross accounting surplus at the reporting date of £581,000. In line with FRS 102 requirements Active Cheshire Limited has recognised as an asset on the balance sheet to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the plan. The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire Limited from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events. Accordingly, Active Cheshire Limited has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

At the end of the financial year the bank and cash balance stood at £707,030. The trade debtors were £57,871 (net of £4,344 bad debt provision), and trade creditors were £63,394. Prepayments were £1,155 and deferred income, accruals and other creditors stood at £395,948. There were no concerns regarding and of the balance sheet balances.

The charity anticipates a trading surplus of £20,000 in the 2023-24 financial year. The trustees have no concerns about the organisation remaining a going concern over the coming years.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Reserves Policy**

Active Cheshire Limited has in place a Reserves Policy to manage its levels of reserves and balances. We define "Reserves" as that part of our income funds that is freely available for operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits and not tied up in fixed assets. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that the Charity's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, considering risks associated with individual income streams, expenditure varying from budget, planned activity levels and organisational commitments. We use our reserves policy to inform our treasury management approach (eg the way in which we manage cash, liquid assets and debt).

The reserves that we have set aside provide financial stability and the means for the development of our principal activity.

**Decision Making**

The Board makes strategic decisions on behalf of the Charity. Operational decisions are the responsibility of the CEO. The specifics of this arrangement are set out clearly within our Scheme of Delegation.

The process for making decisions is presented below. Operational decisions that may affect the strategic direction of the business will be discussed at the sub-groups and endorsed formally at Board. Equally, where strategic decisions are determined by the Board, these can be given substance through sub-group discussions with CEO.

1. Strategic Direction (Trustees agree strategy for the Charity and an Annual Business Plan)
2. Operational Implementation (CEO is responsible for delivery of the Annual Business Plan within agreed parameters and budget.
3. Operational Review / Legislative Change (Each year a mid-year business review takes place taking into consideration changes in the micro and macro environment and reflecting on progress to date/lessons learned). Regular performance reviews also take place quarterly at both Subgroup and Board.
4. Proposal to Amend / Review (the review may result in immediate change where deemed necessary or most likely to inform priorities within the following year's business plan).
5. Sub-group Review & Recommendation: scrutiny, advocacy and challenge is applied by subgroup members who will challenge any change or recommendations to ensure that proposals are robust, viable and align to charitable objects. A refined Business Plan is then presented to the entire Board with Budget for approval.
6. Return to point 1 to begin the cycle again

A NOMCOM Committee exists with delegated responsibility as set out in the Terms of Reference agreed by the Board. This group is the primary group responsible for making recommendations for the remuneration and pay policy for key management personnel although the People and Performance Subgroup can also recommend changes for Board consideration.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Remuneration of key management personnel**

Active Cheshire is committed to ensuring that we pay our people fairly and in a way which ensures we attract and retain the right skills to have the greatest impact in delivering our charitable objectives. Our approach to executive pay is in line with the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (AECVO) Good Pay Guide. In line with Active Cheshire's commitment to equality and diversity (see separate policy), Active Cheshire is committed to equal pay.

Active Cheshire remuneration policy and procedure sits with the Nomination Committee (NOMCOM), which meets quarterly. The Committee is comprised of the Chair of Active Cheshire (also NOMCOM Chair), the Senior Independent Director and Vice-Chairs. Meetings are minuted.

The Committee sets the pay structure for the organisation and the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management.

The CEO is in attendance for the meeting (leaving for the discussion regarding the CEO's remuneration) and no members of the executive are members of the committee. Decisions by NOMCOM require ratification by full Board.

NOMCOM meets annually to ensure that any remuneration is decided in the context of wider financial performance.

The Committee will consider facts prepared by the CEO to provide context for decision-making including:

- § The organisation's current financial position
- § Any existing or emerging risks that may impact on the organisation's financial stability
- § Comparing the competitiveness of Active Cheshire salary banding against credible independent market benchmarks
- § RPI as at 31 December
- § Public and Third-Sector pay awards and any related sensitivities
- § Individual and Team performance
- § Past-performance benchmarks
- § The significance of employees in delivering Active Cheshire's charitable vision and purpose

The Committee will consider the reflections and recommendations of the Chair, during his formal appraisal of the CEO against agreed objectives to determine the remuneration package (including any annual bonus) of the Chief Executive.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Discussion will take place within the meeting and any conclusions drawn will be presented to full Board for ratification and will be minuted in line with data protection laws.

The Chair will provide feedback to the CEO and will write formally to set out any decisions made and ensure inclusion of pay within published documentation (eg Annual Accounts/Reports) will be made to ensure legal compliance.

**Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

## **Managing Risk**

Risks are appraised regularly at an operational and strategic level and are recorded within a Risk Register. The register scores risks based on potential impact and likelihood and sets out plans for mitigation. Risk is discussed at every Board (and sub-group) meeting and reported via operational management meetings. A root and branch review is conducted annually with a detailed appraisal of macro and micro environment at the annual Strategic Planning Day.

## **Key risks**

There are 3 core risks actively managed by Trustees as follows:

(Key: 'L'= Low, 'M'=Medium, 'H'=High)

1. Team stability: given strategic changes the team has expanded and some long-serving employees have moved on to new careers. This has caused internal disruption and affected organisational memory, placing increased dependency on fewer, longer-serving staff.

Impact: H      Likelihood of continued turnover: M

Mitigation: a new induction process has enabled recruits to bed into the team and establish themselves, their networks, confidence and competences. A clearer performance-management system has been introduced to ensure regular engagement with staff to ensure that they are progressing well and feel supported. Careful financial management has been applied to income targets to ensure that responsibilities are shared across the team and reserves are used responsibly as contingency to alleviate pressure on individuals. The organisational has also invested into a new CRM system to ensure that relationships and engagement is recorded and accessible by the whole team.

Mitigated Impact: H      Mitigated likelihood of continued turnover: L

2. Pension liability: there is 1 staff member still enrolled in the Local Government (Defined Benefit) Pension Scheme (as of end of year 2023), originally a Final Salary Pension Scheme but converted to a Career Average Pension Scheme in 2014. The Local Government Pension Scheme was closed to new employees in 2015 and replaced with a Direct Contribution Benefit Scheme. The Defined Benefit Pension Scheme has this year changed to an asset, but there is uncertainty about what will happen next year. There is a further risk of debt crystallisation should staff leave and/or the scheme close.

Impact: H      Likelihood of increased costs: H

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Mitigation: Trustees invited Cheshire Pension Fund (CPF) to meet to discuss the challenge, along with our accountants. CPF recognised the likelihood of our scheme closure at some point in the next 5-10 years and confirmed that it would collaborate with Active Cheshire proactively to determine a repayment plan should debt crystallise. They further acknowledged that the FRS102 reported liability did not accurately reflect the value or performance of their scheme which is strong. Active Cheshire is working with Cheshire Pension Fund to obtain a personalised calculation of FRS102 which can be utilised to inform future calculations and be legitimately referenced within the balance sheet. This provided assurance that the liability will be managed responsibly.

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of unplanned costs: M

3. Future funding from major funder: Sport England continues to be the largest funder investing in Active Cheshire, representing 80%+ of annual income. Their mandate recognising Active Cheshire as their 'agent' locally also gives credibility to the organisation. Sport England remains a lottery distributor nationally and continues to invest into a network of Active Partnerships like Active Cheshire. Funds have reduced with changes to the structure of lottery ticket pricing structure and income levels.

Impact: H Likelihood of reduced funding: M

Mitigation: Active Cheshire recognised the risk of dependency on a single funder in 2014 and committed to diversifying income which is progressing well. New products relating to the Blueprint Strategy have been developed and are generating income locally. Relationships with Sport England remain strong and Active Cheshire has secured funding through to 2027. Contract performance remains strong with most contracts exceeding requirements in terms of output, innovation and impact. Active Cheshire invested in a dedicated manager, now embedded in role, to further develop relationships with Sport England and our national counterparts. This will provide greater visibility, an opportunity to promote our work and increase partnership and funding prospects.

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of reduced income: L

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.
- The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions,

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....

Mr Martin Bryan Pearson – Trustee and Chair

Date: *1-12-2023.*

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Active Cheshire Limited “the charitable company” for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. 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 charitable company’s affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### 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 charitable company 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 Trustee’s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

### 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 (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

In connection with our audit of the financial statements 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- The information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 21, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of laws, regulations and guidance that affect the Charitable Company, focusing on those that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws, regulations and guidance that we identified included the Companies Act 2006, tax legislation, health and safety legislation, and employment legislation.
- We enquired of the Trustees and reviewed correspondence and Trustee meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the Trustees have in place, where necessary, to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks.
- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE  
LIMITED**

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Mark Bradley (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

BEEVER AND STRUTHERS

Statutory Auditor

Suite 9b

The Beehive Lions Drive

Shadsworth Business Park

Blackburn BB1 2QS

Date: 20 December 2023

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31/3/23 Total funds	31/3/22 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	625,574	102,098	727,672	808,348
Other trading activities	3	46,121	-	46,121	68,050
Investment income	4	<u>1,518</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,518</u>	<u>43</u>
<b>Total</b>		673,213	102,098	775,311	876,441
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds	5	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6				
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching		134,504	102,098	236,602	355,455
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities		<u>530,951</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>530,951</u>	<u>531,099</u>
<b>Total</b>		665,455	102,098	767,553	886,554
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		7,758	-	7,758	(10,113)
<b>Other recognised gains</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	20	250,000	-	250,000	422,000
		<u>250,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>422,000</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		257,758	-	257,758	411,887
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		56,709	-	56,709	(355,178)
		<u>56,709</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,709</u>	<u>(355,178)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>314,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>314,467</u>	<u>56,709</u>


REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)

BALANCE SHEET  
AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/23 Total funds £	31/3/22 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	14	9,003	-	9,003	7,449
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	15	57,776	-	57,776	24,900
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>707,030</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>707,030</u>	<u>509,464</u>
		764,806	-	764,806	534,364
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(459,342)	-	(459,342)	(252,104)
		<u>305,464</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>305,464</u>	<u>282,260</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		314,467	-	314,467	289,709
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		-	-	-	(233,000)
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>					
		<u>314,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>314,467</u>	<u>56,709</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	18			(314,467)	(289,709)
Pension Reserve				-	<u>233,000</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
				<u>(314,467)</u>	<u>(56,709)</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 1 - 12 - 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr Martin Bryan Pearson -Trustee and Chair

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	31/3/23 £	31/3/2022 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash generated from operations		<u>200,598</u>	<u>123,657</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<u>200,598</u>	<u>123,657</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,550)	(6,594)
Interest received		<u>1,518</u>	<u>43</u>
<b>Net cash provided (used in) investing activities</b>		<u>(3,032)</u>	<u>(6,551)</u>
		<u>197,566</u>	<u>117,106</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		197,566	117,106
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>509,464</u>	<u>392,358</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u>707,030</u>	<u>509,464</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	7,758	(10,113)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	2,996	2,754
Interest received	(1,518)	(43)
(Increase) in debtors	(32,875)	(2,290)
Increase in creditors	207,238	106,349
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>17,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u>200,598</u>	<u>123,657</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charitable company is registered in England and Wales.

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (£) and transactions are rounded to the nearest £. The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis and no material uncertainties exist as to whether the charitable company is able to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

**Going concern**

The balance sheet shows an overall surplus of £314,467 (2022 surplus £56,709) at the balance sheet date. This is after FRS102 pension surplus of £0 (2022 Deficit £233,000) is included. The trustees have reviewed the charity's expected cashflows for the foreseeable future and have concluded that it is able to meet its financial obligations, including cash contributions to the Cheshire Pension Fund, as they fall due. Thus the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

**Income (including government grants)**

All incoming resources are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of provision of specified services is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

All Grant income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds, having performed the obligations under any grant conditions, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Trading income is recognised on delivery of the goods or service as per the contract and as delivered on the balance sheet date as a proportion of the total contract value. Where the amount of income is contingent on future events, this is only recognised where the amount of income can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the economic benefits will be received. When this cannot be estimated reliably, income is only recognised to the value of the goods and service that it is considered probable will be recovered. Goods or services provided to the client which at the balance sheet date have not been billed have been recognised as income and are included in debtors as accrued income.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Expenditure**

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

**Grants payable**

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the Charity's objects. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant awarded. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the one-year or multi-year grant. Grant awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Charity.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The provision for a multi-year grant is recognised at its present value where settlement is due over more than one year from the date of the award, there are no unfulfilled performance conditions under the control of the Charity that would permit the Charity to avoid making the future payment(s), settlement is probable, and the effect of discounting is material.

**Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

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

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

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

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charity contributes to a defined benefit pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested when a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of material reduction in the scheme membership or reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the Statement of Financial Activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of the return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme surplus (to the extent that it can be recovered) is recognised in full on their Balance Sheet, net of related deferred tax.

The charity also contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. Contributions to this scheme are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

**Irrecoverable vat**

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

**Debtors**

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

**Creditors**

Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Cash at bank**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash held on deposit with a short maturity of three months or less.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Financial assets are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs) and subsequently held at cost, less any impairment.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form. Financial liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (after deducting transaction costs) and subsequently held at amortised cost.

**Key judgements and estimates**

The accounting policies above which, represent key judgements and estimates are:-

Tangible Fixed Assets-the depreciation rate is based upon an estimate of the useful life of each asset group.

Creditors - there is £2,575 for holiday pay, this is an estimate of the likely exposure for holidays not taken at year end. There is £319,671 included in deferred income, this represents an estimate of the income received for which work has not yet been undertaken. This is shown in note 16.

Pension - The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension's liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 March 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. .

FRS 102 requires that defined benefit plan surpluses are recognised only to the extent that they are recoverable either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. The accounting valuation of the Cheshire Pension Fund at 31 March 2023 identified an accounting surplus of £581K. The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire Limited from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events. Accordingly, Active Cheshire Limited judge that there is insufficient evidence to support the recoverability of the plan's surplus and therefore has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

**Taxation**

The Trustees consider that requirements for the exemption from taxation set out in the Income Tax Act 2007, Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are met and, therefore, no provision is made for taxation.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Grants and contracts	<u>727,672</u>	<u>808,348</u>

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

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Chester West & Chester Council	-	38,000
Sport England	616,715	760,476
Champs Public Health Collaborative	73,441	-
Edsential Community Interest Group	-	9,542
Cheshire Community Foundation	-	330
Other Local Commissions	37,516	-
	<u>727,672</u>	<u>808,348</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Sundry income	<u>46,121</u>	<u>68,050</u>
	<u>46,121</u>	<u>68,050</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>1,518</u>	<u>43</u>

**5. RAISING FUNDS**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
<b>Other trading activities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

2023	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 7)	Support costs (See note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	473,337	-	57,614	530,951
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>-</u>	<u>236,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>236,602</u>
	<u><u>473,337</u></u>	<u><u>236,602</u></u>	<u><u>57,614</u></u>	<u><u>767,553</u></u>

2022	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 7)	Support costs (See note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	319,167	-	211,932	531,099
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>-</u>	<u>355,455</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>355,455</u>
	<u><u>319,167</u></u>	<u><u>355,455</u></u>	<u><u>211,932</u></u>	<u><u>886,554</u></u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**7. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>236,602</u>	<u>355,455</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Champs Public Health- National Partner	9,657	26,201
ICS Strategy	42,228	-
Satellite Clubs*	-	11,262
Opening School Facilities*	26,616	-
Tackling Inequality*	102,098	92,903
Mount Killimanjaro	-	4,305
AT Fest	3,945	-
Opening School Facilities*	12,000	141,017
Children & Young People*	<u>40,058</u>	<u>79,767</u>
	<u>236,602</u>	<u>355,455</u>

\* Fully funded by Sport England

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**8. SUPPORT COSTS**

2023	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Accountancy and Professional Services	-	26,233	26,233
Audit	-	9,500	9,500
Payroll and HR	888	-	888
Other	<u>18,647</u>	<u>2,346</u>	<u>20,993</u>
	<u>19,535</u>	<u>38,079</u>	<u>57,614</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

2022	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Salary & Wages	147,345	-	147,345
Accountancy and Professional Services	-	32,313	32,313
Audit	-	7,600	7,600
Payroll and HR	5,340	-	5,340
Other	<u>17,323</u>	<u>2,011</u>	<u>19,334</u>
	<u>170,008</u>	<u>41,924</u>	<u>211,932</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

**9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Auditors remuneration-audit fee	9,500	7,600
Depreciation - owned assets	2,996	2,754
Lease payments-Rent/Photocopier/Container	<u>11,515</u>	<u>12,391</u>

**10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no payments to trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023 (2022 £7,500)

**Trustees' expenses**

There was £285 paid to two trustees for expenses paid in 2022-23 (2021 - 2022, £0).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**11. STAFF COSTS**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	318,063	333,949
Social security costs	34,749	25,913
Other pension costs	<u>18,666</u>	<u>14,497</u>
	<u>371,478</u>	<u>374,359</u>

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

	31/3/23	31/3/22
Partnership Services	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 (pro-rata) was:

	31/3/23	31/3/22
£60,000 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and Chief Executive. The total employee Benefits of the key management personnel were £65,292 (2022 £46,404). The Trust purchased no Consultancy services from Trustees during the year. (2022 £7,500)

**12. EX GRATIA PAYMENTS**

The charity made no settlement payment during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. (2022 None).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	715,444	92,904	808,348
Other trading activities	68,050	-	68,050
Investment income	<u>43</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>783,537</b>	<b>92,904</b>	<b>876,441</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	262,551	92,904	355,455
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>531,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>531,099</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>793,650</b>	<b>92,904</b>	<b>886,554</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>(10,113)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(10,113)</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>			
Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit schemes	<u>422,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>422,000</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>411,887</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>411,887</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>(355,178)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(355,178)</b>
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>56,709</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56,709</b>
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Totals
	£	£	£
At 1 April 2022	16,580	27,245	43,825
Additions	-	4,550	4,550
At 31 March 2023	<u>16,580</u>	<u>31,795</u>	<u>48,375</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 April 2022	15,824	20,552	36,376
Charge for year	661	2,335	2,996
At 31 March 2023	<u>16,485</u>	<u>22,888</u>	<u>39,372</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 March 2022	<u>756</u>	<u>6,693</u>	<u>7,448</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>95</u>	<u>8,908</u>	<u>9,003</u>

**15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Trade debtors	57,871	21,009
Prepayments and accrued income	1,155	4,902
VAT	(1,250)	(121)
	<u>57,776</u>	<u>25,790</u>

**16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Trade creditors	63,394	39,797
Social security and other taxes	14,342	10,098
Other creditors	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	<u>381,606</u>	<u>202,209</u>
	<u>459,342</u>	<u>252,104</u>

Deferred income included above represents monies being held on behalf of other organisations or has been received but no work commissioned at the balance sheet date.

Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	169,428
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(169,428)
Amount Deferred in year	<u>319,671</u>
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	<u>319,671</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**17. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

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

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Within one year-Building Lease	10,215	10,215
Between one and five years-Building Lease	<u>-</u>	<u>10,215</u>
	<u>10,215</u>	<u>20,430</u>

**18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/22	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/23
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	289,709	24,758	314,467
Defined benefit scheme fund	<u>(233,000)</u>	<u>233,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>56,709</u>	<u>257,758</u>	<u>314,467</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and (losses)	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	673,213	(648,455)	233,000	257,758
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Tracking Inequality	102,098	(102,098)	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>775,311</u>	<u>(750,553)</u>	<u>233,000</u>	<u>257,758</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 23**

**18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/22 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General fund	272,822	16,887	289,709
Defined benefit scheme fund	<u>(628,000)</u>	<u>395,000</u>	<u>(233,000)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>(355,178)</u>	<u>411,887</u>	<u>56,709</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and (losses) £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	783,537	(793,650)	422,000	411,887
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Tackling Inequality	92,904	(92,904)	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>876,441</u>	<u>(886,554)</u>	<u>422,000</u>	<u>411,887</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or terms of an agreement.

The balances on the restricted funds (currently there is no restricted balance) are held within the charity in order to provide, in future periods, the specific delivery of activities in accordance with the restrictions under which the income was provided .

**19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

Cash and cash equivalent	At 1/4/22	Cash flows	At 31/3/23
Cash	<u>£ 509,464</u>	<u>£197,566</u>	<u>£707,030</u>

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity participates in the Cheshire Pension fund, part of the local government scheme, a defined benefit statutory scheme in accordance with local government pension scheme regulations 1997 as amended, Cheshire West and Chester Council administers the fund.

The total contribution made for the year ended 31 March 2023 was £12,000 (2022 - £11,000) of which employer's contributions totalled £9,000 (2022 - £9,000) and employees' contributions totalled £3,000 (2023 - £2,000).

Robert Bilton FFA of Hymans Robertson carried out a full actuarial valuation at 31 March 2022.

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Fair value of plan assets	<u>1,887,000</u>	<u>2,534,000</u>
Defined benefit obligation	<u>1,306,000</u>	<u>2,767,000</u>
Surplus not recognised	<u>581,000</u> <u>(581,000)</u>	(233,000) <u>-</u>
Net Liability	<u>0</u>	<u>(233,000)</u>

The plan has a gross accounting surplus at the reporting date of £581k. In line with FRS 102 requirements Active Cheshire Limited has recognised as an asset on the balance sheet to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the plan. The scheme's actuary has confirmed that they can demonstrate no economic benefit arising to Active Cheshire Limited from an 'asset ceiling' calculation comparing the present value of future service costs to the present value of future contributions. The actuary has also

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

confirmed that any refunds from the plan are contingent on future events. Accordingly, Active Cheshire Limited has not recognised the pension asset position, restricting the surplus to £nil, and reducing actuarial gains by the same amount.

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Current service cost	20,000	23,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>26,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>(651,000)</u>	<u>164,000</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation	2,767,000	2,990,000
Current service cost	20,000	23,000
Contributions by scheme participants	3,000	2,000
Interest cost	76,000	61,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	(1,552,000)	(306,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(8,000)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
	<u>1,306,000</u>	<u>2,767,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets	2,534,000	2,362,000
Contributions by employer	9,000	9,000
Contributions by scheme participants	3,000	2,000
Expected return	70,000	48,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(721,000)	116,000
Benefits paid	<u>(8,000)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
	<u>1,887,000</u>	<u>2,534,000</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Actuarial gains/(losses)	831,000	(422,000)
	<u>831,000</u>	<u>(422,000)</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/23	31/3/22
Equities	48%	42%
Bonds	36%	42%
Property	13%	10%
Cash	3%	6%

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages)

	31/3/23	31/3/22
Discount rate	4.75%	3.0%
Future salary increases	3.65%	0.0%
Future pension increases	2.95%	3.0%

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	31/3/23	31/3/22
Retiring today:		
Males	21.2	21.2
Females	23.6	23.8
Future:		
Males	23.1	22.1
Females	26.3	25.5

**Defined contribution scheme**

The company makes contributions to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. The cost for the period was £11,203 (2022 - £5,247).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party disclosures for this financial year. (2022 £7,500).

All related party transactions have taken place on an arm's length basis and the individuals connected to Active Cheshire and its related party are not involved in any decisions relating to such transactions.

**22. FUNDRAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity raises charitable funds in-house and does not engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator to carry out these activities. The charity has not bound itself to a voluntary scheme for regulating fund-raising and has not received any complaints with respect to its fund-raising. The charity avoids unreasonable intrusion into a person's privacy, unreasonable persistent approaches and undue pressure on persons in connection with fund-raising.

**23. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

**24. DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING FROM PUBLIC BODIES**

	Sport England	Champs Public Health Collaborative	Local Commissions	Alder Hey Childrens NHS	The Walton Centre NHS Trust	Non- Public	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue grants	616,715	73,441	26,395	-	-	-	716,551
Capital grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Membership Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sponsorship Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	-	-	44,647	7,251	300	6,562	58,760
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>616,715</b>	<b>73,441</b>	<b>71,042</b>	<b>7,251</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>6,562</b>	<b>775,311</b>
Salaries	363,861	-	-	-	-	-	363,861
Overheads/Support costs	58,994	21,555	24,669	7,251	300	2,617	115,386
Inactivity projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Delivery projects	142,155	51,886	38,616	-	-	3,945	236,602
Capital facilities projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clubs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Young People	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other costs	51,705	-	-	-	-	-	51,705
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>616,715</b>	<b>73,441</b>	<b>63,285</b>	<b>7,251</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>6,562</b>	<b>767,554</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,757</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,757</b>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**24. DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING FROM PUBLIC BODIES - continued**

	Sport England	Champs Public Health Collaborative	Local Commissions	Alder Hey Childrens NHS	The Walton Centre NHS Trust	Non- Public	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash Reconciliation</b>							
Released to Income Statement	546,723	400	36,890	7,251	300	6,562	598,126
Transfer to deferred grant	215,563	86,000	15,000	3,108	-	-	319,671
<b>Cash received during financial year</b>	<b>762,286</b>	<b>86,400</b>	<b>51,890</b>	<b>10,359</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>6,562</b>	<b>917,797</b>
<b>Deferred grant reconciliation</b>							
Opening balance	69,992	73,041	26,395	-	-	-	169,428
Transfers in	215,563	86,000	15,000	3,108	-	-	319,671
Release to Income Statement	-69,992	-73,041	-26,395	-	-	-	-169,428
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>215,563</b>	<b>86,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>319,671</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>616,715</b>	<b>73,441</b>	<b>63,285</b>	<b>7,251</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>6,562</b>	<b>767,554</b>
<b>Deferred grant reconciliation</b>							
Opening balance	69,992	73,041	26,395	-	-	-	169,428
Cash received	762,286	86,400	51,890	10,359	300	6,562	917,797
Release to Income Statement	-616,715	-73,441	-63,285	-7,251	-300	-6,562	-767,554
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>215,563</b>	<b>86,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>319,671</b>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Grants and contracts	727,672	808,348
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Fundraising events	-	-
Sundry income	<u>46,121</u>	<u>68,050</u>
	773,793	876,398
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	<u>1,518</u>	<u>43</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	775,311	876,441
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Bad debts	3,455	(5,935)
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Contribution to partners	236,602	355,454
Contribution to partners wages allocated	3,809	147,345
Wages	310,445	186,603
Social Security	34,749	25,913
Pensions	18,667	14,497
Equipment and facilities	254	1,075
Insurance	3,176	3,059
Telephone	3,450	5,651
Printing, postage and photocopying	1,055	1,275
Sundry office costs	7,491	8,812
Travelling expenses	5,022	7,167
Training fees	3,942	2,498
Rent and premises costs	11,515	11,624
Marketing	30,827	1,619
Refreshments	1,195	1,058
Computer expenses	6,273	5,799
Professional fees	15,780	26,235
Memberships and subscriptions	14,004	8,333
Expected return on pension scheme assets / FRS102 Contribution	11,000	14,000
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	6,000	13,000
	<u>725,256</u>	<u>835,082</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Support Costs**

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
<b>Finance</b>		
Bank charges	478	458
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Trustees' expenses	285	-
Auditors' remuneration	9,500	7,600
Auditors' remuneration for non-audit work	-	-
Accountancy fees	26,233	32,313
Other	<u>2,346</u>	<u>11,100</u>
	<u>38,364</u>	<u>51,013</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	767,553	886,554
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net Income/Expenditure</b>	<u><u>7,758</u></u>	<u><u>(10,113)</u></u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 701764

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 701764



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 FOR

ACTIVE CHESHIRE

## Contents of the Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 March 2022.

Contents	
CHAIR'S FOREWORD.....	3
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report) .....	5
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS .....	5
STAFF.....	6
INTRODUCTION - OVERVIEW & CHARITABLE OBJECTS.....	7
ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE.....	8
FINANCIAL REVIEW.....	17
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES.....	22
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED</b> .....	23
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	27
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> .....	28
<b>CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	29
<b>NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	30
<b>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b> .....	31
<b>DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	51
(This does not form part of the financial statements)	

## CHAIR'S FOREWORD

### **For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

The Global Covid-19 Pandemic presented many on-going challenges for the whole of the physical activity sector, and the return to 'pre-pandemic' levels of activity has been disproportionately slow for those historically under-represented groups. Given the challenges faced, Active Cheshire has continued to lead Cheshire & Warrington's response to providing an equitable and needs led increase in participation levels.

The focus in 2021/22 was being one team. Collectively, our trustees and staff team have worked collaboratively to ensure that we have delivered on our in-year priorities, whilst ensuring a strong and stable basis from which we can work in the future. A huge debt of gratitude is due to all of those who have been involved in Active Cheshire throughout the year – making our transition into a bold new future a possibility.

That future requires solid foundations, which I am delighted that the whole team have embraced through our values. Innovation, Collaboration, Inclusivity, Passion and Integrity sit at the heart of our everyday lives. Much more than words, our values dictate our decision making both at Board and Operational level. This culture has transformed our behaviours, which has been welcomed by our key stakeholders both regionally and nationally.

Following a year of great change in personnel, we have welcomed a year of stability in 2021/22. This stability has allowed the Board and the Staff team to focus on our desired Impact. That impact has been focused, unapologetically, on strengthening our relationships with our key stakeholders.

In Sport England, we have a long-term partner with whom we share a vision and their continued support of the work we undertake in Cheshire and Warrington allows for our impact to be targeted on those communities who need our support the most. In our three Local Authorities (Warrington, Cheshire East and Chester West and Chester) we have partners who see the value in our role and actively engage Active Cheshire as a strategic Physical Activity advisor. Similarly, their Strategic Leisure Providers (namely, Livewire Warrington, Everybody Health & Leisure and Brio respectively) integrate within the physical active system we are creating with new and enhanced leisure and wellbeing offers to their communities.

Throughout 2021/22, the external review of Board Effectiveness (conducted by Campbell Tickell in December 2021) remained a priority. Providing time and energy to focus on the Board's skills, knowledge and effectiveness provided great comfort that we act in strict accordance with the requirements of the Charities Commission and undertake our responsibility dutifully. As we look ahead, we will further our commitment to good governance by fulfilling the Sport England requirement to achieve the Tier 3 Code for Sports Governance and the Equality in Sport standard.

A number of trustees have taken the opportunity to move on from Active Cheshire during the year, and on behalf of the Board of trustees, I would like to thank them all individually for the positive contributions they have made to Active Cheshire during their tenure.

I would like to record my gratitude to our past Chair, Dr Paul Hancock OBE. Paul steered the charity through the pandemic period, a change of CEO and has left the charity in a positive position with a clear future to build on. I wish him well in his future endeavours.

As we embark on a new future, which encapsulates change and a new strategic direction, we do so safe in the knowledge that our people embrace our values, our partnerships are resilient and positive, and that our charitable objectives will be furthered in the pursuit of improved lives for all of our communities.

Martin B Pearson – Chair of the Board of Trustees, Active Cheshire

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. This report includes the Directors Report for the purposes of the company law.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

### The Charity

Charity No.:	701764
Company No.:	02401068
Registered Charity Name:	Active Cheshire
Registered Office:	Wyvern House, The Drumber, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 1AH

<u>Trustees</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date Appointed</u>
Dr Paul Hancock OBE	Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2017
	Trustee	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Martin Pearson	Vice-Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2017
	Chair	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Susan Sellers	Senior Independent Director	29 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
William Evans	Vice-Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2014
Paula Cohen	Trustee	7 <sup>th</sup> November 2012
	Vice-Chair	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Davinder Gill	Trustee	2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2020
Heather Barnes	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Rachel Waterman	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019

<u>Trustees – resigned in year</u>	<u>Date of Resignation</u>	
Nigel Allman	Trustee	28 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Carol Clarke	Trustee	26 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Graham Evans	Trustee	28 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Michelle Partington	Trustee	17 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Paul Hancock	Trustee	

<u>Chief Executive Officer</u>	<u>Date Appointed</u>	
Mike Watson	CEO	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021

**Auditor**

Beever and Struthers  
St George's House  
215-219 Chester Road  
Manchester  
M15 4JE

**Bank**

Barclays Bank Plc  
30 St Werburgh Street  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH1 1XB

**Solicitor**

Mills & Reeve LLP  
8th and 9th Floor  
1 New York Street  
Manchester  
M1 4AD

The Trustee recruitment process is open and transparent. All Trustees receive a comprehensive induction and are subject to annual appraisal and development as set out in the Active Cheshire Governance Manual. As a recognised Active Partnership commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must demonstrate compliance as a Tier 3 provider with the Code of Sports Governance.

**Governance**

Active Cheshire's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. For the purpose of charity law, trustees act as members (see notes for member liability). Trustees are further governed by a specific Governance Manual (May 2018 and under current review in line with the Sport England Code for Sport Governance), which sets out procedures for recruitment, deployment, decision-making and the controls in place to ensure probity and transparency. As part of a national network of providers commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must comply with the national Code of Sports Governance as a Tier 3 provider

**Disclosures**

Active Cheshire has in place a Conflict of Interest Register where any disclosures are made on a regular basis. Declarations of Interest is an agenda item of every meeting and any person with an interest has no part in or presence at a decision.

**STAFF**

*As of 31/03/2022*

**Chief Executive Officer****Local Area Team Manager**

Strategic Lead Active Minds  
Health & Social Care Activator  
Strategic Lead Active Kids  
Delivery Officer

**Operations Manager**

Marketing Co-ordinator Digital & Design

**National Contracts & Partnership Manager**

National Contracts Manager

## INTRODUCTION - OVERVIEW & CHARITABLE OBJECTS

Active Cheshire is a charity that exists for public benefit. It aims to improve the health and wellbeing of local citizens with a mission to embed physical activity into all aspects of everyday life.

To achieve this it will focus on its charitable objectives to ensure that the necessary resources and information are available to make sport and physical activity happen locally. Trustees will further ensure that, in line with our objects, opportunities to get active are available to everyone, regardless of age, gender, background or ability.

### **Active Cheshire's charitable objects are to:**

1. Increase opportunities to get active locally

'In the interests of social welfare, to provide or assist in the provision of opportunities for the benefit of the inhabitants of the County of Cheshire for physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time physical and athletic activity, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants';

2. Provide financial support to enable participation

'To relieve the need, hardship and distress of such inhabitants in conditions of need, hardship and distress by providing financial or other assistance so enabling them to participate in the opportunities provided by the company';

3. Inspire people to get active by promoting local opportunities

'To disseminate or assist in the dissemination of information encouraging such inhabitants to participate in physical recreation (including sport) to promote their health and wellbeing';

4. Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting opportunities for disabled people to relieve or alleviate their conditions';

5. Provide more opportunities for young people to get active

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting facilities for young persons aged under 25 years of age to secure or advance their physical education and training and enhance their education generally';

6. Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally

'Develop or assist in the development of the capacity and skills of the members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities within the county of Cheshire in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs in regard to physical and athletic recreation or other physical and athletic activity, so improving their conditions of life';

7. Provide more opportunities for older people to get active

'Provide and assist in the provision of opportunities for physical and athletic recreation or other physical activity for older people, to promote their health and well-being'.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### PROGRESS AGAINST CHARITABLE OBJECTS

- **Increase opportunities to get active locally**

Active Cheshire's mission, developed in partnership with stakeholders from Warrington and Cheshire and Sport England, is to embed physical activity into all aspects of everyday life. We want to help everyone to get active on a regular basis and are committed to trying new approaches to influence the individual habits of our community.

2021 was year where Active Cheshire began its transition to reporting less on KPI's and less on numbers and more on the impact our work makes on people's lives. We wanted people to participate in sport physical activity and movement because it makes a difference to how they feel. We want people to live longer, happier and healthier lives because of their love for physical activity.

As a charity we recognise the importance of partnership working and the value of influencing change, rather than working independently to tackle this enormous problem. We have worked hard to influence and shape the number and range of opportunities available locally, however, many of the changes we make go unnoticed, as they happen at a systemic level. We've provided enabling and facilitating opportunities for the prominence and prevalence of physical activity to be discussed in forums where it has never been before. Embedding physical activity in the everyday lives of the key decision makers across the region. But this is just the start of a great thing to come.

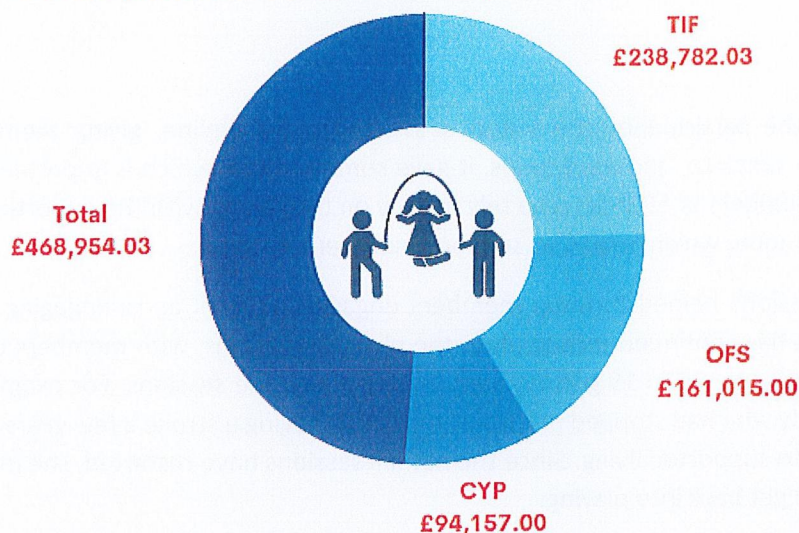
We have however been able to directly impact 15,982 people through the successful projects including the Tackling Inequalities Fund, Children and Young People programs and Opening School Facilities Funding.

- **Provide financial support to enable participation**

The 21-22 Financial year came with challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite barriers to delivery, Active Cheshire remained committed to funding projects to get young people active. The projects funded focused on supporting young people where Covid-19 may have created further barriers to being active; for example, those from lower socio-economic groups, long-term health conditions, mental health challenges and disabilities.

# THE NUMBERS

FUNDING DISTRIBUTED TO THE LOCAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SYSTEM (EXCLUDING SCHOOL GAMES)



## Inspire people to get active by promoting local opportunities

As we have transitioned back to a more face to face approach following the lifting of most COVID restrictions we have been able to engage more proactively with local groups across the region. A great example of this work and the transition from online back to face to face was the Ellesmere Port Community and Neston Special Olympics (EPCNSO)

### What we did

Reduce social isolation during the pandemic and connect with participants via social media.

Inspire disabled participants to get back into physical activity, creating an indirect benefit on their families and support networks.

#### Phase 1: Online virtual activity

Deliver 6 weeks of online sporting challenges to encourage members to re-engage in physical activity.

#### Phase 2: Re-introduction to group activity

A series of walks in the local parks and open spaces was arranged to re-connect as a group. With anxieties around returning to group activity and coming back to sport, it was felt that a gentle re-introduction would help. The walks enabled individuals to come together, catch-up in a safe and open environment with no competition or expectation around fitness or ability

### **Phase 3: Returning to the new normal**

Sessions were broken down and tailored around fun and engagement. Additional equipment, resources and time was needed to aid the seamless return to safe activity, with volunteers providing sustainability by continuing the sessions free of charge.

### **The Impact**

For many of the participants, the virtual sessions were a lifeline, giving them an opportunity to speak to, and see friends. It gave some routine, which is important to many of the members at EPCNSO who rely heavily on this, along with the opportunity to be active at home which helped to support their mental health.

The virtual sessions helped to keep members engaged, as well as re-engaging old members. This has continued through into the physical sessions, with members who had stopped prior to Covid-19 getting back involved with the sessions. For example, there was a lady who had stopped playing netball after having a stroke a few years ago and moving into supported living. Since the netball sessions have restarted, she made the decision to get back into playing.

Several individuals explained how they missed doing things during lockdown so wanted to get involved and that they felt safe at the sessions being run. Additionally, some members have been trying new sporting activities they have not done before.

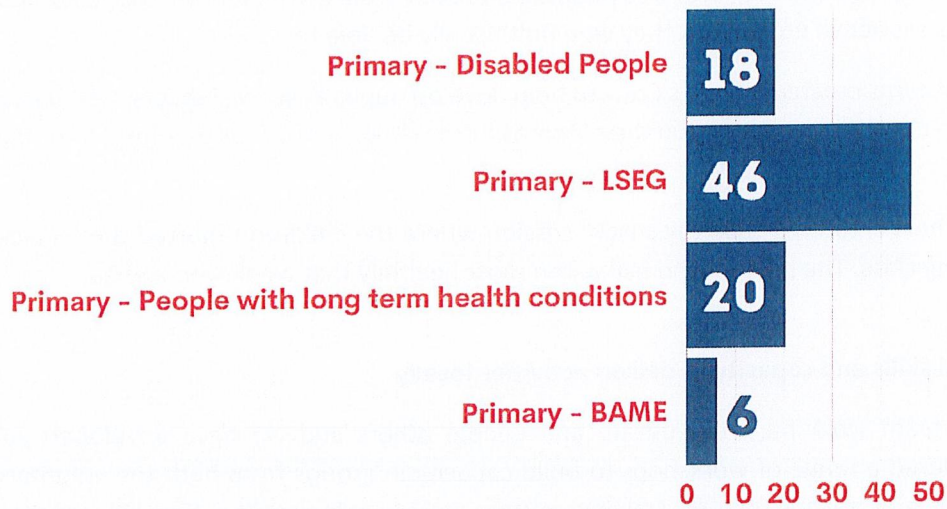
Including in-direct beneficiaries (families, support workers) this project has encouraged in-excess over 100 individuals to get back into regular physical activity.

- **Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities**

Active Cheshire is proud of our work in inclusive sport and physical activity and our long-established partnership with Activity Alliance, the lead body for inclusive sport.

We utilise our funding to deliver accessible projects across Cheshire and Warrington – the numbers can be seen below.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECTS BY PRIMARY TARGET GROUP:



- **Provide more opportunities for young people to get active**

29% of children and young people across Cheshire and Warrington are categorised by Sport England as 'less active'. Whilst this is lower than the North West (34%) and England (32%), there is still a need to lower inactivity levels. We know it is important to embed good habits and create positive relationships around physical activity and movement into the lives of young people in the hope that this continues through their lives and subsequently future generations.

A great example of this is the work done with Acorns Primary School:

### **What we did**

We introduced 'The Daily Mile' and improve playground accessibility and equipment. We created a 'Personal Best' challenge for each individual pupil as part of The Daily Mile.

In partnership with the school and the teachers, pupils were inspired to compete only against themselves, seeking to improve their own 'Personal Best' time.

To enhance our offer, Active Cheshire Mascot 'Active Archie' visited the school to further our engagement with all pupils. Additionally, the playground environment was enhanced with inclusive toys and games, allowing less traditional 'sport' to be played. The 'Healthy Living' workshops delivered in the classroom setting, ensure pupils and staff could focus on a rounded 'health' offer, which included easy to digest nutrition messages that pupils could take home.

## **The Impact**

The Daily Mile has activated 360 pupils and provided these children with opportunities to access active equipment they wouldn't usually be able to.

The Acorns created a Sports Crew to help develop pupils as young leaders, which gave them the skills needed to run their 'Acorns Intra School Sports Competitions' later that year.

Teachers created a "healthy snack" session where the children reported their snacks during class. The person who had eaten most healthily that week won a prize.

- **Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally**

The team work hard to educate and enable others and we have developed and delivered a range of workshops to build capacity in groups from both the voluntary, public and private sectors. Training courses include safeguarding, first aid, activator workshops and a programme for workplace champions. An example of this is the work we did with APC Cardiovascular Ltd:

### **What we did**

One of the key identified priorities from the staff team was to increase the number of steps they took each day. To help, we planned a step count competition during "Wellbeing Week". Additionally, an 'Active Hour' contest took place – allowing colleagues to share their creative ways of building physical activity into their days.

We provided an 'Active Chef' who ran a live virtual cook-along session to create a delicious Thai Green Curry. Enabling the team to meet out of the workplace, connect and learn to cook something new from scratch.

We created a virtual yoga session run by Cheshire Yoga and Fitness to enable the staff team to incorporate the joys of movement into their working and homes lives.

The business encouraged their teams to go on independent walks and challenged the staff to find items and bring them onto a team call afterwards. The use of physical activity as a social tool, and the 'hidden' use of physical activity proved very useful to the team.

## **The Impact**

Recognising the importance of supporting each other's mental health at this difficult time, APC Cardiovascular colleagues were trained by Active Cheshire's Mental Health Lead to successfully become Mental Health First Aid Trainers. A vital step in helping to reduce the stigma associated with mental health.

Additionally, colleagues held a virtual cuppa and chat drop-in session to check in on each other and catch up. Stephen Law-Lyons, Managing Director at APC Cardiovascular said "We recognised that 2020 was no normal year, so we really wanted to support our

team in the best way possible during these challenging times. The Wellbeing Week brought us all together and encouraged us to look after our physical and mental wellbeing. We are excited and committed to doing more of the same in 2021, with plans to do a further four wellbeing weeks throughout the year, along with other activities. We look forward to continuing to work with Active Cheshire to achieve our combined goals of being healthier and happier in 2021.”

- **Provide more opportunities for older people to get active**

We know that activity levels are negatively impacted for various reasons, including deprivation and health inequalities. Unfortunately, the two can create a cause-and-effect relationship. Whilst physical activity can't solve everything, it can go a long way in improving quality of life. This said, the system still hasn't found a way of communicating this message to everyone in a way that resonates with them. We don't only want the people of Cheshire and Warrington to be living longer, but also to be happier and healthier in life. The stark battle being faced is why we want to be part of the solution.

#### **What We Did**

Our work with Canal & River Trust continued in 2021/22 and has seen participants increase their use of the waterways even after the project finished. The Autumn 2021 programme provided an opportunity for local people to discover the local green spaces alongside the waterways, increasing the visibility of the C&RT as a physical provider of locations where people can exercise.

#### **The Impact**

When asked how often they visited the waterways, 23.9% on week 1 said they would do so between every 3 months and once a year. In week 6 the majority of respondent (36.4%) tell us that they access canal towpaths and green spaces at least once a week.

#### **Public Benefit**

This document sets out the progress made during 2021-2022 towards the achievement of our strategic goals and our charitable objects. It further qualifies and quantifies the impact of our work for public benefit and should be read in conjunction with the annexed financial statements.

#### **Public Benefit Statement**

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission

#### **Charity Operations**

Charity operations are overseen by Trustees and led operationally by the CEO.

Our current is CEO Mike Watson – who entered the role on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021.

## **Progress against Business Plan objectives**

Initial business plans were drawn up that included visions for growth and specific projects that required stakeholder engagement. As we emerged from Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdown the plan was revised to focus on reconnecting with stakeholders and restarting face to face engagement.

The following sets out our achievement against those objectives.

### **1. Getting the basics right every time**

Investment into systems, compliance and equipment.

We focused on our internal systems and processes in order to ensure compliance, good governance and efficiency. Our new Operations Manager reviewed and improved all internal processes and implemented a policy review process ensuring all policies were reviewed and signed off by the relevant committees.

### **Objective 2. Demonstrating quality and impact local/reg/national**

We produced 12 in depth cases studies – some of which have been highlighted earlier in this report to better tell the story of the impact we are having across Cheshire & Warrington.

### **Objective 3. Embed new team structure and culture**

2021/22 was a year of transition.

Workshops took place to discuss and agree values and what Active Cheshire stood for. These are reflected in our new objectives and strategy for launch in 2022/23 and our position as a strategic partner rather than a delivery function.

### **Objective 4. Maintaining/increasing strategic influence**

As we transitioned away from the “blueprint” and more towards an integrated system leader we have expanded our presence on strategic boards and working groups across the region including:

- Active Partnerships Network
- Sport England System Partners Network
- Cheshire & Merseyside Population Health Board
- Cheshire & Merseyside Population Health Board Physical Activity Sub Group
- Cheshire East Mental health partnership board
- Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Cheshire and Warrington Mental health prevention subgroups

- Community mental health transformation voluntary sector alliance (East and West)
- Active Partnership Network National Children and Young People group
- Warrington PE reference group
- Cheshire East Connected Communities (branch off into local areas)
- Active Environments (member and part of national steering group)
- Integrated Sustainable Transport Taskforce
- LEP Growth Hub
- Chester Sustainability Forum
- C&MHCP Population Health Board
- C&MHCP Population Health Physical Activity Subgroup
- C&M Nursing, Midwifery & AHP Workforce Development Programme Board
- EWBA and WLWC (Active Warrington)
- C&M PA Sub-group
- System P, Public Health Research Hub
- Winsford PCN
- System Partners MEL development

#### **Objective 5: Minimizing risk**

Risk is now reviewed monthly at Leadership Team meetings and robust procedures are in place to analyse and mitigate any new risks that need to be added.

In addition new risk management procedures have been introduced for all funded projects to ensure the partners we engage with are compliant and able to deliver the outcomes required.

#### **Objective 6: Culture**

Staff turnover is now very low and we have embedded our new values -

**Collaboration: we will work, and learn, together with others to achieve our common goals.**

**Integrity – We always do what we say we’re going to do in the right way and to the best of our ability, to achieve the best outcomes.**

**Inclusivity – We celebrate diversity, welcome all opinions and strive to tackle inequality.**

**Passion – We have pride and belief in everything we do and are committed to making a real difference.**

**Innovation – We want to break the mould and develop brave new ideas to ensure our communities have the best possible future.**

We continue to strive to be the best we can be and promote a happy workplace and a good work/life balance for all our staff.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our partnership with Sport England remain incredibly positive and important, and as our primary source of funding in 2021/22 (£550,910) we are committed to working together to achieve our joint aims. Of the £760,476 received, £92,904 are restricted funds.

The key factors likely to affect future financial performance are:

1. **Availability of public funds** including Lottery which is at risk given the incalculable impact of Brexit on future Government Funds and the unpredictability of future lottery sales which impacts on Sport England investment. Active Cheshire's current funding award commits funds from Sport England through until March 2027.
2. Our ability to present and grow a strong **value proposition to the local marketplace**, i.e. the performance and impact of our services which will support income diversification and is funded directly by the client recipient on behalf of beneficiaries.
3. **Pension liability** and any debt arising from crystallisation. This impacts on our annual accounts and balance sheet and distorts the view of income growth given its size. This can affect viability and confidence in the organisation. The unpredictable nature of the figure is a challenge which we hope to mitigate through a personalised review of the company's specific liability as a somewhat untraditional local government employer (atypical in size and scale).
4. The in- year operating surplus was £16,887, with a cumulative operating surplus before pension adjustment of £289,709. There was an end of year FRS102 pension adjustment of -£395,000 (favourable), this created a grand total in-year surplus of £411,887.

This year saw the organisation return an in year operating surplus of £16,886, this compares to a trading loss of £97,244 in 2020-21. There was an increase in income up from £645,893 in 2020-21 to £876,441 in 2021-22. The cumulative operating surplus rose from £272,822 to £289,709; this takes the cumulative trading surplus close to the £300,000 required in the Surplus Reserve Policy. There was an in year positive revaluation of the pension reserve of £395,000. At the end of the financial year the Pension liability stood at £233,000 compared to £628,000 the previous year. The overall reserves stood at £56,709 positive compared to the negative balance of £355,178 in the previous year. The Charity has returned to on-going profitability and is exploring additional ways of generating more income to support its objectives.

At the end of the financial year the bank and cash balance stood at £509,463. The trade debtors were £21,008 and Trade Creditors £39,797. There was a small bad debt provision for £889 and prepayments were £4902. There was £169,428 of deferred Income and accruals stood at £32,781. There were no concerns regarding any of the balance sheet balances.

The Charity anticipates a trading surplus of £10,000 in the 2022-23 financial year. Despite the unstable trading environment, the Charity remains positive about the future. The Trustees have no concerns about the organisation remaining a going concern for the next few years.

## **Reserves Policy**

Active Cheshire has in place a Reserves Policy to manage its levels of reserves and balances. We define "Reserves" as that part of our income funds that is freely available for operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits and not tied up in fixed assets. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that the Charity's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, considering risks associated with individual income streams, expenditure varying from budget, planned activity levels and organisational commitments. We use our reserves policy to inform our treasury management approach (e.g. the way in which we manage cash, liquid assets and debt).

The reserves of £300k that we have set aside provide financial stability and the means for the development of our principal activity.

## **Decision Making**

The Board makes strategic decisions on behalf of the Charity. Operational decisions are the responsibility of the CEO. The specifics of this arrangement are set out clearly within our Scheme of Delegation.

The process for making decisions is presented below. Operational decisions that may affect the strategic direction of the business will be discussed at the sub-groups and endorsed formally at Board. Equally, where strategic decisions are determined by the Board, these can be given substance through sub-group discussions with CEO.

1. Strategic Direction (Trustees agree strategy for the Charity and an Annual Business Plan)
2. Operational Implementation (CEO is responsible for delivery of the Annual Business Plan within agreed parameters and budget.
3. Operational Review / Legislative Change (Each year a mid-year business review takes place taking into consideration changes in the micro and macro environment and reflecting on progress to date/lessons learned). Regular performance reviews also take place quarterly at both Subgroup and Board.
4. Proposal to Amend / Review (the review may result in immediate change where deemed necessary or most likely to inform priorities within the following year's business plan).
5. Sub-group Review & Recommendation: scrutiny, advocacy and challenge is applied by subgroup members who will challenge any change or recommendations to ensure that proposals are robust, viable and align to charitable objects. A refined Business Plan is then presented to the entire Board with Budget for approval.
6. Return to point 1 to begin the cycle again

A NOMCOM Committee exists with delegated responsibility as set out in the Terms of Reference agreed by the Board. This group is the primary group responsible for making recommendations for the remuneration and pay policy for key management personnel although the People and Performance Subgroup can also recommend changes for Board consideration.

## **Remuneration of key management personnel**

Active Cheshire is committed to ensuring that we pay our people fairly and in a way which ensures we attract and retain the right skills to have the greatest impact in delivering our charitable objectives. Our approach to executive pay is in line with the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (AECVO) Good Pay Guide. In line with Active Cheshire's commitment to equality and diversity (see separate policy), Active Cheshire is committed to equal pay.

Active Cheshire remuneration policy and procedure sits with the Nomination Committee (NOMCOM), which meets annually. The Committee is comprised of the Chair of Active Cheshire (also NOMCOM Chair), the Senior Independent Director and both Vice-Chairs. Meetings are minuted.

The Committee sets the pay structure for the organisation and the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management.

The CEO is in attendance for the meeting (leaving for the discussion regarding the CEO's remuneration) and no members of the executive are members of the committee. Decisions by NOMCOM require ratification by full Board.

NOMCOM meets annually between the end of the financial year and beginning of the next to ensure that any remuneration is decided in the context of wider financial performance.

The Committee will consider facts prepared by the CEO to provide context for decision-making including:

- § The organisation's current financial position
- § Any existing or emerging risks that may impact on the organisation's financial stability
- § Comparing the competitiveness of Active Cheshire salary banding against credible independent market benchmarks
- § RPI as at 31 December
- § Public and Third-Sector pay awards and any related sensitivities
- § Individual and Team performance
- § Past-performance benchmarks
- § The significance of employees in delivering Active Cheshire's charitable vision and purpose

The Committee will consider the reflections and recommendations of the Chair, during his formal appraisal of the CEO against agreed objectives to determine the remuneration package (including any annual bonus) of the Chief Executive.

Discussion will take place within the meeting and any conclusions drawn will be presented to full Board for ratification and will be minuted in line with data protection laws.

The Chair will provide feedback to the CEO and will write formally to set out any decisions made and ensure inclusion of pay within published documentation (e.g. Annual Accounts/Reports) will be made to ensure legal compliance.

### **Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. These are shown on the Declaration of Interest and they are not involved in the decision are not made if they have an interest in the party. There is a process to declaring interests at Board meetings.

### **Managing Risk**

Risks are appraised regularly at an operational and strategic level and are recorded within a Risk Register. The register scores risks based on potential impact and likelihood and sets out plans for mitigation. Risk is discussed at every Board (and sub-group) meeting and reported via operational management meetings. A root and branch review is conducted annually with a detailed appraisal of macro and micro environment at the annual Strategic Planning Day.

### **Key risks**

There are 3 core risks actively managed by Trustees as follows:

(Key: 'L'= Low, 'M'=Medium, 'H'=High)

1. Team stability: given strategic changes the team has expanded and some long-serving employees have moved on to new careers. This has caused internal disruption and affected organisational memory, placing increased dependency on fewer, longer-serving staff..

Impact: H      Likelihood of continued turnover: M

Mitigation: a new induction process has enabled recruits to bed into the team and establish themselves, their networks, confidence and competences. A clearer performance-management system has been introduced to ensure regular engagement with staff to ensure that they are progressing well and feel supported. Careful financial management has been applied to income targets to ensure that responsibilities are shared across the team and reserves are used responsibly as contingency to alleviate pressure on individuals. The organisational has also invested into a new CRM system to ensure that relationships and engagement is recorded and accessible by the whole team.

Mitigated Impact: H      Mitigated likelihood of continued turnover: L

2. Pension liability: there is 1 staff member still enrolled in the Local Government (Defined Benefit) Pension Scheme (as of end of year 2022), originally a Final Salary Pension

Scheme but converted to a Career Average Pension Scheme in 2014. The Local Government Pension Scheme was closed to new employees in 2015 and replaced with a Defined Contribution Benefit Scheme. The Defined Benefit Pension Scheme liability continues to increase and future employer contributions remain unknown. There is a further risk of debt crystallisation should staff leave and/or the scheme close.

Impact: H Likelihood of increased costs: H

Mitigation: Trustees invited Cheshire Pension Fund (CPF) to meet to discuss the challenge, along with our accountants. CPF recognised the likelihood of our scheme closure at some point in the next 5-10 years and confirmed that it would collaborate with Active Cheshire proactively to determine a repayment plan should debt crystallise. They further acknowledged that the FRS102 reported liability did not accurately reflect the value or performance of their scheme which is strong. Active Cheshire is working with Cheshire Pension Fund to obtain a personalised calculation of FRS102 which can be utilised to inform future calculations and be legitimately referenced within the balance sheet. This provided assurance that the liability will be managed responsibly.

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of unplanned costs: M

3. Future funding from major funder: Sport England continues to be the largest funder investing in Active Cheshire, representing 80%+ of annual income. Their mandate recognising Active Cheshire as their 'agent' locally also gives credibility to the organisation. Sport England remains a lottery distributor nationally and continues to invest into a network of Active Partnerships like Active Cheshire. Funds have reduced with changes to the structure of lottery ticket pricing structure and income levels.

Impact: H Likelihood of reduced funding: M

Mitigation: Active Cheshire recognised the risk of dependency on a single funder in 2014 and committed to diversifying income which is progressing well. New products relating to the Blueprint Strategy have been developed and are generating income locally. Relationships with Sport England remain strong and Active Cheshire's approach was rated 'outstanding' securing a 3-year funding award through until 2021. Further funding has recently been secured to 2027. Contract performance remains strong with most contracts exceeding requirements in terms of output, innovation and impact. Active Cheshire invested in a dedicated manager, now embedded in role, to further develop relationships with Sport England and our national counterparts. This will provide greater visibility, an opportunity to promote our work and increase partnership and funding prospects.

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of reduced income: L

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.
- The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



.....

Martin B Pearson – Trustee and Chair

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Active Cheshire Limited "the charitable company" for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### 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 charitable company 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 Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

### 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 (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

In connection with our audit of the financial statements 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- The information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 22, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of laws, regulations and guidance that affect the Charitable Company, focusing on those that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws, regulations and guidance that we identified included the Companies Act 2006, tax legislation, health and safety legislation, and employment legislation.
- We enquired of the Trustees and reviewed correspondence and Trustee meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the Trustees have in place, where necessary, to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks.
- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE  
LIMITED**

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Mark Bradley BA BFP FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

BEEVER AND STRUTHERS

Statutory Auditor

Suite 9b

The Beehive Lions Drive

Shadsworth Business Park

Blackburn BB1 2QS

Date: 22/12/22

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31/3/22 Total funds	31/3/21 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	715,444	92,904	808,348	613,910
Other trading activities	3	68,050	-	68,050	31,628
Investment income	4	<u>43</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>355</u>
<b>Total</b>		783,537	92,904	876,441	645,893
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds	5	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6				
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching		262,551	92,904	355,455	235,744
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities		<u>531,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>531,099</u>	<u>517,394</u>
<b>Total</b>		793,650	92,904	886,554	753,138
<b>NET (EXPENDITURE)</b>		(10,113)	-	(10,113)	(107,244)
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit schemes		<u>422,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>422,000</u>	<u>(619,000)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		411,887	-	411,887	(726,244)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		(355,178)	-	(355,178)	371,066
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>56,709</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,709</u>	<u>(355,178)</u>

## REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)


BALANCE SHEET  
AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/22 Total funds £	31/3/21 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	14	7,449	-	7,449	3,608
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	15	24,900	-	24,900	22,610
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>509,464</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>509,464</u>	<u>392,358</u>
		534,364	-	534,364	414,968
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(252,104)	-	(252,104)	(145,754)
		<u>282,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>282,260</u>	<u>269,214</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		289,709	-	289,709	272,822
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
PENSION LIABILITY	20	(233,000)	-	(233,000)	(628,000)
		<u>56,709</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,709</u>	<u>(355,178)</u>
<b>NET (LIABILITIES)</b>					
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds (After deduction of pension liability)	18			56,709	(355,178)
Restricted funds				<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
				<u>56,709</u>	<u>(355,178)</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on  
on its behalf by:

2022 and were signed

  
.....  
Martin B Pearson - Chair

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	31/3/22 £	31/3/21 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash generated from operations		<u>123,657</u>	<u>107,026</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<u>123,657</u>	<u>107,206</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(6,594)	-
Interest received		<u>43</u>	<u>355</u>
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities</b>		<u>(6,551)</u>	<u>355</u>
		<u>117,106</u>	<u>107,381</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		117,106	107,381
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>392,258</u>	<u>284,977</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u><u>509,364</u></u>	<u><u>392,258</u></u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
<b>Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	(10,113)	(107,244)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	2,754	4,269
Interest received	(43)	(355)
(increase)/Decrease in debtors	(2,290)	183,094
Increase in creditors	106,349	17,262
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>27,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u>123,657</u>	<u>107,026</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charitable company is registered in England and Wales.

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (£) and transactions are rounded to the nearest £. The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis and no material uncertainties exist as to whether the charitable company is able to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

**Going concern**

The balance sheet shows an overall surplus of £56,709 (2021 deficit £355,178) at the balance sheet date. This is after FRS102 pension deficit of £233,000 (2021 deficit £628,000) is included. The trustees have reviewed the charity's expected cashflows for the foreseeable future and have concluded that it is able to meet its financial obligations, including cash contributions to the Cheshire Pension Fund, as they fall due. Thus the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

**Income (including government grants)**

All incoming resources are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of provision of specified services is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

All Grant income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds, having performed the obligations under any grant conditions, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Trading income is recognised on delivery of the goods or service as per the contract and as delivered on the balance sheet date as a proportion of the total contract value. Where the amount of income is contingent on future events, this is only recognised where the amount of income can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the economic benefits will be received. When this cannot be estimated reliably, income is only recognised to the value of the goods and service that it is considered probable will be recovered. Goods or services provided to the client which at the balance sheet date have not been billed have been recognised as income and are included in debtors as accrued income.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**Expenditure**

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

**Grants payable**

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the Charity's objects. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant awarded. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the one-year or multi-year grant. Grant awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Charity.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The provision for a multi-year grant is recognised at its present value where settlement is due over more than one year from the date of the award, there are no unfulfilled performance conditions under the control of the Charity that would permit the Charity to avoid making the future payment(s), settlement is probable, and the effect of discounting is material.

**Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

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

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

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

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charity contributes to a defined benefit pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested when a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of material reduction in the scheme membership or reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the Statement of Financial Activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of the return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme surplus (to the extent that it can be recovered) is recognised in full on their Balance Sheet, net of related deferred tax.

The charity also contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. Contributions to this scheme are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

**Irrecoverable vat**

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

**Debtors**

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

**Creditors**

Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**Cash at bank**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash held on deposit with a short maturity of three months or less.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Financial assets are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs) and subsequently held at cost, less any impairment.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form. Financial liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (after deducting transaction costs) and subsequently held at amortised cost.

**Key judgements and estimates**

The accounting policies above which, represent key judgements and estimates are :-

Tangible Fixed Assets-the depreciation rate is based upon an estimate of the useful life of each asset group.

Creditors-there is £2575 for holiday pay, this is an estimate of the likely exposure for holidays not taken at year end. There is £169,428 included in deferred income, this represents an estimate of the income received for which work has not yet been undertaken. This is shown in note 16.

Pension-The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension's liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 March 2022. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

**Taxation**

The Trustees consider that requirements for the exemption from taxation set out in the Income Tax Act 2007, Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are met and, therefore, no provision is made for taxation.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Grants and contracts	<u>808,348</u>	<u>613,910</u>

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

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Chester West & Chester Council	38,000	48,000
Sport England	760,476	550,910
The Football Foundation	-	5,000
Edsential Community Interest Group	9,542	-
Cheshire Community Foundation	330	-
Holroyd Foundation	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	<u>808,348</u>	<u>613,910</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Fundraising events	-	3,051
Course fees and sundry income	68,050	13,803
COVID Job Retention Scheme	<u>-</u>	<u>14,774</u>
	<u>68,050</u>	<u>31,628</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>43</u>	<u>355</u>

**5. RAISING FUNDS**

**Other trading activities**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Bad debts	<u>(5,935)</u>	<u>6,824</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

2022	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 7)	Support costs (See note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	319,167	-	211,932	531,099
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>-</u>	<u>355,455</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>355,455</u>
	<u>319,167</u>	<u>355,455</u>	<u>211,932</u>	<u>886,554</u>

Charitable activities costs were funded by Sport England grant as follows:

Active Cheshire direct and support cost £454,335

Contributions to partner organisations £91,084

2021	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 7)	Support costs (See note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	241,729	-	275,665	517,344
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>-</u>	<u>235,744</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>235,744</u>
	<u>241,729</u>	<u>235,744</u>	<u>275,665</u>	<u>753,138</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**7. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>355,455</u>	<u>235,744</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Champs Public Health- National Partner	26,201	11,709
DofE	-	3,145
Satellite Clubs*	11,262	23,853
School Games*	-	31,457
Tackling Inequality*	92,903	114,536
Mount Killimanjaro	4,305	1,300
Donation	-	100
Opening School Facilities*	141,017	-
Children & Young People*	79,767	-
Other	<u>          </u>	<u>49,644</u>
	<u>355,455</u>	<u>235,744</u>

\* Fully funded by Sport England

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**8. SUPPORT COSTS**

2022	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Salary & Wages	147,345	-	147,345
Accountancy and Professional Services	-	32,313	32,313
Audit	-	7,600	7,600
Payroll and HR	5,340	-	5,340
Other	<u>17,323</u>	<u>2,011</u>	<u>19,334</u>
	<u>170,008</u>	<u>41,924</u>	<u>211,932</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

2021	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Salary & Wages	166,208	-	166,208
Accountancy and Professional Services	30,972	4,925	35,897
Audit	-	7,225	7,225
Payroll and HR	9,473	-	9,473
Other	<u>53,853</u>	<u>3,009</u>	<u>56,862</u>
	<u>264,806</u>	<u>10,859</u>	<u>275,665</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

**9. NET EXPENDITURE**

Net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Auditors remuneration-audit fee	7,600	7,225
Depreciation - owned assets	2,754	4,269
Lease payments-Rent/Photocopier/Container	<u>12,391</u>	<u>12,383</u>

**10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were, payments to one trustee for interim CEO support of £7,500 for the year ended 31 March 2022 (2021 £25,312)

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustee expenses paid in 2022 (2021 - £209, 1 Trustee).

**11. STAFF COSTS**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	333,949	352,163
Social security costs	25,913	29,560
Other pension costs	<u>14,497</u>	<u>24,614</u>
	<u>374,359</u>	<u>406,337</u>

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

	31/3/22	31/3/21
Partnership Services	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 (pro-rata) was:

	31/3/22	31/3/21
£60,000 - £70,000	1	0
£90,000-£100,000	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and Chief Executive. The total employee Benefits of the key management personnel were £46,404 (2021 £95,907). The Trust purchased Consultancy services from one Trustee during the year £7,500 (2021 £25,312). Prior to engaging the services of Taylory Ltd the charity sought legal advice from Browne Jacobson LLP and the services were engaged in accordance with this advice.

**12. EX GRATIA PAYMENTS**

The charity made no settlement payment during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. (2021 Termination/PILON/Car Allowance £17,572).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	397,762	216,147	615,687
Other trading activities	31,628	-	31,628
Investment income	<u>355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>355</u>
<b>Total</b>	429,747	216,147	645,893
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	19,597	216,147	235,744
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	517,394	-	517,394
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Total</b>	536,691	216,147	753,138
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(107,244)	-	(107,244)
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>			
Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit schemes	<u>(619,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(619,000)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	(726,244)	-	(726,244)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	371,066	-	371,066
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	355,178	-	355,178

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**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 April 2021	16,580	20,651	37,231
Additions	<u>0</u>	<u>6,594</u>	<u>6,594</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>16,580</u>	<u>27,245</u>	<u>43,825</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 April 2020	14,933	18,690	33,623
Charge for year	<u>891</u>	<u>1,862</u>	<u>4,249</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>15,824</u>	<u>20,552</u>	<u>36,376</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE`</b>			
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,647</u>	<u>1,961</u>	<u>3,608</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>756</u>	<u>6,693</u>	<u>7,448</u>

**15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/22 £	31/3/21 £
Trade debtors	21,009	13,040
Prepayments and accrued income	4,902	5,032
VAT	<u>(121)</u>	<u>4,538</u>
	<u>25,790</u>	<u>22,610</u>

**16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/22 £	31/3/21 £
Trade creditors	39,797	26,494
Social security and other taxes	10,098	7,144
Other creditors	169,428	70,214
Accruals and deferred income	<u>32,781</u>	<u>41,902</u>
	252,103	145,754

Deferred income included above represents monies being held on behalf of other organisations or has been received but no work commissioned at the balance sheet date.

Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	70,214
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(70,214)
Amount Deferred in year	169,428
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022	<u>169,428</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**17. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

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

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Within one year-Building Lease	10,215	10,125
Between one and five years-Building Lease	<u>10,215</u>	<u>20,430</u>
	20,430	30,555

**18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/21	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/22
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	272,822	178,887	451,709
Defined benefit scheme fund	<u>(628,000)</u>	<u>233,000</u>	<u>(395,000)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>(355,178)</u>	<u>411,887</u>	<u>56,709</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and (losses)	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	783,537	(793,650)	422,000	411,887
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Tracking Inequality	92,904	(92,904)	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>876,441</u>	<u>(886,554)</u>	<u>422,000</u>	<u>411,887</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 222**

**18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/21 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General fund	370,066	(97,244)	272,822
Defined benefit scheme fund	<u>1,000</u>	<u>(629,000)</u>	<u>(628,000)</u>
	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>371,066</u>	<u>(726,244)</u>	<u>(355,178)</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and (losses) £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	414,972	(522,216)	(619,000)	(726,244)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
DofE Volunteers	22,000	(22,000)	-	-
Satellite Clubs	20,113	(20,113)	-	-
Primary Games Delivery	49,498	(49,498)	-	-
Tackling Inequality	114,536	(114,536)		
Westminster Foundation	<u>10,000</u>	-----	-----	-----
	216,147	(216,147)		
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>631,119</u>	<u>(738,363)</u>	<u>(619,000)</u>	<u>(726,244)</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or terms of an agreement.

The balances on the restricted funds (currently there is no restricted balance) are held within the charity in order to provide, in future periods, the specific delivery of activities in accordance with the restrictions under which the income was provided .

At the balance sheet date the general fund was in deficit after the deduction of the defined benefit scheme surplus of £422,000 (2020 – DEFICIT £629,000).

**19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

Cash and cash equivalent	At 1/4/21	Cash flows	At 31/3/22
Cash	<u>£ 392,358</u>	<u>£117,106</u>	<u>£509,464</u>

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity participates in the Cheshire Pension fund, part of the local government scheme, a defined benefit statutory scheme in accordance with local government pension scheme regulations 1997 as amended, Cheshire West and Chester Council administers the fund.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS – continued**

The total contribution made for the year ended 31 March 2022 was £11,000 (2021 - £30,000) of which employer's contributions totalled £9,000 (2021 - £22,000) and employees' contributions totalled £2,000 (2021 - £8,000).

Robert Bilton FFA of Hymans Robertson carried out a full actuarial valuation at 31 March 2016.

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Fair value of plan assets	<u>2,534,000</u>	<u>2,362,000</u>
Defined benefit obligation	<u>2,767,000</u>	<u>2,990,000</u>
	<u>(233,000)</u>	<u>(628,000)</u>
Net Liability	<u>(233,000)</u>	<u>(628,000)</u>

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Current service cost	23,000	32,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	-	-
	<u>23,000</u>	<u>32,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>164,000</u>	<u>342,000</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation	2,990,000	1,992,000
Current service cost	23,000	32,000
Contributions by scheme participants	2,000	8,000
Interest cost	61,000	46,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	(306,000)	915,000
Benefits paid	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
	<u>2,767,000</u>	<u>2,990,000</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets	2,362,00	1,993,000
Contributions by employer	9,000	22,000
Contributions by scheme participants	2,000	8,000
Expected return	48,000	46,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	116,000	296,000
Benefits paid	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
	<u>2,534,000</u>	<u>2,362,000</u>

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
Actuarial gains/(losses)	<u>(422,000)</u>	<u>(619,000)</u>
	<u>(422,000)</u>	<u>(619,000)</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/22	31/3/21
Equities	42%	46%
Bonds	42%	40%
Property	10%	10%
Cash	6%	4%

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages)

	31/3/22	31/3/21
Discount rate	3.0%	2.05%
Future salary increases	0.0%	3.5%
Future pension increases	3.0%	2.8%

ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	31/3/22	31/3/21
Retiring today:		
Males	21.2	21.4
Females	23.8	25.7
Future:		
Males	22.1	22.4
Females	25.5	25.7

**Defined contribution scheme**

The company makes contributions to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. The cost for the period was £5,247 (2021 - £6,956)

**21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

**Taylorly Ltd**

Paula Cohen is a Trustee of Active Cheshire and the Director of Taylorly Ltd. During the year the following transactions took place with Taylorly Limited

	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)
	2021-22	2021-22	2020-21	2020-21
Staff recruitment	-	7,500	-	25,313

Prior to engaging the services of Taylorly Ltd the charity sought legal advice from Browne Jacobson LLP and the services were engaged in accordance with this advice.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES – continued**

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**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

All related party transactions have taken place on an arm's length basis and the individuals connected to Active Cheshire and its related party are not involved in any decisions relating to such transactions.

**22. FUNDRAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity raises charitable funds in-house and does not engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator to carry out these activities. The charity has not bound itself to a voluntary scheme for regulating fund-raising and has not received any complaints with respect to its fund-raising. The charity avoids unreasonable intrusion into a person's privacy, unreasonable persistent approaches and undue pressure on persons in connection with fund-raising.

**23. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Grants and contracts	808,348	613,910
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Fundraising events	-	3,051
Course fees and sundry income	68,050	13,803
Covid Job Retention Scheme	-	14,724
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	876,398	31,628
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	43	355
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	876,441	645,893
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Bad debts	(5,935)	6,824
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Contribution to partners	355,454	136,456
Contribution to partners wages allocated	147,345	49,644
Wages	186,603	352,163
Social Security	25,913	29,560
Pensions	14,497	24,614
Equipment and facilities	1,075	120
Insurance	3,059	4,139
Telephone	5,651	6,494
Printing, postage and photocopying	1,275	1,043
Sundry office costs	8,812	6,324
Travelling expenses	7,167	6,412
Training fees	2,498	2,349
Rent and premises costs	11,624	3,095
Marketing	1,619	(1,209)
Refreshments	1,058	111
Computer expenses	5,799	6,603
Professional fees	26,235	33,249
Memberships and subscriptions	8,333	5,067
Fixtures and fittings	-	-
Computer equipment	-	-
Expected return on pension scheme assets / FRS102 Contribution	14,000	10,000
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	13,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	835,082	677,125

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**Support Costs**

	31/3/22	31/3/21
	£	£
<b>Finance</b>		
Bank charges	458	544
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Trustees' expenses	-	209
Auditors' remuneration	7,600	7,225
Auditors' remuneration for non-audit work	-	-
Accountancy fees	32,313	35,898
Other	<u>11,100</u>	<u>25,312</u>
	<u>51,013</u>	<u>68,644</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	886,554	749,148
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<b>Net expenditure</b>	<u>(10,113)</u>	<u>(107,244)</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 701764

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 701764



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 FOR**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

**Contents of the Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 March 2021.**

<b>CHAIR'S FOREWORD</b> .....	3
<b>REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (Including the Directors Report)</b> .....	5
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED</b> .....	27
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	31
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> .....	32
<b>CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	33
<b>NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b> .....	34
<b>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b> .....	35
<b>DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b> .....	54

(This does not form part of the financial statements)

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**CHAIR'S FOREWORD**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Despite the enduring challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020/21 has been a productive year for Active Cheshire. The activities and initiatives outlined in the 'Achievement and Performance' section of this report highlight the team's ability to adapt to changing circumstances; to build upon existing good practice; to innovate and invest in new activities; and to flex services to meet the remote working model that has emerged during the periods of lockdown which we have experienced during the pandemic. In many ways it has been a brave new world and the trustees have been pleased with the way the team have come together to respond to new challenges and, more importantly, how they have developed and grown in confidence during the year. So, a big thank you to the team for all that they have – individually and collectively - accomplished this year. The trustees also recognise and appreciate that our partners have been instrumental in delivering against our shared ambition, so a big thank you to them, too.

2020/21 has also been a year of significant change for Active Cheshire. Following an extensive recruitment and selection process, supported by Sherrington Associates, Sport England and Active Partnerships, the trustees appointed Mike Watson as their new Chief Executive. Mike joins us with an impressive track record of building inclusive teams with a clear focus on developing and delivering collaborative solutions with partners and communities - this is something that the trustees discussed at length during the year and want to build upon over the coming months. Building and fostering an inclusive culture where everyone in the organisation has a voice and displays the right behaviours will be a key theme as we develop plans with our partners for the future.

It would be remiss of me not to mention and thank the trustees for their involvement and support during the ten-month period between the departure of the previous Chief Executive and the appointment of the new Chief Executive. The operational and technical work that they have undertaken during this period, and the support and coaching that they have provided the team has been crucial and warmly welcomed. The commitment and input of Paula Cohen, Martin Pearson, Bill Evans and members of the Oversight Committee – established to provide some independent oversight during the ten-month period – are particularly worthy of note.

In addition to the above, the trustees engaged Browne Jacobson for their assistance in drafting new Articles of Association for the charity. These have since been adopted by the trustees (the Board) and include up to date advice and guidance from the Charity Commission, Companies House and Sport England. They also provide some much-needed clarity on the roles and responsibilities of trustees. As a consequence of this particular piece of work, Browne Jacobson were asked to develop and provide a programme of learning and development for trustees for 2021/22. The programme was completed and agreed, and the first trustees' learning and development session was held in July 2021.

A key area for development over the period, which involved the Trustees and staff working in close partnership, was the formulation of new values for Active Cheshire, which built upon those already in place. The new values of Collaboration, Inclusivity, Innovation, Integrity and Passion articulate how our collective efforts should be guided, and the moral compass through which our decisions should be made. The extensive work undertaken in this area, which includes further work on the meanings behind the words and the actions which exemplify them, provide a clear lens through which Active Cheshire can be held accountable, both internally and externally by our partners and stakeholders.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED  
CHAIR'S FOREWORD  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The Trustees also commissioned an independent external evaluation of their (the Board's) effectiveness. The evaluation was conducted by Campbell Tickell and commenced in December; the final report was received in July 2021. The evaluation involved a review of governance documents, observation of meetings and interviews with a number of trustees. The outcome and findings from the evaluation were encouraging and provided trustees with the assurance that they were operating effectively and in accordance with the various governance documents and associated policies and guidance. Several recommendations were made, and these have been incorporated into an action plan which forms part of our plans for 2021/22. The outcomes from a Quest Improvement Workshop (Sport England's recommended continuous improvement tool) held in February have also been included in our plans for 2021/22.

To conclude, 2020/21 has been a positive and productive year; a year where the team has grown and risen to the challenge; a year of change, development, evaluation, and reflection; a year where the real value of trustees' skills and experience have come to the fore; a year where we have reconnected with partners; and a year where we have started to foster a new inclusive culture with a focus on developing future plans with our partners. I am confident that the team and trustees will continue to give their all in the pursuit of the charity's objects and in our improvement journey. We therefore look forward to the challenges of 2021/22.

**Dr Paul Hancock OBE - Chair, Active Cheshire**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Members of the Board and Professional Advisers**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. This report includes the Directors Report for the purposes of the company law.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Members of the Board and Professional Advisers

**The Charity**

Charity No.:	701764
Company No.:	02401068
Registered Charity Name:	Active Cheshire Limited
Registered Office:	Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 1AH

<b><u>Trustees</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Dr Paul Hancock OBE	Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2017
Martin Pearson	Vice-Chair	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2017
Susan Sellers	Senior Independent Director	29th November 2017
William Evans	Vice-Chair	22nd July 2014
Paula Cohen	Trustee	7th November 2012
Carol Clarke	Trustee	29th November 2017
Graham Evans	Trustee	19 November 2018
Davinder Gill	Trustee	2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2020
Nigel Allman	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Heather Barnes	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Rachel Waterman	Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
Michelle Partington	Trustee	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020

<b><u>Trustees – resigned in year</u></b>	<b><u>Date of Resignation</u></b>
Paul McGladrigan	Trustee 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2020

<b><u>Chief Executive Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Date Appointed</u></b>
Anne Boyd (Resigned 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2020)	CEO 1 July 2012
Paula Cohen	Acting CEO 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2020

<b><u>Auditor</u></b>	<b><u>Bank</u></b>	<b><u>Solicitor</u></b>
Beever and Struthers St George's House 215-219 Chester Road Manchester, M15 4JE	Barclays Bank Plc 30 St Werburgh Street Chester Cheshire, CH1 1 XB	Mills & Reeve LLP 8th and 9th Floor 1 New York Street Manchester, M1 4AD

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The Trustee recruitment process is open and transparent. All Trustees receive a comprehensive induction and are subject to annual appraisal and development as set out in the Active Cheshire Limited Governance Manual. As a recognised Active Partnership commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must demonstrate compliance as a Tier 3 provider with the Code of Sports Governance.

**Staff**

*As of 31/03/2021*

**Chief Executive Officer (Acting)**

**Local Area Team Manager**

Strategic Lead Active Minds  
Health & Social Care Activator  
Strategic Lead Active Kids  
Delivery Officer

**Operations Manager**

Marketing Co-ordinator Digital & Design  
Organisational Development Officer

**National Contracts & Partnership Manager**

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Active Cheshire Limited is a charity that exists for public benefit. It aims to improve the health and wellbeing of local citizens with a mission to embed physical activity into all aspects of everyday life.

To achieve this It will focus on its charitable objectives to ensure that the necessary resources and information are available to make sport and physical activity happen locally. Trustees will further ensure that, in line with our objects, opportunities to get active are available to everyone, regardless of age, gender, background or ability.

**Active Cheshire Limited's charitable objects are to:**

1. Increase opportunities to get active locally

'In the interests of social welfare, to provide or assist in the provision of opportunities for the benefit of the inhabitants of the County of Cheshire for physical and athletic recreation or other leisure-time physical and athletic activity, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants';

2. Provide financial support to enable participation

'To relieve the need, hardship and distress of such inhabitants in conditions of need, hardship and distress by providing financial or other assistance so enabling them to participate in the opportunities provided by the company';

3. Inspire people to get active by promoting local opportunities

'To disseminate or assist in the dissemination of information encouraging such inhabitants to participate in physical recreation (including sport) to promote their health and wellbeing';

4. Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting opportunities for disabled people to relieve or alleviate their conditions';

5. Provide more opportunities for young people to get active

'Provide or assist in the provision of sporting facilities for young persons aged under 25 years of age to secure or advance their physical education and training and enhance their education generally';

6. Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally

'Develop or assist in the development of the capacity and skills of the members of socially and economically disadvantaged communities within the county of Cheshire in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs in regard to physical and athletic recreation or other physical and athletic activity, so improving their conditions of life';

7. Provide more opportunities for older people to get active

'Provide and assist in the provision of opportunities for physical and athletic recreation or other physical activity for older people, to promote their health and well-being'.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**- PROGRESS AGAINST CHARITABLE OBJECTS**

- **Increase opportunities to get active locally**

Active Cheshire's mission, developed in partnership with stakeholders from Warrington and Cheshire and Sport England, is to embed physical activity into all aspects of everyday life. We want to help everyone to get active on a regular basis and are committed to trying new approaches to influence the individual habits of our community.

As a charity we recognise the importance of partnership working and the value of influencing change, rather than working independently to tackle this enormous problem.

We have worked hard to influence and shape the number and range of opportunities available locally in the following ways:

- a. **Investing in new activities** The onset of COVID-19 has forced us to think differently about how we can have the most impact. By developing online training and utilising systems such as Zoom and Teams we have been able to successfully adapt to the new challenges. Our online and virtual activities have been well received and we will continue to deliver in this way in addition to face to face work when restrictions are lifted
- b. **Helping to scale up existing good practice** Work has continued with Cheshire & Merseyside partnership. Thanks to the excellent work delivered in this year and in previous years this has the potential to grow and attract more funding going forward. Our Mental Health First Aid training offer is now established and grew massively in the year and will continue to attract further income in the next years.
- c. **Promoting the local offer** Our local offer has been maintained mainly using the virtual platform however we expanded our active travel route work and we have had numerous requests for more routes from Cheshire West and Chester Council
- d. **Widening access to existing provision** The Disability Awareness Day (DAD) was a virtual event this year and we provided a virtual program for the day which was well received. Internally we have worked hard on E&D to ensure that our offer is inclusive – particularly in the allocation of funding from Sport England such as the Tackling Inequalities Fund (TIF)
- e. **Delivering fun activities** Although face to face activities have been limited due to lockdown we have delivered a lot of online events such as cook along and time to talk sessions as well as a very successful wellness program for APC Cardiovascular which is detailed later in this report
- f. **Delivering major events** has not been possible due to lockdown, however we set up successful walking programs with Canal and River Trust and Walkeez which had significant local impact and were well received by participants – detailed later in this report

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

We continue to engage with Schools and Workplaces through our Active Plans. The Bronze Silver and Gold offers have allowed us to be more flexible in what we offer and how we deliver. This has been vital in our success in offering support during lockdown. The virtual aspect of our delivery has been so well received that this will continue to be an option post COVID and lead us to being more of a consultant/partner to our customers than simply hands on delivery.

- **Provide financial support to enable participation**

The 20-21 Financial year came with challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite barriers to delivery, Active Cheshire remained committed to funding projects to get young people active. The projects funded focused on supporting young people where Covid-19 may have created further barriers to being active; for example, those from lower socio-economic groups, long-term health conditions, mental health challenges and disabilities.

Active Cheshire directly invested £14,035 into schools, community organisations and clubs to provide activities for young people outside of the school day. Activities included a wide range of provision from yoga to baseball. These activities targeted those who typically chose not to get involved in physical activity and sport due to lack of confidence or wider socio-economic circumstances. These clubs also in some circumstances achieved wider societal outcomes including reductions in anti-social behaviour and social isolation.

Baseball with Cheshire Buddies	£1,090
WYC	£22
Community Rugby Sessions (Warrington) - Crossfield Vipers	£850
Winsford Disability Football	£655
Flower Project	£0 – Partner donation
Warrington Armed Forces Community Hub Bowling	£1,800
MisFits	£2,708
Playbox - Warrington Hospital	£300
Girls Dodgeball	£2,149
Cheshire Yoga & Dance	£1,200
Cardinal Newman Catholic High School Yoga	£500
Fallibroome Academy Yoga	£500
Park Road Primary School Yoga	£500
Boing 1	£200
Boing 2	£200
Alvanley Cricket Club - Girls Sessions	£1,360

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The Boing courses provided were attended by 62 participants, all of which work with children and young people in schools or community settings. These individuals will now become activators within their community, providing opportunities for children and young people to get active through play.

Further to this, Active Cheshire ran a campaign #MyMountain. Active Cheshire wanted to create a support network for women and girls which offered encouragement and inspiration, as well as celebrating the 'climbing' or 'summitting' of each person's own physical activity 'mountain', subsequently impacting on confidence levels. For some this may be running a marathon, for others it might be doing couch to 5k or finding some time to do some yoga. It does not matter what the mountain is, it is about taking it on and getting active in a way that works for each woman. This campaign was created to inspire more women to get active. Whether your mountain is a triathlon or increasing your steps throughout the day, there is no "right" way to get active. Exercise is about finding what works for you.

It is worth noting that a further £8,306 of the Satellite Club funding has been allocated to projects that were unable to start in the 20-21 financial year due to Covid-19 restrictions; however, they will be starting in the coming months.

Deeside Ramblers Hockey – Mental Wellbeing Through Hockey	£2,400
Cotswold House Walking Project	£2,406
Cheshire Police Rugby Sessions	£1,000
Holmes Chapel Boxing Club	£2,500

- **Inspire people to get active by promoting local opportunities**

The importance of social media and virtual support increased hugely in 20/21 and we have adapted our approach to deal with this. The onset of the Covid 19 pandemic has put more emphasis on our offerings. Activities that would normally take place in groups such as fitness classes are now being taken online. Active Cheshire links customers and partners in order to make sure these activities are available to those that need them via our website. We also provide the latest government advice on COVID-19, Self help guides encouraging people to get active in simple ways like walking to work, inspirational stories that inspire people to get active, apps to support self-help and local provision are all included on the resources page.

An example of a different approach, where we enhance/connect individual provision to create more demand, is our work with the 'Active Waterways' project by the Canal & River Trust charity, aimed at encouraging people over 55 to get active and healthy.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Anika Neill, Active Waterways project manager with the Canal & River Trust, said: "This is a wonderful chance for us to provide new health and fitness opportunities for older people in Cheshire. We know our canals already offer great ways to enjoy the big outdoors for walkers, boaters, joggers, anglers, cyclists and paddle boarders.

"We hope this project will reach people who may not be used to being active on a regular basis. Life truly is better by water and in Cheshire we have some of the most beautiful rural waterways in the country."

Other examples include -

TIF Cycle/Recycle project with the Armed Forces Community Support.

Working with a Military veterans charity located in Orford, Warrington who work closely alongside Cheshire Police with the collection, restoration and service of bicycles which have either been involved in crime or bicycles which have been stolen and cannot be returned. These bicycles are stripped repaired, serviced and handed back to military veterans who have no other means of transportation.

EJ Arnold, Chief Exec of AFCS said - "So far we have serviced and repaired over 51 bicycles, ranging from punctures and brake pad replacements to full gear linkage stripping and re-assembling. This has only been possible with the support and guidance from Active Cheshire and Sport England for the funding."

- **Ensure that local opportunities are inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities**

Active Cheshire is proud of our work in inclusive sport and physical activity and our long-established partnership with Activity Alliance, the lead body for inclusive sport.

The Disability Awareness Day (DAD) was again a virtual event which we supported with an online portal

We have partnered with a flower nursery called Mockridge Nurseries, Age UK and a local Social Care team to distribute flowers into the homes of older people and people suffering from mental health challenges.

Local people at Making Space Housing on David Street and The Old Vicarage were given plants to share gardening responsibilities with those who have disabilities and mental health challenges.

Active Cheshire were devastated to hear of the tragic loss of Tony Mitchell of Winsford Disability Football Club. We continued with our support of the club via our satellite club funding.

- **Provide more opportunities for young people to get active**

With almost a quarter of children already overweight or obese at aged 4 years, children and young people remain a priority for Active Cheshire.

The onset of Covid-19 made it almost impossible to deliver face to face projects with schools, however despite lockdown we have been able to offer support and consultation services to schools through Active Travel routes and the Boing training.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Active Cheshire remains the regional lead accountable for delivery of Cheshire and Warrington School Games. Games take place twice per year and enable more than 2000 young people to organise and compete in a School Games Festival.

Despite the Covid-19 Pandemic the games were still delivered by videos and online sessions thanks to the hard work of all those involved including Active Cheshire

The team continues to work with a wide variety of youth organisations providing advice, support, evidence and funding. Groups include Warrington Youth Club, Cheshire Young Carers and Youth Federation, who all welcomed and valued our support in 2020/21.

Other Examples Include

Yoga sessions for and schools including Cardinal Newman Catholic High School.  
Fallibroome Academy and Park Road Primary School

Dodgeball for girls

The installation of a Playbox at Warrington Hospital

- **Build skills and capacity to deliver activities locally**

The team work hard to educate and enable others. We develop and deliver a range of workshops to build capacity in groups from voluntary, public and private sectors. Training courses include safeguarding, first aid, activator workshops and a programme for workplace champions. Face to face workshops were minimal however we delivered Activator training and Mental Health First Aid Training via virtual platforms throughout the lockdown.

- **Provide more opportunities for older people to get active**

A dog walking project was created to tackle isolation and physical inactivity amongst older people in Northwich, Cheshire West. The Walkeez programme was funded by Sport England through the Tackling Inequalities Fund, had been shortlisted for the 'Mental Health & Wellbeing Award' at the Community Sport and Recreation Awards. The initiative was lead in partnership with Active Cheshire, Age UK Cheshire and Walkeez.

The Walkeez programme was created out of the proven evidence that regular physical activity can help combat depression (40% reduction) combined with the therapeutic role of the dogs, successfully helping many people experiencing loneliness, isolation and mental health issues throughout lockdown.

### **Public Benefit**

This document sets out the progress made during 2020-2021 towards the achievement of our strategic goal and our charitable objects. It further qualifies and quantifies the Impact of our work for public benefit and should be read in conjunction with the annexed financial statements.

### **Charity Operations**

Charity operations are overseen by Trustees and led operationally by the CEO

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The CEO left Active Cheshire on 18<sup>th</sup> September. In the interim it has been agreed following legal advice that one of the trustees would take on a temporary role, on a part time basis to fulfil the functions of the CEO and work with the existing leadership team to ensure smooth and compliant running of the business until such time as a new CEO is appointed. The intention was for the role to be advertised in early December and to have a new CEO embedded in time for the next financial year – or possibly earlier depending on notice periods

An oversight committee was set up to ensure compliance during this period and this remained active until the confirmed appointment of the new CEO – Mike Watson – who enters the role on 1<sup>st</sup> June following a three month notice period.

### **Governance**

Active Cheshire Limited's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. For the purpose of charity law, trustees act as members (see notes for member liability). Trustees are further governed by a specific Governance Manual (May 2018), which sets out procedures for recruitment, deployment, decision-making and the controls in place to ensure probity and transparency. As part of a national network of providers commissioned by Sport England, Active Cheshire must comply with the national Code of Sports Governance as a Tier 3 provider

### **Disclosures**

Active Cheshire has in place a Conflict of Interest Register where any disclosures are made on a regular basis. Declarations of Interest is an agenda item of every meeting and any person with an interest has no part in or presence at a decision.

### **Progress against Business Plan objectives**

Initial business plans were drawn up that included visions for growth and specific projects that required stakeholder engagement. With the outbreak of Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdown the plan was revised to focus on business survival, reduction of costs and the delivery of existing commitments and projects. The difficult decision was made to furlough two members of staff who did not have specific ongoing projects or commitments requiring delivery. A revised plan was drawn up to ensure we met the needs of our stakeholders and remained flexible in our approach whilst minimising costs and spending.

The following sets out our achievement against those objectives.

#### **1. Getting the basics right every time**

Investment into systems, compliance and equipment.

Planned investment in IT systems did not go ahead however we focused our attention on making the maximum impact in the core areas with the resources we had.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

We were able to deliver Active Mums as a virtual event. This collaboration provided a platform which is fun, interactive and inclusive for mums and pregnant women, to improve health and wellbeing and to tackle isolation, for the whole family. Connecting the community through this online project will empower a network of mums and mums-to-be to see the benefits of physical activity, reduced social isolation, improved social skills, better emotional health, reduced risk of depression and post-natal depression, and reduced childhood obesity.

We also introduces Active Cookalong via Zoom which aimed to re-create the “kitchen chat” that we used to enjoy at parties. This was well received and was subsequently requested as part of our workplace support by APC Cardiovascular (Further details later in this report)

At the start of the year we had already acquired licenses for Salesforce CRM and we have started upon the long journey to integrate this in to our business.

**Objective 2. Demonstrating quality and impact local/reg/national**

Delivery and evaluation of all contracts. Net Promoter Score (NPS) 70+

We faced the challenge of reduced staff numbers – down at one point to 7 due to furlough and maternity leave – however we have managed to maintain and even grow relationships with key stakeholders. Though our NPS score dropped to 48 this is still an excellent score and we consider it to be a more genuine score than previous year as the survey was sent out to a wide variety of stakeholders across the region rather than a selected few that we had good relations with as we have done previously.

The introduction of our new Central Tracker, along with a whole team commitment has allowed us to deliver on outstanding contracts as well as bringing in new work from partners such as CWaC who requested additional Active Travel Plans.

Despite the difficulties in year we have now successfully delivered the vast majority of our ongoing projects and the small number outstanding are due to delays requested by the customers.

Our focus remains on the key areas of deprivation across the region and the strands of our blueprint. Collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan University has proved very successful and the research has illustrated how important it is now, (and will be going forward during the Covid Recovery period) to engage with hard to reach groups. The report can be found on our website. The initial introduction is included below.

This is a research report that includes a partnership collaboration study between Manchester Metropolitan University and five Active Partnerships (AP) in the north of England. Active Partnerships are strategic agencies for sport and physical activity that operate at a sub-regional level. The collaboration is also supported by evidence, insight and policy guidance from Sport England central research and evaluation team. The project has been discussed with Sport England. The core Active Partnerships that have been the geographical focus of this study include:

- Active Cheshire;
- MSP (Merseyside Sport Partnership);
- GreaterSport (Greater Manchester AP);
- Yorkshire Sport Foundation (Active Partnership for South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire);
- Active Lancashire.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The project will review existing information and literature on COVID-19 around the motivational changes, behaviours and societal challenges facing the sport and physical activity sector. Initial scoping of this literature review has indicated minimal peer reviewed evidence, with a reliance upon 'opinion-pieces' and journalistic standpoints. Informal access to Sport England's research and insight team headquarters by virtual meetings in early May has already provided insights through their extensive national studies they have underway in sport and physical activity. Furthermore, Sport England have recommended a focus on research that:

- Increased understanding of issues of strategic importance (e.g. tackling inequalities, supporting specific audience groups e.g. BAME, women and girls, disabled and vulnerable long-term health conditions, lower socio-economic communities);
- Has an emphasis on groups whose activity levels are at particular risk from the direct and indirect impact of COVID-19;
- Addresses gaps in sector intelligence.

**Objective 3. Delivery of Blueprint ambitions + eco/digital test beds**

Refreshed Physical Activity Task Force (PATF) plus 5 x subgroups working effectively and demonstrating progress

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we were unable to bring the PATF together during the year so the formation of subgroups did not take place. It is now under consideration whether the best value for the PATF members would be to sit on boards across the region rather than together in one location. This will be reviewed again when the new CEO is in role in 2021.

With regard to our blueprint ambitions significant successes have been made in all strands.

**Active Kids**

- Provided direct support to 51 primary schools through the Active Kids Pledge, resulting in 51 unique action plans to improve health and wellbeing.
- This has resulted in the reach to approximately 13,256 children and young people being more physically active regularly.
- Supported 6 primary schools in Cheshire and Warrington to attract additional funding worth c.£12,000 to improve facilities and provision for physical activities.
- Engaged with over 100 primary schools and 2,000+ children and young people in virtual sport and activity challenges during the original lockdown.
- Invested £31,740 to support children and young people from the age of 5-25 to be active through various projects and initiatives.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

### **The Acorns Case Study**

#### **The Acorns Primary and Nursery School's Partnership with Active Cheshire**

We began working closely with Active Cheshire at the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year. The partnership quickly helped us form our vision for moving forwards.

Within weeks of forming the partnership, Active Cheshire had already supported us to achieve 2 of our main goals: to introduce The Daily Mile and to improve playground accessibility and equipment, which we knew would improve levels of activity at these key times. As these two targets were met so well so quickly, we also worked with Active Cheshire to focus on a 'Personal Best' challenge within The Daily Mile. During our first year of working with Active Cheshire, we welcomed the team (and of course Active Archie) into school on three occasions. This worked as events to introduce and maintain levels of excitement and engagement in what we were trying to achieve. It also provided the children with opportunities to access equipment they wouldn't usually be able to, through Active Cheshire running a 'fun play equipment' day for all children. This not only had an immediate impact on the children involved, but also had a knock on effect, as we saw levels of participation in after school sports & activity clubs rise during this time. We also welcomed the Active Cheshire team in to run classroom based 'healthy living' workshops for our children in KS1. This then kick started our 'healthy snack' project at The Acorns, where the snack children ate was tracked and the class who had eaten most healthily that week won a prize. This was then celebrated on Twitter, as was all our events with Active Cheshire during this time. One of the visits from the Active Cheshire team was to specifically work with our Sports Crew to help them develop as young leaders. This gave them the skills needed to run our 'Acorns Intra School Sports Competitions' later that year.

Before the academic year 2019-2020 was cut short due to the ongoing global pandemic, plans were in place to subscribe to the Active Cheshire Gold Membership. Our vision for this academic year was focused on 4 main areas: increasing activity levels in PE lessons; continuing to improve provision at break and lunch times; providing high quality CPD for staff, including midday assistants; promoting physical and mental wellbeing for all pupils and staff. The relationship we have developed with Active Cheshire continues to be strong, with communication continuing throughout the various school closures. We have also been supported by Active Cheshire to obtain funding from various sources: the most notable of these coming from The WPA Benevolent Foundation, who have contributed £2500 to new playground equipment for our KS2 playground. This would not have been if it wasn't for Active Cheshire signposting us to this foundation.

We of course look forward to continuing where we left off once the current educational landscape begins to settle. With everything our children have missed over the last calendar year, we need relationships like this more than ever!

#### **Active Workplace**

Much of our work has had to be virtual but that has not stopped us from making a real impact and creating successful partnerships with local businesses.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**APC Cardiovascular Case Study**

APC Cardiovascular, a supplier of medical products and equipment are an Active Workplace customer signed up to our Silver pledge. They are a great business to work with and make a real effort to support their colleagues' wellbeing, particularly over the past year throughout the pandemic. As part of their support we have arranged and run two successful Wellbeing Weeks so far with lots of activities and challenges.

Below is an extract from APC Cardiovascular website regarding the program

*"APC Cardiovascular recently hosted our first Wellbeing Week of 2021, with support from our friends at Active Cheshire.*

*Taking place during April which is Stress Awareness Month, the 19th – 25th April 2021 saw APC Cardiovascular host a week of both team and independent activities, for colleagues to come together (albeit virtually) to support each other, and recognise the value of physical activity and promote wellbeing.*

*To encourage daily activity, we set everyone the task of doing just 30 minutes exercise every day. This could have been in the form of a dog walk, a yoga session, even cleaning the house if it increases your heart rate. We asked everyone to share photos of their activities throughout the week on our Team Talk WhatsApp group, with the best photo judged by Active Cheshire to receive a prize!*

*On Tuesday we did one hour of Yoga with Janet Woodcock from Cheshire Yoga & Fitness. This included some "at the desk" stretches to enable us to keep active, even during a busy working day.*

*Wednesday saw us all set off on independent walks, tasked with enjoying nature and taking some good photos to share with the team.*

*Rounding off the week was Laughing Yoga with Sara Kay, Laughter Ambassador and Laughter Yoga Accredited Teacher. With no-one in the team having any experience of this activity previously, we went into it a little nervous, but soon realised how fun it can be once you let your inhibitions go. Definitely one to repeat in future!*

*We'd firstly like to thank Active Cheshire for arranging and supporting us with our Wellbeing Week.*

*And we'd also like to extend a huge thank you to our internal APC team, who threw themselves into the week with enthusiasm and dedication, despite a heavy workload. It's taught us the importance of taking time out to prioritise our own physical and mental wellbeing, even when we're busy."*

**Active Minds**

Active Cheshire's Active Minds are proud partners of Mind Charity and Merseyside Sport Foundation in delivering the **Mental Health, Sport & Physical Activity Network for the northwest**. consequences of the collaboration the new Mental Health and Physical Activity Toolkit has been launched in April 2021 to increase the number of sport, physical activity and mental health providers equipped with knowledge and skills to support & engage people with mental health problems.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

In 2021 Active Minds were invited to be a member of **the mental health partnership board** in Cheshire East and subsequently a Co-chair of the prevention sub group for the same board. We were also asked to Co-chair the equivalent board in West Cheshire to bring in active Cheshire and its strategic priorities to the list of key outcomes of the group.

Active Minds have qualified to deliver MHFA training (77 people trained so far), MECC for mental health train the trainer (lead trainer for Cheshire and Merseyside) and have developed and delivered (twice) a talk on Physical activity in later life, supporting women through the menopause.

Age UK Cheshire have collaborated with Walkeez and Active Cheshire to support older people at the early stages of dementia and their carers to become more active. Through inclusive and safe social distancing, Walkeez worked with people who had been shielding following Government advice and had become increasingly isolated. The benefits of physical activity have become even more apparent with this project as participants demonstrated a more positive outlook and improved cognitive development.

This popular programme, shortlisted as finalist for the Sport and Recreation Community awards, was Lottery Funded and is now being made sustainable thanks to the recruitment of 17 volunteers who will carry on with the walks.

#### **Activators**

We have worked with a number of GP practices despite lockdown restriction to help them achieve certification as part of the Active Practice Charter. We had particular success supporting Chapelford Medical Centre in Warrington, encouraging and enabling staff and patients to be more physically active and reduce sedentary behaviour.

Our Activator Training sessions continue and have been well received by stakeholders including the Canal & River Trust.

#### **Active Design**

Major projects were not possible due to lockdown restrictions but we have been able to work with Macclesfield College to complete an Active Building survey to help activate the campus and encourage activity in both staff and learners.

Our Active Travel plans have proved very popular and we have seen much increase in demand, particularly from CWaC.

We continue to support the Active Travel and sustainability forums and now sit on the Active Environments steering group set up by Active Partnerships in collaboration with Sport England.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (Including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Objective 4. Maintaining/Increasing strategic influence**

Proactive engagement with key strategic boards within Blueprint sectors

We have increased our visibility across the region despite having to rely on virtual meeting for much of the year. Below is the list of 20/21 board/group engagement.

Staff	Work area	Networks / Stakeholders
Roberta	Active Minds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health Partnership Board Cheshire East</li> <li>• Mental Health Partnership Board prevention subgroup Cheshire East</li> <li>• Mental Health Partnership Board prevention subgroup Cheshire West</li> <li>• Joint Mental Health Partnership Board Cheshire East &amp; West</li> <li>• Promotion and Prevention Groups meeting in Warrington</li> <li>• Autism Strategy group Cheshire West</li> <li>• Winsford Wellbeing</li> <li>• MECC for MH advisory group North West</li> <li>• Mental health in Sport and physical activity network (North West)</li> <li>• Active Ageing steering group</li> </ul>
Nont	Active Kids / Local Area work (maternity cover for Hayley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eat Well Be Active (Cheshire West Health and Wellbeing Board)</li> <li>• Active Warrington (jointly with Steve and Roger)</li> <li>• Cheshire and Warrington School Games Local Organising Committee</li> <li>• East Cheshire Association of Primary Headteachers</li> <li>• Cheshire West Association of Primary Headteachers</li> <li>• Warrington PE Reference Groups</li> <li>• Sector Leadership Group (Third Sector Organisations)</li> <li>• Community Information Group (Cheshire West)</li> <li>• Active Partnership National Children and Young People group</li> </ul>
Roger	Health and Social Care Activator / Active Workplace / Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheshire and Merseyside Healthcare Partnership Prevention Board</li> <li>• Cheshire and Merseyside Healthcare Partnership Prevention Board Physical Activity Subgroup</li> <li>• PHE North West Healthy Weight and Physical Activity Network</li> <li>• PHE North West Physical Activity Clinical Champions Network</li> <li>• Live Longer Better Network</li> </ul>
Jonny	Active Through Football / Projects support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active Through Football steering group</li> <li>• West Cheshire Walking Festival</li> </ul>
Mark	Projects support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheshire and Warrington Change4Life group</li> </ul>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Steve	Active Design / Business Ops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active Warrington</li> <li>• Active Travel Forum (CWaC) and working Group</li> <li>• Active Environments working group</li> <li>• Chester Sustainability Forum</li> <li>• Neighbourhood planning/design code group</li> <li>• LEP Growth Hub</li> <li>• WCNW Chambers</li> <li>• Natural Capital Audit</li> </ul>
Amber	National Partnership / Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North West &amp; Regional Workforce AP Groups</li> <li>• Tackling Inequalities Funding Learning Group (National)</li> <li>• Cheshire West &amp; Chester PPS Steering Group</li> <li>• Active Through Football steering group</li> <li>• Cheshire East Youth Sport Development Group</li> <li>• Warrington Borough Council PPS, Indoor Built Facilities &amp; Open Space Strategy Steering Group (dates still TBC)</li> </ul>

**Objective 5: Minimizing risk**

Taking action to mitigate pension liability

With the departure of the CEO there is now only one staff member on final salary pension so the risk is much decreased though it continue to be monitored by the GFR committee.

A tighter regime has also been implemented to limit out of budget spending and ensure value for money. The new Operations manager and Finance Admin role have been implemented to control spend, ensure compliance and help manage risk.

**Objective 5: Culture**

Enhancing our offer as an employer

Staff turnover has been high in recent years so the team and the board took the time to come together to talk through culture and values. During a collaborative workshop we re-defined our values as

**Collaboration – we will work, and learn, together with others to achieve our common goals.**

**Integrity – We always do what we say we’re going to do in the right way and to the best of our ability, to achieve the best outcomes.**

**Inclusivity – We celebrate diversity, welcome all opinions and strive to tackle inequality.**

**Passion – We have pride and belief in everything we do and are committed to making a real difference.**

**Innovation – We want to break the mould and develop brave new ideas to ensure our communities have the best possible future.**

We continue to strive to be the best we can be and promote a happy workplace and a good work/life balance for all our staff.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Financial Review**

Sport England remains the principal funding source of Active Cheshire with £550910 achieved, although not all of this income contributes to the charity's overhead costs (£63,129 are restricted funds).

Income generation targets achieved 10% of overall income but noticeably almost 100% of these contribute to overhead costs. This is an important diversification to ensure stability going forward.

The key factors likely to affect future financial performance are:

1. **Availability of public funds** including Lottery which is at risk given the incalculable impact of Brexit on future Government Funds and the unpredictability of future lottery sales which impacts on Sport England investment. Active Cheshire's current funding award commits funds from Sport England through until March 2022.
2. Our ability to present and grow a strong **value proposition to the local marketplace**, ie the performance and impact of new services (eg Active Kids and Active Workplace) which will support income diversification and is funded directly by the client recipient on behalf of beneficiaries.
3. **Pension liability** and any debt arising from crystallisation. This impacts on our annual accounts and balance sheet and distorts the view of income growth given its size. This can affect viability and confidence in the organisation. The unpredictable nature of the figure is a challenge which we hope to mitigate through a personalised review of the company's specific liability as a somewhat untraditional local government employer (atypical in size and scale).

Active Cheshire achieved an in-year position that was worse than planned. The in-year operating deficit was £97,244, with a cumulative operating surplus of £272,822. There was an end of year FRS102 pension adjustment of -£629,000, this created a grand total in-year deficit of £726,244.

Despite the impact of Covid-19 Active Cheshire are anticipating a return to in-year surplus during 2021-22, and aims to return cumulative reserves to at least £300,000.

**Reserves Policy**

Active Cheshire Limited has in place a Reserves Policy to manage its levels of reserves and balances. We define "Reserves" as that part of our income funds that is freely available for operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits and not tied up in fixed assets. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that the Charity's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, considering risks associated with individual income streams, expenditure varying from budget, planned activity levels and organisational commitments. We use our reserves policy to inform our treasury management approach (eg the way in which we manage cash, liquid assets and debt).

The reserves that we have set aside provide financial stability and the means for the development of our principal activity.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

### **Decision Making**

The Board makes strategic decisions on behalf of the Charity. Operational decisions are the responsibility of the CEO. The specifics of this arrangement are set out clearly within our Scheme of Delegation.

The process for making decisions is presented below. Operational decisions that may affect the strategic direction of the business will be discussed at the sub-groups and endorsed formally at Board. Equally, where strategic decisions are determined by the Board, these can be given substance through sub-group discussions with CEO.

1. Strategic Direction (Trustees agree strategy for the Charity and an Annual Business Plan)
2. Operational Implementation (CEO is responsible for delivery of the Annual Business Plan within agreed parameters and budget).
3. Operational Review / Legislative Change (Each year a mid-year business review takes place taking into consideration changes in the micro and macro environment and reflecting on progress to date/lessons learned). Regular performance reviews also take place quarterly at both Subgroup and Board.
4. Proposal to Amend / Review (the review may result in immediate change where deemed necessary or most likely to inform priorities within the following year's business plan).
5. Sub-group Review & Recommendation: scrutiny, advocacy and challenge is applied by subgroup members who will challenge any change or recommendations to ensure that proposals are robust, viable and align to charitable objects. A refined Business Plan is then presented to the entire Board with Budget for approval.
6. Return to point 1 to begin the cycle again

A NOMCOM Committee exists with delegated responsibility as set out in the Terms of Reference agreed by the Board. This group is the primary group responsible for making recommendations for the remuneration and pay policy for key management personnel although the People and Performance Subgroup can also recommend changes for Board consideration.

### **Remuneration of key management personnel**

Active Cheshire is committed to ensuring that we pay our people fairly and in a way which ensures we attract and retain the right skills to have the greatest impact in delivering our charitable objectives. Our approach to executive pay is in line with the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (AECVO) Good Pay Guide. In line with Active Cheshire's commitment to equality and diversity (see separate policy), Active Cheshire is committed to equal pay.

Active Cheshire remuneration policy and procedure sits with the Nomination Committee (NOMCOM), which meets annually. The Committee is comprised of the Chair of Active Cheshire (also NOMCOM Chair), the Senior Independent Director and both Vice-Chairs. Meetings are minuted.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The Committee sets the pay structure for the organisation and the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management.

The CEO is in attendance for the meeting (leaving for the discussion regarding the CEO's remuneration) and no members of the executive are members of the committee. Decisions by NOMCOM require ratification by full Board.

NOMCOM meets annually between the end of the financial year and beginning of the next to ensure that any remuneration is decided in the context of wider financial performance.

The Committee will consider facts prepared by the CEO to provide context for decision-making including:

- § The organisation's current financial position
- § Any existing or emerging risks that may impact on the organisation's financial stability
- § Comparing the competitiveness of Active Cheshire salary banding against credible independent market benchmarks
- § RPI as at 31 December
- § Public and Third-Sector pay awards and any related sensitivities
- § Individual and Team performance
- § Past-performance benchmarks
- § The significance of employees in delivering Active Cheshire's charitable vision and purpose

The Committee will consider the reflections and recommendations of the Chair, during his formal appraisal of the CEO against agreed objectives to determine the remuneration package (including any annual bonus) of the Chief Executive.

Discussion will take place within the meeting and any conclusions drawn will be presented to full Board for ratification and will be minuted in line with data protection laws.

The Chair will provide feedback to the CEO and will write formally to set out any decisions made and ensure inclusion of pay within published documentation (eg Annual Accounts/Reports) will be made to ensure legal compliance.

**Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. An exception was made to this after legal consultation to allow a trustee (Paula Cohen) to act as CEO following the departure of Anne Boyd in September 2020. Details of this are given in the related party note. These are shown on the Declaration of Interest and they are not involved in the decision are not made if they have an interest in the party. There is a process to declaring interests at Board meetings.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Managing Risk**

Risks are appraised regularly at an operational and strategic level and are recorded within a Risk Register. The register scores risks based on potential impact and likelihood and sets out plans for mitigation. Risk is discussed at every Board (and sub-group) meeting and reported via operational management meetings. A root and branch review is conducted annually with a detailed appraisal of macro and micro environment at the annual Strategic Planning Day.

**Key risks**

There are 3 core risks actively managed by Trustees as follows:

(Key: 'L'= Low, 'M'=Medium, 'H'=High)

1. Team stability: given strategic changes the team has expanded and some long-serving employees have moved on to new careers. This has caused internal disruption and affected organisational memory, placing increased dependency on fewer, longer-serving staff..

Impact: H      Likelihood of continued turnover: M

Mitigation: a new induction process has enabled recruits to bed into the team and establish themselves, their networks, confidence and competences. A clearer performance-management system has been introduced to ensure regular engagement with staff to ensure that they are progressing well and feel supported. Careful financial management has been applied to income targets to ensure that responsibilities are shared across the team and reserves are used responsibly as contingency to alleviate pressure on individuals. The organisation has also invested into a new CRM system to ensure that relationships and engagement is recorded and accessible by the whole team.

Mitigated Impact: H      Mitigated likelihood of continued turnover: L

2. Pension liability: there is 1 staff member still enrolled in the Local Government (Defined Benefit) Pension Scheme (as of end of year 2021), originally a Final Salary Pension Scheme but converted to a Career Average Pension Scheme in 2014. The Local Government Pension Scheme was closed to new employees in 2015 and replaced with a Direct Contribution Benefit Scheme. The Defined Benefit Pension Scheme liability continues to increase and future employer contributions remain unknown until the triennial review is published in March 2020. There is a further risk of debt crystallisation should staff leave and/or the scheme close.

Impact: H      Likelihood of increased costs: H

Mitigation: Trustees invited Cheshire Pension Fund (CPF) to meet to discuss the challenge, along with our accountants. CPF recognised the likelihood of our scheme closure at some point in the next 5-10 years and confirmed that it would collaborate with Active Cheshire proactively to determine a repayment plan should debt crystallise. They further acknowledged that the FRS102 reported liability did not accurately reflect the value or performance of their scheme which is strong. Active Cheshire is working with Cheshire Pension Fund to obtain a personalised calculation of FRS102 which can be utilised to inform future calculations and be legitimately referenced within the balance sheet. This provided assurance that the liability will be managed responsibly

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of unplanned costs: M

3. Future funding from major funder: Sport England continues to be the largest funder investing in Active Cheshire, representing 80%+ of annual income. Their mandate recognising Active Cheshire as their 'agent' locally also gives credibility to the organisation. Sport England remains a lottery distributor nationally and continues to invest into a network of Active Partnerships like Active Cheshire. Funds have reduced with changes to the structure of lottery ticket pricing structure and income levels.

Impact: H Likelihood of reduced funding: M

Mitigation: Active Cheshire recognised the risk of dependency on a single funder in 2014 and committed to diversifying income which is progressing well. New products relating to the Blueprint Strategy have been developed and are generating income locally. Relationships with Sport England remain strong and Active Cheshire's approach was rated 'outstanding' securing a 3-year funding award through until 2021. Further funding has recently been secured to 2022. Contract performance remains strong with most contracts exceeding requirements in terms of output, innovation and impact. Active Cheshire Invested in a dedicated manager, now embedded in role, to further develop relationships with Sport England and our national counterparts. This will provide greater visibility, an opportunity to promote our work and increase partnership and funding prospects.

Mitigated Impact: M Mitigated likelihood of reduced income: L

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (including the Directors Report)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.
- The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the company's website. Legislation in the united kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions,

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

  
PDR|Hancock|Dec 14, 2021 11:50 GMT

Dr P D R Hancock OBE – Trustee and Chair

Date: Dec 14, 2021

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Active Cheshire Limited "the charitable company" for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### 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 charitable company 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 Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

### 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 (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**

In connection with our audit of the financial statements 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- The information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 26, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of laws, regulations and guidance that affect the Charitable Company, focusing on those that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws, regulations and guidance that we identified included the Companies Act 2006, tax legislation, health and safety legislation, and employment legislation.
- We enquired of the Trustees and reviewed correspondence and Trustee meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the Trustees have in place, where necessary, to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks.
- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE CHESHIRE  
LIMITED**

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of Irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Beever and Struthers*

Mark Bradley (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

BEEVER AND STRUTHERS

Statutory Auditor

Suite 9b

The Beehive Lions Drive

Shadsworth Business Park

Blackburn BB1 2QS

Date: 14/12/21

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31/3/21 Total funds	31/3/20 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	397,763	216,147	613,910	615,687
Other trading activities	3	31,628	-	31,628	115,469
Investment income	4	<u>355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>355</u>	<u>1,130</u>
<b>Total</b>		429,747	216,147	645,893	714,694
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds	5	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6				
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching		19,597	216,147	235,744	116,916
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities		<u>517,394</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>517,394</u>	<u>680,375</u>
<b>Total</b>		536,991	-	753,138	797,291
<b>NET (EXPENDITURE)</b>		(107,244)	-	(107,244)	(82,597)
<b>Other recognised (losses)/gains</b>					
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit schemes		<u>(619,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(619,000)</u>	<u>857,000</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(726,244)	-	(726,244)	774,403
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		371,066	-	371,066	(403,337)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>355,178</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>355,178</u>	<u>371,066</u>

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02401068 (England and Wales)

BALANCE SHEET  
AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/21 Total funds £	31/3/20 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	14	3,608	-	3,608	7,877
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	15	22,610	-	22,610	205,704
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>392,358</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>392,358</u>	<u>284,977</u>
		414,968	-	414,968	490,681
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(145,754)	-	(145,754)	(128,492)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		<u>269,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>269,214</u>	<u>362,189</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		272,822	-	272,822	370,066
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>					
	20	(628,000)	-	(628,000)	1,000
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET (LIABILITIES)</b>					
		<u>(355,178)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(355,178)</u>	<u>371,066</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
	18				
Unrestricted funds (After deduction of pension liability)				(355,178)	371,066
Restricted funds				-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
				<u>(355,178)</u>	<u>371,066</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on Dec 14, 2021 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

*PDR Hancock*

PDR Hancock (Dec 14, 2021 11:59 GMT)

Mr P D R Hancock -Trustee

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	31/3/21 £	31/3/20 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash generated from operations		<u>107,026</u>	<u>(126,581)</u>
<b>Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities</b>		<u>107,026</u>	<u>(126,581)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(3,062)
Interest received		<u>355</u>	<u>1,130</u>
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<u>355</u>	<u>(1,932)</u>
		<u>107,381</u>	<u>(128,513)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		107,381	(128,513)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>284,977</u>	<u>413,490</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u>392,258</u>	<u>284,977</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	(107,244)	(82,597)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	4,269	3,804
Interest received	(355)	(1,130)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	183,094	(127,112)
Increase in creditors	17,262	37,454
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>10,000</u>	<u>43,000</u>
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<u>107,026</u>	<u>(126,581)</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charitable company is registered in England and Wales.

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (£) and transactions are rounded to the nearest £. The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis and no material uncertainties exist as to whether the charitable company is able to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

**Going concern**

The balance sheet shows an overall deficit of £355,178 (2020 Surplus £371,066) at the balance sheet date. This is after FRS102 pension deficit of £628,000 (2020 Surplus £1,000) is included. The trustees have reviewed the charity's expected cashflows for the foreseeable future and have concluded that it is able to meet its financial obligations, including cash contributions to the Cheshire Pension Fund, as they fall due. Thus the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

**Income (including government grants)**

All incoming resources are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of provision of specified services is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

All Grant income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds, having performed the obligations under any grant conditions, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Trading income is recognised on delivery of the goods or service as per the contract and as delivered on the balance sheet date as a proportion of the total contract value. Where the amount of income is contingent on future events, this is only recognised where the amount of income can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the economic benefits will be received. When this cannot be estimated reliably, income is only recognised to the value of the goods and service that it is considered probable will be recovered. Goods or services provided to the client which at the balance sheet date have not been billed have been recognised as income and are included in debtors as accrued income.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Expenditure**

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

**Grants payable**

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the Charity's objects. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant awarded. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the one-year or multi-year grant. Grant awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Charity.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The provision for a multi-year grant is recognised at its present value where settlement is due over more than one year from the date of the award, there are no unfulfilled performance conditions under the control of the Charity that would permit the Charity to avoid making the future payment(s), settlement is probable, and the effect of discounting is material.

**Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

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

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

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

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charity contributes to a defined benefit pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested when a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of material reduction in the scheme membership or reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the Statement of Financial Activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the Statement of Financial Activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of the return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme surplus (to the extent that it can be recovered) is recognised in full on their Balance Sheet, net of related deferred tax.

The charity also contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. Contributions to this scheme are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

**Irrecoverable vat**

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

**Debtors**

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

**Creditors**

Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Cash at bank**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash held on deposit with a short maturity of three months or less.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Financial assets are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs) and subsequently held at cost, less any impairment.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form. Financial liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (after deducting transaction costs) and subsequently held at amortised cost.

**Key judgements and estimates**

The accounting policies above which, represent key judgements and estimates are :-

Tangible Fixed Assets-the depreciation rate is based upon an estimate of the useful life of each asset group.

Creditors-there is £3,550 for holiday pay, this is an estimate of the likely exposure for holidays not taken at year end. There is £25,453 included in deferred income, this represents an estimate of the income received for which work has not yet been undertaken. This is shown in note 16.

Pension-The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension's liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 March 2019. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

**Taxation**

The Trustees consider that requirements for the exemption from taxation set out in the Income Tax Act 2007, Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are met and, therefore, no provision is made for taxation.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Grants and contracts	<u>613,910</u>	<u>598,095</u>

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

	31/3/21	31/3/21
	£	£
Chester West & Chester Council	48,000	38,000
Sport England	550,910	511,146
The Football Foundation	5,000	-
New Balance	-	22,600
Burtonwood and Westbrook Parish Council	-	13,250
DofE	-	2,000
Busprosyst Consultancy	-	99
Holroyd Foundation	10,000	1,000
Westminster Foundation	-	-
Cheshire Community Foundation	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	<u>613,910</u>	<u>598,095</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Fundraising events	3,051	15,933
Course fees and sundry income	13,803	137,361
COVID Job Retention Scheme	<u>14,774</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>31,628</u>	<u>68,843</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>355</u>	<u>1,030</u>

**5. RAISING FUNDS**

**Other trading activities**

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Bad debts	<u>6,824</u>	<u>-</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

2021	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 7)	Support costs (See note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	291,373	-	275,665	567,038
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>-</u>	<u>186,100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>186,100</u>
	<u>291,373</u>	<u>186,100</u>	<u>275,665</u>	<u>753,138</u>

Charitable activities costs were funded by Sport England grant as follows:

Active Cheshire direct and support cost £487,781

Contributions to partner organisations £63,129

2020	Direct costs	Grant funding of activities (See note 7)	Support costs (See note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	422,365	-	258,010	680,375
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>-</u>	<u>116,916</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116,916</u>
	<u>422,365</u>	<u>116,916</u>	<u>258,010</u>	<u>797,291</u>

Charitable activities costs were funded by Sport England grant as follows:

Active Cheshire direct and support cost £454,335

Contributions to partner organisations £91,084

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**7. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	<u>186,100</u>	<u>116,916</u>

The total grants paid to Institutions during the year was as follows:

	31/3/20	31/3/19
	£	£
Champs Public Health- National Partner	11,709	27,500
DofE	3,145	2,000
Satellite Clubs*	23,853	49,356
School Games*	31,457	38,060
Tackling Inequality*	114,536	-
Mount Killimanjaro	1,300	-
Donation	100	-
	<u>186,100</u>	<u>116,916</u>

\* Fully funded by Sport England

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**8. SUPPORT COSTS**

2021	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Salary & Wages	166,208	-	166,208
Accountancy and Professional Services	30,972	4,925	35,897
Audit	-	7,225	7,225
Payroll and HR	9,473	-	9,473
Other	<u>53,853</u>	<u>3,009</u>	<u>56,862</u>
	264,806	10,859	275,665

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

2020	General Support	Governance Costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Salary & Wages	214,527	-	214,527
Accountancy and Professional Services	6,995	15,897	22,892
Audit	-	6,765	6,765
Payroll and HR	10,613	-	10,613
Other	<u>490</u>	<u>2,723</u>	<u>3,213</u>
	<u>232,625</u>	<u>25,385</u>	<u>258,010</u>

All costs against supporting and co-ordinating are for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the charity.

**9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

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

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Auditors remuneration-audit fee	7,225	6,765
Depreciation - owned assets	4,269	3,804
Lease payments-Rent/Photocopier/Container	<u>12,383</u>	<u>          </u>

**10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There was, payments to one trustee for interim CFO support of £25,312 for the year ended 31 March 2021 there was no payments in year ended 31 March 2020.

**Trustees' expenses**

During the year, 1 Trustee received total expenses of £209 (2020 - £997, 1 Trustee).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**11. STAFF COSTS**

	31/3/20	31/3/19
	£	£
Wages and salaries	352,163	394,137
Social security costs	29,560	34,960
Other pension costs	<u>24,614</u>	<u>54,963</u>
	<u>406,337</u>	<u>484,060</u>

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

	31/3/21	31/3/20
Partnership Services	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 (pro-rata) was:

	31/3/20	31/3/19
£80,000 - £90,000	0	1
£90,000-£100,000	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and Chief Executive. The total employee Benefits of the key management personnel were £95,907 (2020 £84,341). The Trust purchased Consultancy services from one Trustee during the year £25,312 (2020 Nil)

**12. EX GRATIA PAYMENTS**

The charity made one settlement payment during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 of:  
 Ex Gratia Payment £38,000  
 Termination/PILON/Car Allowance £17,572  
 (2020 £2,825).

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	511,630	86,465	598,095
Other trading activities	115,469	-	115,469
Investment income	<u>1,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,130</u>
<b>Total</b>	628,229	86,465	714,694
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Contributions to partner organisations developing sporting activities and coaching	30,451	86,465	116,916
Supporting and co-ordinating the provision of sporting activities and opportunities	<u>680,375</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>680,375</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>710,826</u>	<u>86,465</u>	<u>797,291</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(82,597)	-	(82,597)
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>			
Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit schemes	<u>857,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>857,000</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	774,403	-	774,403
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	(403,337)	-	(403,337)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u><u>371,066</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>371,066</u></u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 April 2020	<u>16,580</u>	<u>20,651</u>	<u>37,231</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>16,580</u>	<u>20,651</u>	<u>37,231</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 April 2020	14,042	15,312	29,354
Charge for year	<u>891</u>	<u>3,378</u>	<u>4,249</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>14,933</u>	<u>18,690</u>	<u>33,623</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE`</b>			
At 31 March 2020	<u>2,538</u>	<u>5,339</u>	<u>7,877</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,647</u>	<u>1,961</u>	<u>3,608</u>

**15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/21 £	31/3/20 £
Trade debtors	13,040	127,233
Prepayments and accrued income	5,032	58,088
VAT	<u>4,538</u>	<u>382</u>
	<u>22,610</u>	<u>185,704</u>

**16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31/3/21 £	31/3/20 £
Trade creditors	26,494	27,853
Social security and other taxes	7,144	15,946
Other creditors	70,214	6,743
Accruals and deferred income	<u>41,902</u>	<u>78,400</u>
	145,754	128,492

Deferred income included above represents monies being held on behalf of other organisations or has been received but no work commissioned at the balance sheet date.

Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	24,453
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(24,453)
Amount Deferred in year	<u>70,214</u>
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	<u>70,214</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**17. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

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

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Within one year-Building Lease	10,125	10,125
Between one and five years-Building Lease	<u>20,430</u>	<u>30,375</u>

30,555                      40,500

**18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/20	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/21
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	370,066	(97,244)	272,822
Defined benefit scheme fund	1,000	(629,000)	(628,000)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>371,066</u>	<u>(726,244)</u>	<u>(355,178)</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and (losses)	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	414,972	(522,216)	(619,000)	(726,244)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
DofE Volunteers	22,000	(22,000)	-	-
Satellite Clubs	20,113	(20,113)	-	-
Primary Games Delivery	49,498	(49,498)	-	-
Tracking Inequality	114,536	(114,536)	-	-
Westminster Foundation	<u>10,000</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	216,147	(216,147)	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>631,119</u>	<u>(738,363)</u>	<u>(619,000)</u>	<u>(726,244)</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/20 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General fund	409,663	(39,597)	(370,066)
Defined benefit scheme fund	<u>(813,000)</u>	<u>814,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
	(403,337)	774,403	371,066
	_____	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>595,465</u>	<u>(927,979)</u>	<u>(333,514)</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and (losses) £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	628,229	(710,826)	857,000	774,403
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
DofE Volunteers	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Satellite Clubs	45,000	(45,000)	-	-
Primary Games Delivery	11,215	(11,215)	-	-
Primary Games b/f	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Burtonwood & Westbrook Parish Council	13,250	(13,250)	-	-
Cheshire Community Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	86,465	(86,465)	-	-
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>714,694</u>	<u>(797,291)</u>	<u>857,000</u>	<u>774,403</u>

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or terms of an agreement.

The balances on the restricted funds (currently there is no restricted balance) are held within the charity in order to provide, in future periods, the specific delivery of activities in accordance with the restrictions under which the income was provided .

At the balance sheet date the general fund was in deficit after the deduction of the defined benefit scheme deficit of £629,000 (2020 – surplus £1,000).

**19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

Cash and cash equivalent	At 1/4/20	Cash flows	At 31/3/21
Cash	<u>£ 284,477</u>	<u>£107,381</u>	<u>£392,358</u>

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity participates in the Cheshire Pension fund, part of the local government scheme, a defined benefit statutory scheme in accordance with local government pension scheme regulations 1997 as amended, Cheshire West and Chester Council administers the fund.

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The total contribution made for the year ended 31 March 2021 was £30,000 (2020 - £31,000) of which employer's contributions totalled £22,000 (2020 - £22,000) and employees' contributions totalled £8,000 (2020 - £9,000).

Robert Bilton FFA of Hymans Robertson carried out a full actuarial valuation at 31 March 2016.

**20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS – continued**

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Fair value of plan assets	<u>2,362,000</u>	<u>1,993,000</u>
Defined benefit obligation	<u>2,990,000</u>	<u>1,992,000</u>
	<u>(628,000)</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Net Liability	<u><u>(628,000)</u></u>	<u><u>1,000</u></u>

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Current service cost	32,000	44,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	<u>-</u>	<u>21,000</u>
	<u>32,000</u>	<u>65,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>342,000</u>	<u>101,000</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation	1,992,000	2,804,000
Current service cost	32,000	44,000
Contributions by scheme participants	8,000	9,000
Interest cost	46,000	71,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	915,000	(933,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
	<u>2,990,000</u>	<u>1,992,000</u>

ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets	1,993,000	1,991,000
Contributions by employer	22,000	22,000
Contributions by scheme participants	8,000	9,000
Expected return	46,000	50,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	296,000	(76,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
	<u>2,362,000</u>	<u>1,993,000</u>

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(619,000)	857,000
	<u>(619,000)</u>	<u>857,000</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/3/21	31/3/20
Equities	46%	38%
Bonds	40%	46%
Property	10%	8%
Cash	4%	8%

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages)

	31/3/21	31/3/20
Discount rate	2.05%	2.3%
Future salary increases	3.5%	2.5%
Future pension increases	2.8%	1.8%

ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	31/3/21	31/3/20
Retiring today:		
Males	21.4	21.1
Females	25.7	23.6
Future:		
Males	22.4	21.9
Females	25.7	25.0

**Defined contribution scheme**

The company makes contributions to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. The cost for the period was £6,956 (2020 - £7,067)

**21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

**Youth Federation**

Martin Pearson is a Trustee of Active Cheshire and a Trustee of Youth Federation Limited. During the year the following transactions took place within the Youth Federation.

	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)
	2020-21	2020-21	2019-20	2019-20
Consultancy Services	-	-	-	1200

**Taylorly Ltd**

Paula Cohen is a Trustee of Active Cheshire and the Director of Taylorly Ltd. During the year the following transactions took place with Taylorly Limited

	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)
	2020-21	2020-21	2019-20	2019-20
Staff recruitment	-	25,313	-	-

ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES – continued

**Village Hotels**

Stuart Davies is a Trustee of Active Cheshire and General Manager for Village Hotels. During the year the following transactions took place with Village Hotels:

	Income (£) 2020-21	Expenditure (£) 2020-21	Income (£) 2019-20	Expenditure (£) 2019-20
Room Hire & Refreshments				3

**West Cheshire & North Wales Chamber of Commerce**

Martin Pearson is a Trustee of Active Cheshire and a Board Member of West Cheshire & North Wales Chamber of Commerce (WCNW Chamber). During the year the following transactions took place with the WCNW Chamber. (Other than the annual membership the transactions took place following Martin's resignation from the Chamber on 23 July 2018.)

	Income (£) 2020-21	Expenditure (£) 2020-21	Income (£) 2019-20	Expenditure (£) 2019-20
Annual membership	-	175	-	170
15/10/2018 – Attendance at Charity event	-	-	-	-
15/10/2018 – Sponsorship of awards	-	-	-	250
12/11/18 – Additional place at Charity event	-	-	-	-
12/11/18 – Additional place at Charity event	-	-	-	204

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Warrington Wolves Foundation**

Dr D Bunstone is a trustee of Active Cheshire and a Trustee of the Warrington Wolves Foundation. During the year Active Cheshire provided grants to Warrington Wolves Foundation as follows (Dr D Bunstone resigned as a Trustee of Active Cheshire and Warrington Wolves Foundation during 2018-19:

	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)
	2020-21	2020-21	2019-20	2019-20
The Squad Project	-	8,650	-	-

All related party transactions have taken place on an arm's length basis and the individuals connected to Active Cheshire and its related party are not involved in any decisions relating to such transactions.

**22. FUNDRAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity raises charitable funds in-house and does not engage a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator to carry out these activities. The charity has not bound itself to a voluntary scheme for regulating fund-raising and has not received any complaints with respect to its fund-raising. The charity avoids unreasonable intrusion into a person's privacy, unreasonable persistent approaches and undue pressure on persons in connection with fund-raising.

**23. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1

**ACTIVE CHESHIRE LIMITED**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	31/3/21	31/3/20
	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Grants and contracts	613,910	598,095
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Fundraising events	3,051	15,933
Course fees and sundry income	13,803	99,536
Covid Job Retention Scheme	<u>14,724</u>	<u>          </u>
	31,628	115,469
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	<u>355</u>	<u>1,130</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>645,893</b>	<b>714,694</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Bad debts	6,824	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Contribution to partners	136,456	116,916
Contribution to partners wages allocated	49,644	-
Wages	352,163	394,137
Social Security	29,560	34,960
Pensions	24,614	54,963
Equipment and facilities	120	5,469
Insurance	4,139	4,730
Telephone	6,494	6,487
Printing, postage and photocopying	1,043	922
Sundry office costs	6,324	11,733
Travelling expenses	6,412	27,435
Training fees	2,349	9,187
Rent and premises costs	3,095	16,424
Marketing	-1209	40,836
Refreshments	111	-
Computer expenses	6,603	3,484
Professional fees	33,249	12,043
Memberships and subscriptions	5,067	6,915
Fixtures and fittings	-	796
Computer equipment	-	3008
Expected return on pension scheme assets / FRS102 Contribution	10,000	(50,000)
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	-	71,000
	<u>677,125</u>	<u>771,445</u>



