

# Annual Report

2024 - 2025



Scarborough  
Disability Action Group

# Chairs Report

It is always exciting to present the annual report, Over the last year, we have been working on Building stronger connections with the disabled communities, responding to societal changes, and supporting inclusivity and diversity.

By building stronger connections with communities, responding to societal changes, and supporting inclusivity and diversity, we can positively impact the world. I look forward to working with every one of you make a difference in our communities.

I want to end with words from Rodgers and Hammerstein

Climb ev'ry mountain,  
Ford ev'ry stream,  
Follow ev'ry rainbow  
Till you find your dream.

A dream that will need all the love you can give  
Ev'ry day of your life for as long as you live.

**I want to thank all our staff, trustees,  
volunteers, funders and critical members,  
who inspire me daily. Thank you.**



DAG has helped me with my benefits, I was stuck as the process was so confusing and DAG guided me through the process which I wouldn't have been able to do with them

### **Feedback Form**

DAG helped me with forms and helped me fill them in. The group is a credit to Scarborough in all they do and the amount of support they offer is great to the wider community

### **Feedback Form**



# DAG Service

Scarborough and District Disablement Action Group seeks to fulfil its mission statement by providing assistance to secure comprehensive and up to date disability information.

This is achieved through:

- The group's helpline □ Publications
- Sharing information □ Representation at a local level

The group's services help to improve the quality of people's lives by:

- Alleviating poverty
- Enhancing social interaction
- Improving health, well-being and quality of life
- Promoting choice, independence and equality of access to services
- Promoting the views and opinions of disabled people
- Ensuring that disabled people have an effective voice in local and national decision making
- Communicating a positive image and perception of disabled people

# Managers Report

The Governmental plans to carry out a large-scale transformation of disability benefits have not yet taken place as threatened, although such changes are still very much a possibility. It looks likely that these changes will mean that not only will qualification for such benefits be more difficult, but also that many disabled people throughout the country who are currently receiving benefits may find their level of benefit reduced or stopped altogether. If, and when, this takes place, then the need for DAG's disability benefit service will be even greater. At present, anticipation of the predicted changes has caused widespread anxiety among many disabled people and although the group cannot make things disappear, we do guarantee our full support.

Throughout the past twelve months our advice team has been kept at full stretch by requests for support with Personal Independence Payment (PIP) which once again dominates the group's workload and also by requests for help from those on income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) with their enforced "migration" to Universal Credit. DWP aims to have completed this procedure by early next year. However, once an individual's UC claim has gone through successfully, we are frequently called upon to help with queries about levels of payment, qualification for limited work capacity and in some circumstances, to help callers manage their on-line account.

Increasingly claims for disability benefits, as well as for blue badges and bus passes, need to be made on-line. This has placed even greater pressure on individuals who may not be confident with the internet or may not even have internet access. The group, therefore, has had to ensure that its skills set is such that it can supply appropriate and timely support in these situations. DAG has many years experience in delivering comprehensive welfare

benefit assistance and vitally it ensures that the advice it provides is always of the minute and geared to maximising successful outcomes.

The group is user-led and its service is delivered by a team with lived experience of the key issues of disability, including direct knowledge of disability benefits and other services. DAG uses its specialist knowledge, experience and understanding to reach out to sectors of the local community who may experience difficulties accessing relevant entitlements, including welfare benefits, because of disability, as well as because of cultural or ethnic alienation in addition to being disabled.

Our support always seeks to ensure a much smoother, better informed and ultimately successful passage through the benefit system for our service users, as well as to provide an increased awareness of and access to other services for disabled people. Furthermore, through its popular Treats project, the group offers the opportunity for many local disabled people to overcome social isolation and pursue personal development by participating in a variety of leisure activities in a friendly and supportive environment.

In this way, DAG continues to occupy a unique and vital role in the local community at a time when disabled people throughout the nation feel increasingly dislocated from avenues to social inclusion. The group is widely perceived as a local champion of disability and is indeed unshaken its expressed aim of seeking to empower the disabled people by the provision of services that are geared to helping this sector of the community achieve social justice and parity.

I would like to close by offering a big thank you to our staff and volunteers who continue to show such skill, dedication and empathy by providing vital help and support to all those who seek DAG's support.

Tim Vasey Manager

# Treats Report

TREATS during 2025 followed a varied and entertaining list of activities, including art, dancing, painting, stressbusters. Jesmonite stone workshops, trips to the theatre and local nature reserves.

All activities were well supported and the variety presented high levels of commitment and enjoyment in the process.

DAG Treats has grown into a respected and reliable process which has continued to provide leisure activities for its membership. These have proven to be popular, worthwhile, educational and providing opportunities for members to meet and develop together.

A sign of the level of appeal of our Treats has been shown on those occasions when other groups have taken part and thoroughly enjoyed the session -actively requesting inclusion in later events.

Mark Smith

"Treats is great and I love the variety of treats"

'Its great to meet up with others and talk they are great afternoons"

'I like the days out such as Bird Gardens and the Theatre"

# Support DAG

## Donate

We rely on donations and grants from individuals and businesses.

Your contribution can make all the difference.

To make a donation visit DAG website

## Fundraise

There are so many ways you can help!

## Become a member

Membership Costs £10 with lots of DAG goodies

## Volunteer

Together we can make a real difference



**Achievements and Purpose:**

Over a twelve month period we provided over 1,140 individual appointments to people with a range of disabilities who were seeking assistance when making a claim for Benefits. We also supported 73 people at tribunal hearings considering an appeal against a decision regarding a claim for Benefits. This assistance is free of charge.

We arrange social and leisure activities every week, these activities have included art, craft, assisted cycling, outings, singing, stressbusters yoga, theatre trips, These activities are free of charge.

**Public Benefit Statement:**

The Trustees have considered the guidance on public benefit when planning our activities. We seek to provide accurate and up to date information and advice for disabled people living in the area of Scarborough and District.

**Reserves Policy:**

We maintain sufficient reserves to cover the estimated costs in the event of having to serve notices of redundancy to staff, the level of reserves is reviewed annually.

We do not have reserves policy at present, our income is donations and grants, these grants are restricted funds and planned to cover projected costs at the times when funds are awarded.

# Our Funders

Community First

Awards for All

Sport England

Donations and online Local Giving

Reaching Communities Lottery

Woodsmith Foundation

Filey Bay Today

Easy Street (Cricket Club Fundraiser)

SRCC

# Thank you

The Board would like to thank all staff for their excellent work, commitment to Scarborough DAG and contributions to vibrant and crucial services. They also thank our volunteers who, too, make outstanding contributions to our organisation. Without them, we could not deliver our services.

We also thank our funders and sponsors for continuous funding as well as all our members, well-wishers and critical friends who continue to inspire us to make a difference in our communities and demonstrate.

Lastly, we would like to Richard, our IT support who have supported us with our IT and computer issues.



# DAG Admin

## Trustees

Ian Whitfield (Chair)  
Holly Bennett  
Paul Marr  
Phil Mort  
Jude Wrightson  
Shirley Lees Porrit  
Karon Wallis  
Caroline Hill  
Andrew Worrall (Vice Chair)

## Charity Number

703172

## Bankers

Lloyds Bank PLC  
120 Levisham High Street  
Lewisham  
London  
SE13 GJQ

## Staff

Tim Vasey - Manager  
Mark Smith – Treats Co-  
ordinaror Becky Cockerill -  
Benefits Advisor

## Volunteers

Holly Bennett  
Wanda Maciusko  
Ian Whitfield  
Mark Sayers  
Mark Smith  
Jason Jellie  
Pam Featherstone  
Paul Gaskin  
Vince Carroll  
Sally Woodhead  
Dave Biggins  
Sue Blades

Independent Examiner  
Ashby Berry Coulsons





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Scarborough & District Disablement Action Group

No  
703172

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/04/2024

To

31/03/2025

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Voluntary Income	5,679	71,409	-	77,088	53,841
Investment Income	282	-	-	282	221
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>5,961</b>	<b>71,409</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77,370</b>	<b>54,062</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>5,961</b>	<b>71,409</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77,370</b>	<b>54,062</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Wages & salaries	-	37,306	-	37,306	37,116
Rent, Rates and Hire of Rooms	353	11,739	-	12,092	10,970
Travel Expenses	112	1,238	-	1,350	1,168
Insurance	-	1,090	-	1,090	976
Postage, Stationary & Office Exps	321	925	-	1,246	3,257
Telephone & Internet	200	715	-	915	789
Accountancy & Payroll fees	-	679	-	679	596
Subscription & Licences	-	458	-	458	180
Session Costs	-	1,808	-	1,808	5,867
Local Giving Costs	-	-	-	-	614
Earlier years cheques written back	322	-	-	322	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>55,958</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56,622</b>	<b>61,533</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>55,958</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56,622</b>	<b>61,533</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>5,297</b>	<b>15,451</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,748</b>	<b>- 7,471</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>10,680</b>	<b>24,058</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,738</b>	<b>42,209</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>15,977</b>	<b>39,509</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55,486</b>	<b>34,738</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Lloyds	7,196	39,445	-
	Skipton	8,781	-	-
	Cash	-	64	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>15,977</b>	<b>39,509</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

  

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	I. Whitfield	Ian Whitfield	16.01.2026
	A. Lunn	Andrew Ian Lunn	16.01.2026

**Scarborough & District Disablement Action Group**  
**Charity number: 703172**  
**Period ended 31 March 2025**

**Notes**

1. Comparative amounts have been restated in line with cash basis and excluding b/f and c/f prepayments and creditors.

2. Staff Costs	2025	2024
Employment costs		
Wages & salaries	<u>37,306</u>	<u>37,116</u>

The average monthly number of employees		
Administration & management	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employee earned more than £40,000 per annum.

**3. Funds**

	Balance at 01/04/2024	Receipts	Payments	Balance at 31/03/2025
Lottery Funds	18,241	48,152	-49,478	16,915
Other Treat Funds	5,817	23,257	-£6,480	22,594
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>24,058</u>	<u>71,409</u>	<u>-55,958</u>	<u>39,509</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>10,680</u>	<u>5,961</u>	<u>-664</u>	<u>15,977</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>34,738</u>	<u>77,370</u>	<u>-56,622</u>	<u>55,486</u>





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

On accounts for the year  
ended

Charity Name

Scarborough & District Disablement Action Group

31 March 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

703172

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2025**.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Independent  
examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below \*~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Wiffen

Date:

19/01/2026

Name:

Anna Wiffen

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

Ashby Berry Coulsons

2 Belgrave Crescent, Scarborough,

North Yorkshire YO11 1UB

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**