VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



Charity registration number: 1075995 Company registration number: 02222190

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Charity registration number 1075995

Company registration number 02222190

Trustees S Whittle – Chair

C Haywood - Vice Chair (Resigned 25 November 2022)

S Walls - Vice Chair

J Barber – Treasurer (Appointed 25 November 2022)

J Flanagan – Resigned 25 November 2022 G Link – Resigned 25 November 2022 D Selman – Resigned 25 November 2022

N Leatherland A Ahmed J Mallinder

C Batchford – Appointed 25 November 2022 J Dalton – Appointed 25 November 2022 E Senior – Appointed 25 November 2022 R Khan – Appointed 25 November 2022 R Savage – Appointed 25 November 2022

Partner Advisors Cllr. D Shepherd

R Nutbrown J Brown

Secretary S Hussain

Senior Management Team

Chief Executive S Hussain

Director of Services (Projects)

J Adamson – Resigned 30 June 2022

Director of Services (Infrastructure)

Director of Services (Infrastructure)

Director of Services (Infrastructure)

Director of Services (Projects)

Director of Services (Projects)

J Sinetos – Appointed 12 July 2022, Resigned 25

November 2022

Director of Services (Projects) H Thornton – Appointed 20 February 2023

Senior Manager (HR) A C

Head of Finance G Boylin - Resigned 8 May 2023

Registered office The Spectrum

Coke Hill Rotherham S60 2HX

Auditor Hentons

Northgate 118 North Street

Leeds LS2 7PN

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year end 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

Since the charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are detailed on page 1.

Objectives and activities

The full picture of all the objectives and activities provided and achieved during the year is detailed in our Annual Impact Report which shows the progress during the year and how we have achieved our Vision, Mission and Values. It shows how we support the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Rotherham to make a difference through our 3 key strategic aims of:

- Information and Influence
- > Strengthen and Support
- Efficiency and Effectiveness

Information and Influence:

- Promote the VCS and provide strategic representation and leadership
- · Communicate relevant, high quality, timely knowledge and information
- Broker networking, collaboration, co-ordinated voice amongst the VCS
- Provide evidence and intelligence base, share learning and best practice and influence change

Strengthen and Support:

- Provide specialised quality support services to meet the diverse needs of the VCS
- Support and broker volunteering, active citizenship, a skilled professional workforce
- Improve and maximise access to a wide range of income and funding opportunities
- Increase and improve VCS delivery, efficiency, added value, governance and performance.

Efficiency and Effectiveness:

- Ensure we have effectively managed and governed, responsive and accountable to members
- Maintain our independence, achieve financial sustainability and deliver innovative services
- Demonstrate our effectiveness, value for money and commitment to continuous improvement
- Encourage and develop partnership working within the VCS, our communities and our partners

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the Charities Act 2011, referring to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, "Charities and Public Benefit".

Voluntary Action Rotherham's activities benefits the public of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough and its surrounding area, in particular the advancements of education, the protection of health, the relief of poverty, distress and sickness. The trustees ensure that the charity's objectives support the public of the third sector helping organisations make a greater impact for all their beneficiaries.

Achievements

At the start of the financial year, the country was indirectly dealing with the war in Ukraine, and unfortunately that war still continues as we write this report. The impact of the war, resulted in substantial changes to people's lives, and increased risks to the organisations we support, due to the strains of the cost of living crisis. As an organisation, we adapted and worked with our stakeholders and funders to continue to directly help groups and individuals through our umbrella of projects. The trustees are proud of the work carried out by VAR employees and volunteers, to ensure our vision for a strong, vibrant voluntary and community action is maximised to benefit those most in need.

We had many achievements in the year, but some highlights include:

Shared Prosperity Fund - By working in partnership across sector, we were able to draw down £365k to support and stimulate the local VCS to meet the pressures caused by the Cost of Living crisis. Working at pace to meet unprecedented levels of need, we pulled together a strong partnership that developed a progressive project that is already delivering successfully. We are particularly pleased to have been able to support smaller front-line organisations to address immediate need, whilst building for the long term through a process of community development. We recognised that people in crisis needed support, but communities needed to be supported to build resilience to prevent people from returning to crisis. In total, 30 organisations have been supported through the fund.

Household Support Fund - Those providing Food in Crisis support continue to face unprecedented levels of demand. The numbers rose staggeringly during covid, but the impact of the cost-of-living crisis means the numbers are still significantly higher than pre-covid. With surplus food becoming increasingly difficult to get hold of, this has left many providers facing a perfect storm — less food available with higher numbers needing emergency provision. As a result, this year's Xmas Hamper Fund was over-subscribed — a dramatic increase from previous years. Working in partnership with RMBC we were able to draw down additional funds and support 12 organisations this year, with 521 Christmas Hampers distributed — reaching approximately 1561 individuals.

Mental Health – This was the second year of mental health grant funding for organisations, we were able to distribute £246k to frontline organisations, all with the intention of improving the Rotherham resident's mental health, through a basket of activities. This was in addition to the mental health grants we already distribute through our social prescribing service. We received some funding to employ a mental health provider network manager, which enabled us to link groups and individuals together, share success stories and open pathways to work closely towards the shared goal of improved mental health.

Community Renewal Fund – The successful project ended in September, we worked with 13 VCS organisations within Rotherham to aid with supporting people into employment and investing in their skills. Each outcome was exceeded with an average of 194% of outcomes delivered.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Long Covid Service – 2022/23 was the first full year of the long covid social prescribing pilot, which saw over 100 referrals over the 12 months, the majority of which were of people who are working age and unable to work due to long term complications following an infection from covid. We supported individuals with advocacy and benefits support, with peer support and therapeutic services

UECC Social Prescribing – This project is now taking off after some difficulties in getting things moving in the previous financial year. Through our UECC work, we have facilitated the setting up of a hospital discharge pilot to help discharge-ready patients to go home.

South Yorkshire VCSE (Integrated Care System) Alliance – We hosted an 'in person' launch of the SY VCSE Alliance event during November, attended by approximately 100 people. The event focused on sharing the developments, including the co-produced, at the time, draft, Memorandum of Understanding between the SY VCSE and Integrated Care Board. The event enabled dialogue to help shape the VCSE priorities as part of the 'one workforce' strategy, across health, care, VCSE, paid and unpaid carers.

Mental Health Provider Network – Through our work, over 80 groups from the VCSE have signed up to be part of the mental health network, as part of the transformation of community mental health services. We have worked with groups to build their capacity and aimed to link them with other groups.

We underwent the reassessment both for Customer 1st and the ISO 9001 Quality Standards; which were both reaccredited.

We have continued to provide: high quality communications, ensuring the VCS is well informed and engaged. Our weekly VAR bulletin continues to be important to organisations and individuals. Alongside this our monthly members newsletter has provided up to date information about our support services and further highlighted opportunities for the VCS. The renewed VAR website remained an important method for VAR members to be updated on news and event information. We continue to work in collaboration through partnerships, networks and consortiums, promoting the work and the successes of the VCS and feeding back the sectors requirements to stakeholders. We were able to resume a number of in person Audience with Sessions; related to a range of themes. We were grateful to bring back face to face training to groups, and will continue to develop and promote these.

We have continued to provide: quality services ensuring the VCS has access to information, advice and support it needs, when it needs it. VAR directly distributed £1,625,656 in grants to approximately 100 organisations as well as being able to support the sector in securing new funding, enhancing their organisations existence and development. Grant distributions are awarded in line with clear guidelines which ensure they reflect the charity's objects and thereby advancing public benefit. During the year we have been able to support organisations through grant giving for various objectives, including mental health provision, provision of food to support families in need, programmes of activities to aid with cost of living.

We have continued to: be responsive and accountable to our members, representing the VCS, supporting and encouraging close partnership working. We have continued to diversify our income by providing professional and affordable services including Community Accountancy, Payroll Bureau Services, HR Advice and Support and Financial Management.

We maintain our vision for a strong, vibrant voluntary and community action.

We have engaged both Rotherham and South Yorkshire VCS and partners, as part of the change from local Clinical Commissioning Groups to Integrated Care Boards. It has been important for VAR to work with Health services and other stakeholders to ensure VCS are part of the collaboration and delivery of a range of appropriate services.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Performance Management Framework / Risk Action Plan

The trustees, in line with the agreed PMF, which sets out and assesses all major risks to the organisation, reviewed the analysis at regular intervals Five key performance areas with agreed KPI's and RAG ratings were set, and those areas are

- > Finance and Operational Management
- > Governance and Strategic Leadership
- > Service Delivery Areas
- > Staffing and Volunteers
- > Reputational Management / Satisfaction

Financial review (including reserves policy)

As of 31 March 2023, the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities shows income for the year of £3,562,633 (2022: £4,660,860). Expenditure for the year was £3,453,639 (2022: £2,598,055). At year end, the SOFA is showing a surplus of £59,230 (2022 surplus: £37,380), against our core activity (unrestricted funds). There were no transfers between funds (2022: £1). There is a net movement of £49,764 (2022: £2,025,425) on restricted funds, this is driven by projects being funded in advance.

The SOFA includes income of £22,419 (2022: £20,631) and expenditure of £22,419 (2022: £20,631) relating to our trading subsidiary, Spectrum Futures C.I.C.

At the year end, unrestricted fund balances are £1,025,683 (2022: £966,453) with restricted funds of £4,257,402 (2022: £4,207,638) giving the total year end fund position for 2023 of £5,283,085 (2022: £5,174,091).

The balance sheet as at 31 March 2023 also shows tangible assets of £711,657 (2022: £764,372. Debtors due are £283,249 (2022: £323,820). Creditors falling due within one year stand at £368,569 (2022: £758,856).

For the year ending 31 March 2023, VAR Board have designated funds of £581,000 This reflects the provision for post March 2023 activity of £467,282, the provision towards the pension trust deficit of £53,718, and £60,000 towards repairs of the flat roof at the Spectrum.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific use, should be maintained at a value of three to six months expenditure, of which the minimum three months expenditure equates to approximately £860,000. This level of general reserves would finance operations in the event of short-term funding gaps, and finance immediate obligations should VAR lose its funding, or alternatively in the event that the organisation should need to close. At 31 March 2023, our general free reserves stood at £432,595, substantially below our minimum target level. The Trustees are aware of this and aim to build on general reserves in the future years by continuing the development of further income generating activities to support our grant dependency, and to ensure we maintain a high level of astute financial management. Our subsidiary organisation, Spectrum Futures CIC, has allowed VAR to expand its target area and client base further afield and this in turn assists in our support to the sector.

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Treasurer's Statement

The finance function within Voluntary Action Rotherham is responsible for:-

- Controlling all finance related activities of the business, utilising the available tools and resources
- Ensuring the efficient management of the organisation's finances and accounting systems, consistent with the requirements of the trustees, company, charity law and other relevant legislation;
- Providing the trustees and management team with input and support on both strategic and operational issues.

From the prior year, total income for the year has decreased by £1,098k, this is due to restricted funding being paid for in advance in 2021/22. Although our overall income has decreased, it is still substantially higher than prepandemic levels.

Our funders have been disclosed on pages 22 & 23, and the breakdown of these restricted funds are disclosed on pages 31, 32, 33 & 34. Grants distributed out to the sector in 2022/23 equated to £1,627k, which amounted to 46% of our total income received during the year. We continue to actively seek out additional funding to support our main aims and objectives, and work with our generous funders to continue to adapt to the sector's needs.

VAR's trading subsidiary Spectrum Futures CIC again supported the charity with further income generated activities engaged by the community. The income for the trading subsidiary increased from the prior year due to the increased supporting activities through our community accountancy, payroll bureau and HR service. The trading accounts for Spectrum Futures CIC showed a break-even position for 22/23, in line with previous years.

Having previously designated funding for future periods, the trustees of the charity will maintain this fund to support its core activity where there is a shortfall of direct funding. This designation of £467k will allow for further provision to assist the core activity for future periods post March 2023. In 2021/22, we designated £60k to repair an element of one of the flat roofs, we carried out the quotation work, and understanding the requirements in 2022/23 and work is scheduled to be undertaken in 23/24. The trustees will also safeguard the designated pension fund in support of the pension deficits impending on the Pension Trust pension scheme.

Management accounts are produced monthly and reported to the Board, Exec Group and Finance Committee. The board have confidence in the financial procedures and month end activities produced by the finance function.

Plans for future periods

This year VAR has been significantly involved as part of the VCS input and engagement with the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB). The VAR CEO was nominated by the SY VCSE Alliance Steering Group, as the VCS Partner Member, as part of the ICB. The VAR CEO also undertakes the role of the VCS Senior Responsible Officer, as part of the SY Integrated Care System, as well as the Chair of the SY VCS Alliance. VAR recognises the importance of a distributive leadership model and we would like to work with VCS partners so the various strategic roles have a cross section of the VCS, from across the whole of South Yorkshire

During 23/24, VAR will seek to build on the existing core VCS Infrastructure offer, through the Single Infrastructure Grant (SIG). We would seek to agree a new 3 year service level agreement for the SIG. This will involve consultation work with VCS and other stakeholders, so we are able to co-design the delivery.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)

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We will review our Strategic Plan during 23/24 and in doing so will involve a wide range of stakeholders. We will incorporate the assessment of the infrastructure offer, as part of this review. We will work with partners across South Yorkshire to undertake State of the Sector Research both at a Place and South Yorkshire levels.

We will continue to explore partnership opportunities, for collaboration with and investment for the VCS and envisage opportunities such as the Family Hubs and Building Recovery in Communities Programmes.

Structure, governance and management

VAR's governance

Voluntary Action Rotherham is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The charity is operated under the rules of its Memorandum and Articles of Association, first issued on its incorporation on 17 February 1988, amended in December 2005, November 2010, November 2013 and again amended by a special resolution in November 2017. This has ensured we are resilient, our Board composition is fit for purpose, and we continue to be driven by the values which underpin our work.

VAR's Board of Trustees

VAR's Board is made up of eleven trustees, three partner advisors who act in a non-voting capacity. All trustees and any co-optees also act as directors of the company and are notified to Companies House. The number of Trustees should not be less than five (5) and no more than thirteen (13), and the chief executive acts as company secretary. During 2022, VAR saw a number of Trustees retiring after the maximum three terms of three years each. This along with existing vacancies on VAR Board, meant that there were 6 new trustee positions that were agreed at the November 2022 AGM.

VAR's Board provides the strategic direction and decisions regarding the organisation. It meets bi-monthly and is underpinned by the executive group which also meet bi-monthly and has decision making responsibilities delegated from the board. The senior management team meet with the chief executive on a bi- weekly basis to agree operational decisions in line with overall strategic directions. The chief executive and the chair also meet regularly.

VAR, in recent times, has a finance sub-committee, consisting of the treasurer, another trustee, the CEO and finance manager. This enables management accounts, forecasts and balance sheets to be scrutinised and analysed in detail, providing additional assurance to the board of the overall finance management of the charity.

VAR is underpinned by a range of HR policies and procedures as well as financial procedures which are approved by VAR board. All of these are reviewed annually, and amended as appropriate, and reported to VAR board for their approval.

The trustees conducted an assessment of the major risks to the organisation during September 2022 and March 2023. Each funding proposal underpinning VAR's activities is accompanied by a delivery plan and reports against agreed targets. We have combined all of the individual risk assessments into an overall risk management framework for the organisation and this is reviewed by the Board on a six monthly basis. This underpins the performance management framework and shows the impact on systems, procedures, staffing, communications and funding.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)

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Recruitment and appointment of the trustees and key management personnel remuneration policy

Trustees are recruited and appointed from VAR's membership base, or as Independent Trustees and in line with VAR's Memorandum and Articles of Association. Recruitment for potential new trustees is conducted via VAR's mailings, newsletters and website. Role descriptions exist for trustee and officer posts. Elections to the trustee board takes at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and proxy votes are invited, from members prior to the AGM, should they not be able to attend. If there are the same number of applicants and vacancies, an uncontested election is held which is approved by members at the AGM. Trustees are appointed for a term of three years and at each AGM, one third of the board of trustees, taken from those trustees who have served the longest, are expected to stand down. Trustees may stand for re-election if they wish and in exceptional circumstances a retiring trustee may serve a further consecutive term; but will be subject to annual appointment agreed by existing Trustees and also agreed by members at the Annual General Meeting.

Appointment of the executive places of chair, vice chair(s) and treasurer take place at the first board meeting after the AGM and is ratified by members of the board. All new trustees are invited to an induction meeting and must sign a memorandum of agreement. VAR is a company limited by guarantee and all trustees are notified as directors to Companies House.

The key management structure of VAR consists of the Chief Executive, the Director of Services (Projects), the Director of Services (Infrastructure), the Senior Manager (HR) and the Finance Manager. Remuneration for staff is maintained in line with any salary uplifts, where appropriate and across the organisation, related to pay legislation as a minimum and approved by VAR board.

Research and development

The last time VAR commissioned research into the state of the voluntary and community sector in Rotherham, was during 2016, via the State of the Sector Research. Funding was secured via the Rotherham Together Partnership during 19/20 to carry out an up to date State of the Sector Research. It has been agreed to undertake the 'state of the sector' in 2023/24.

VAR commissions specific pieces of research as required, e.g. evaluation work to measure the success of any pilot projects.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Voluntary Action Rotherham for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- · make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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.

Disclosure of information to the auditors

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In so far as the trustees are aware:

- · there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

On behalf of the board

S Whittle, Trustee

18/10/2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Action Rotherham (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, Balance sheets, Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent 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.

Other matter

The prior period financial statements ending 31 March 2022 have been aaudited by another auditor and they have expressed an unmodified opinion on 4 August 2022.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group and parent 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information included in the trustees' annual report. 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.

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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- · certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- 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 directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement (page 9), 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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent 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 group or the parent 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

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and trustees, and from our knowledge and experiences of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, data protection, employment and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management;
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by;

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

To address the risks of fraud through management bias and override controls, we:

- · performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- · reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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 and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and its trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at:

https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance/auditor-s-responsibilitiesfor-the-audit-of-the-fi/description-of-the-auditor%E2%80%99s-responsibilities-for. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Chris Howitt (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Merton + Co CUP

For and on behalf of Henton & Co LLP, Statutory Auditor

118 North Street

Leeds

LS2 7PN

Date: 15/11/23

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account) YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

				· · ·	
		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
		funds	funds	Total	Tota
	Note	£	£	£	f
					(Note 2)
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	107,206	•	107,206	112,373
Charitable activities	-4	94,236	3,294,658	3,388,894	4,513,039
Investments	5	42,291		42,291	5,837
Other	6	22,419	1,823	24,242	29,611
Total income and endowments		266,152	3,296,481	3,562,633	4,660,860
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	13,896		13,896	12,800
Charitable activities	8	193,026	3,235,757	3,428,783	2,573,120
Exceptional costs	8		10,960	10,960	12,135
Total expenditure		206,922	3,246,717	3,453,639	2,598,055
Net income		59,230	49,764	108,994	2,062,805
Transfers between funds					
Net movement in funds	. 1	59,230	49,764	108,994	2,062,805
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	18	966,453	4,207,638	5,174,091	3,111,286
Total funds carried forward	18	1,025,683	4,257,402	5,283,085	5,174,091

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account) YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
	funds	funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	107,206		107,206	112,373
Charitable activities	94,236	3,294,658	3,388,894	4,513,039
Investments	42,291		42,291	5,837
Other		1,823	1,823	8,980
			-	
Total income and endowments	243,733	3,296,481	3,540,214	4,640,229
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	13,896		13,896	12,800
Charitable activities	170,607	3,235,757	3,406,364	2,552,489
Exceptional costs		10,960	10,960	12,135
Total expenditure	184,503	3,246,717	3,431,220	2,577,424
Net income	59,230	49,764	108,994	2,062,805
Transfers between funds		•		
Net movement in funds	59,230	49,764	108,994	2,062,805
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	966,423	4,207,638	5,174,061	3,111,256
Total funds carried forward	1,025,653	4,257,402	5,283,055	5,174,061

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		GRO	OUP	CHAR	ITY
		2023	2022	2023	2022
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14	711,657	764,372	711,657	764,372
Current assets					
Debtors	15	283,249	323,820	290,132	342,964
Cash at bank and in hand	16	4,656,748	4,842,755	4,649,835	4,823,581
		4,939,997	5,166,575	4,939,967	5,166,545
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(368,569)	(756,856)	(368,569)	(756,856)
Net current assets	2.	4,571,428	4,409,719	4,571,398	4,409,689
Net assets		5,283,085	5,174,091	5,283,055	5,174,061
Charity Funds				0 	
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	18	581,000	581,000	581,000	581,000
General reserve	18	444,683	385,453	444,653	385,423
Total unrestricted funds		1,025,683	966,453	1,025,653	966,423
Restricted funds	18	4,257,402	4,207,638	4,257,402	4,207,638
Total charity funds	19	5,283,085	5,174,091	5,238,055	5,174,061

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 12/10/10

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees

5. A Whithe

S Whittle, Chair

J Barber, Treasurer

The notes on pages 17 to 40 form part of these financial statements. Company registration number: 02222190

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flow from operating activities	20	(228,298)	1,910,532
Net cash flow from operating activities		(228,298)	1,910,532
Cash flow from investing activities Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets Interest received		42,291	(66,860) 5,837
Net cash flow from investing activities		42,291	(61,023)
Net Increase in cash and cash equivalents		(186,007)	1,849,509
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2022		4,842,755	2,993,246
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2023	•	4,656,748	4,842,755
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:			
Cash at bank and in hand		4,656,748	4,842,755
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2023		4,656,748	4,842,755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Voluntary Action Rotherham is a charitable company established by constitution on 13 January 1981 in the United Kingdom. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are on page 2.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

(b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Voluntary Action Rotherham and its only subsidiary. An undertaking is a subsidiary if the group has control over its financial and operating policies.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are eliminated unless the transactions provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

(c) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes or projects which they have decided to undertake, the trustees have the option to undesignated these funds should they require to do so.

Restricted funds are subject to specific trusts which may have been declared by the funders or with their authority (e.g. in a public appeal), but still within the objects of VAR. They may be restricted income funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees/directors in furtherance of a particular project or objective of VAR. Alternatively, they may be capital funds where the funds are required to be invested in fixed assets for charity use or in investment assets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(d) Income recognition

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the SOFA when receivable.

- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The
 value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Income from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.
- Income from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the
 charity earns the right to consideration by its performance, it is probable that the income will be received
 and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.
- Income from grants which have no restriction attached other than to be used for charitable activities are allocated to a charitable activity at the discretion of the trustees under fees and other income (see note 4).

(e) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is included as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

- Costs of raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both the direct costs and support costs relating to such activities.
- Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.
- Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories based on the split of funding received for the different areas of the charity's activities.

(f) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 8.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(g) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Only fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and depreciated.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold buildings Straight line over 50 years

Fixtures, fittings & equipment 33% straight line

The company has opted to charge no depreciation on assets in the year of addition.

The property is included at the trustees' best estimate of market value. It is the Charity's policy to carry out a formal valuation of the properties every 5 years and to take advice annually as to any material movements in value.

(h) Employee benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are expensed as they become payable. The assets of this scheme are entirely separable to those of the charity. The pension cost shown represents contributions payable by the charity on behalf of the employees.

The charity also contributes to the Pensions Trust Growth Plan for its employees. This is in most respects a money purchase arrangement, but does include certain guaranteed benefit elements. The Plan is a multi-employer scheme.

Since the charity has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit), the contributions paid are shown in the income and expenditure account.

(i) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(j) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient, with the level of reserves, for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities 2022 .

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted
	funds	funds
	£	£
Income and and control from		

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022
	funds	funds	Tota
	£	£	f
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	112,373		112,373
Charitable activities	82,806	4,430,233	4,513,039
Investments	5,837		5,837
Other	28,631	980	29,611
Total income and endowments	229,647	4,431,213	4,660,860
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	12,800		12,800
Charitable activities .	179,467	2,393,653	2,573,120
Exceptional costs	<u> </u>	12,135	12,135
Total expenditure	192,267	2,405,788	2,598,055
Net income			
	37,380	2,025,425	2,062,805
Transfers between funds			
Other recognised gains / (losses):	-		
Re-measurement loss on defined benefit pension plan	_		
Net movement in funds	37,380	2,025,425	2,062,805
ncome from donations and legacies			
		•	•
		2023	2022
		£	f
Core grants			
National Health Service - CCG		105 706	105 706

National Health Service - CCG 105,706 105,706 Other 1,500 6,667 107,206 112,373

Income from donations and legacies in both 2023 and 2022 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4	Income from charitable activities				
8		Unrestricted	Restricted		
		funds	funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
	Core activities including payroll &				
	accountancy services	94,236	-	94,236	82,806
	Partnerships, services & programmes	-	3,294,658	3,294,658	4,430,233
		94,236	3,294,658	3,388,894	4,513,039
	An analysis of the sources of this income is	shown in note 4a.			
4a	Income from charitable activities (expende	ed):			
		3		2023	2022
				£	£
	Arts Council		*		•0
	 Creative Places & People (FLUX) 			370,005	246,666
	C&YP Consortium				
	- Children & Young People			3,000	17,036
	Community First:				
	- NHS Social Prescribing Service .			562,850	563,048
	- NHS Cultural Competency				10,000
	- NHS Fitter, Better, Sooner			-	35,000
	- NHS Green and Blue SP Data			1-060-	750
	- NHS Long Covid Support			-	66,000
	- NHS Mental Health Grants			-	659,000
	- NHS Micro Commissioning			81,920	80,000
	- NHS SMI Patient Voice				20,000
	- NHS Mental Health Project			197,150	197,150
	- NHS Mental Health Provider Network			47.000	53,000
	- NHS UECC Link Worker Scheme			15,000	60,000
	- NHS Health Engagement			-	70,000
	- NHS BAME SPS Volunteers				10,000
	- NHS Children Social Prescribing				70,000
	- NHS Sheffield - WMTY Kitemark			-	3,300
	- NHS PCN – LINK Workers			257,305	209,967
	- NHS RDASH Social Prescribing Link Worke	ers		16,800	64,000
•	- NHS Digital Aspirant Funding				305,000
	- SYB ICS VCS SRO Role			-	14,612
	- SY ICS VCSE Sector				42,907
	- SY ICS VCSE Engagement Co-ordinator				100,000
	- VCS Resilience				500,000
	- VCS Seasonal Pressures				115,000
	- NHS Andy's Man Club			5,000	7
	- NHS Community Connectors			110,930	
	- NHS Stroke Link Workers			36,421 29,176	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

- RDASH Expert by Experience	18,894	
- RDASH Mental Health and Wellbeing Navigators	62,794	
- SY ICB	9,750	-
National Lottery:		
- Smiles for Miles	370,727	122,321
RMBC:		
- Accessible Grants Provision		(1,568)
- Children & Young People Service	45,581	45,581
- COMF Grants		250,000
- Community Achievement Awards		9,500
- Community Champions		10,000
- Food in Crisis	10,000	10,000
- Household Support Fund	44,000	30,000
- Single Infrastructure Grant	126,000	126,000
- State of the Sector Research		10,000
- Building Recovery in Communities	79,961	
- Families Hubs	139,715	
- Shared Prosperity Fund	365,000	
- Creative People & Places (FLUX)	20,581	
Other:		
- Be a Good Neighbour	2,000	8,000
- Community Renewal Fund	297,333	297,963
- Wentworth Woodhouse (FLUX)	11,765	257,505
- NAVCA (Ukraine)	5,000	
Unrestricted Activities:	3,000	
- Payroll Bureau Fees	23,065	23,164
- Community Accountancy Fees	24,311	23,964
- External rent/room hire	41,163	31,829
- Other income		
- Other income	5,697	3,849
	3,388,894	4,513,039
Income from investments		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank interest	42,291	5,837

Income from investments in both 2023 and 2022 is all attributable to unrestricted funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

66	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
6	Other income	
n	Other income	

	2023	2022
	£	£
Spectrum Futures – income generated	22,419	20,631
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council		8,000
Volunteer Expenses Reimbursement	134	980
Reimbursed expenses	1,689	
	24,242	29,611

Other income in both 2023 and 2022 was attributable to both unrestricted and restricted funds.

7 Costs of raising funds

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	13,896	12,800

Expenditure on costs of raising funds in both 2023 and 2022 was all attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities	Grant			*	
	undertaken	funding of	Support	Total	Total	
	directly	activities	costs	2023	2022	
	£	£	£	£	£	
Core activities including payroll & accountancy						
services	111,309		-	111,309	102,844	
Partnerships &						
programmes	1,358,305	1,625,656	251,796	3,235,757	2,393,653	
Exceptional costs (flood						
repairs)	10,960		-	10,960	12,135	
Spectrum Futures	22,419			22,419	20,631	
Governance costs (Note 9)	59,298		-	59,298	55,992	
	1,562,291	1,625,656	251,796	3,439,743	2,585,255	

Expenditure on charitable activities was £3,349,743 (2022: £2,585,255) of which £193,026 (2022: £179,469) was attributable to unrestricted funds and £3,246,717 (2022: £2,405,788) was attributable to restricted funds.

Notional rent is included within the direct costs of the activity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Further disclosure in respect of grants paid in provided in note 10.

Support costs totalling £251,796 represents allocation of core costs to restricted funds, including premises costs and salaries apportioned on the basis of full-time equivalent employees. In a few instances, this is limited by the budgets that have been agreed with the funder.

			2023	2022
			£	f
Finance			82,719	65,741
Personnel			34,203	32,003
ICT Internal Services			4,852	3,856
Executive Management			130,022	108,15
			251,796	209,75
Governance costs				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Tota
	funds	funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Auditor's remuneration	7,200		7,200	10,800
Trustees' expenses	851		851	331
Salary costs	49,900		49,900	44,861
AGM & Governance costs	1,347		1,347	
	59,298		59,298	55,992
			THE VIEW	

Expenditure on governance costs in both 2023 and 2022 was all attributable to unrestricted funds.

10 Grants payable

	2023	2022
	£	£
British Red Cross Society	53,004	55,790
B Friend	12,093	25,036
Clifton Learning Partnership	106,280	43,048
Crossroads Care Rotherham	56,026	39,786
The Learning Community	65,335	74,832
Live inclusive	26,500	37,225
Kimberworth Park Community Partnership	10,550	18,620
Age UK (Rotherham)	74,653	39,650
Rotherham Citizens Advice Bureau	68,142	20,000
Royal Voluntary Service .	32,000	30,373
Dinnington Area Regeneration Trust Ltd	6,000	5,708
Impressive Expression	19,500	7,500

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	JADE	54,458	28,817
*	YAWR Services	78,978	55,814
	KPWCDT	16,787	15,380
	RUFC Community Sports Fund	64,955	57,108
	Rotherham & Barnsley Mind	43,053	50,944
	Sheffield Wildlife Trust	6,000	10,000
	Alzheimer's Society	29,665	31,003
	Active Independence	56,051	31,000
	Action Housing & Support	30,031	(1,414)
	Apna Haq	4,400	14,000
		12,466	14,000
	Brinsworth Community Trust	12,400	/47\
	Rotherham Independent Volunteer Organisation		(47)
	United Multi Cultural Centre	8,000	
	Cortonwood Comeback Centre	33,046	41,705
	Liberty Church	5,000	3,800
	Endeavour Training Ltd	56,863	47,641
	YMCA White Rose	8,109	23,866
	Rush House	45,062	32,716
	Rotherham Parent Forum	21,732	27,088
	YWCA	42,526	35,960
	GROW	10,000	4,750
	Swinton Lock Activity Centre	19,994	24,961
	BME Young People & Carers Group CIC	3,000	8,790
	Activate Rawmarsh	6,787	5,000
	Active for Life Solutions	11,700	5,000
	Active Regen Community Foundation Ltd	10,240	10,000
	Anston Cricket Club		5,000
	Lighthouse Homes		5,000
	Making Space	4,042	6,207
	Pivotal Health and Wellbeing	14,600	5,000
	Places for People Leisure Ltd	5,457	10,083
	POPS Outdoor Adventure (Rawmarsh)	10,035	10,000
	Rotherham Cancer Care		5,000
	Rotherham Deaf Futures	10,240	10,000
	RotherFed	97,061	7,500
	ROAR	5,800	5,780
	Rotherham Wah Hong Chinese Association	3,060	7,938
	Saif's Boxing and Fitness CIC		10,040
	Sense		5,000
	Shiloh Rotherham	18,129	13,207
	Social Supermarket	8,948	10,400
	Speak Up Self Advocacy Ltd	8,734	8,362
	The High Street Centre	10,240	14,640
	The Rivers Team		5,000
	Thornberry Animal Sanctuary		5,000
	WEA	15,693	16,995
	Barnsley CVS	5,000	
	Brooklands Club	5,000	
	Dinnington Community Boxing	10,750	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5,000	
39,600	
and the same	
13,830	
5,000	
6,320	
10,940	*
14,900	
19,796	•
6,570	
5,000	
6,500	The street
9,550	-
5,000	
5,000	-
60,906	78,178
1,625,656	1,205,780
2023	2022
£	£
7,200	10,800
52,715	39,508
	7,200

12 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

The trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2022: £nil). Trustees expenses reimbursed during the year totalled £851 (2022: £331).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £233,394 (2022:£232,994) The Trustees considers its key management personnel compromise Chief Executive, Director of Services (Infrastructure), Director of Services (Projects), HR Manager and Head of Finance.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average monthly number of employees during the year on full time equivalent (FTE) basis was as follows:

	2023	2022
	FTE	FTE
Core costs including payroll & accountancy services	10.38	10.88
Core costs including payroll & accountancy services Partnerships & programmes	28.11	24.03
	38.49	34.91
)

The average number of employees during the year was XX (2022: 42).

The organisation was also supported by a total of X volunteers through the course of the year.

The total staff costs and employee benefits was as follows:

£	£
94,428	935,992
93,476	80,860
63,263	52,540
51,167	1,069,392
	251,167

¹ employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (2022: 1).

Senior Management Team employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs):

		2022	2021
	£0-£10,000	1	
	£10,001 - £20,000	3	1
	£20,001 - £30,000	2	2
	£30,001 - £40,000	1	
	£40,001 - £50,000		2
4	£50,001 - £60,000		
	£60,001 - £70,000	1	1

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation:			
At 1 April 2022	787,885	196,344	984,229
Additions Disposals			
At 31 March 2023	787,885	196,344	984,229
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2022	116,016	103,841	219,857
Disposals			-
Depreciation charge	15,758	36,957	52,715
At 31 March 2023	131,774	140,798	272,572
Net book value:			
At 31 March 2023	656,111	55,546	711,657
At 31 March 2022	671,869	92,503	764,372

The Spectrum building is included in freehold land and buildings and was revalued in the financial year 31 March 2015 to £775,000. This was based on an open market valuation completed in October 2014 by a firm of independent valuers, Merryweathers, Chartered Surveyors.

All fixed assets are considered to be for direct charitable purposes and relate to the charity, the trading subsidiary, Spectrum Futures, holds no fixed assets.

The historical cost equivalent of land and buildings included at valuation are as follows:

	Freehold land & buildings £
Cost or valuation:	
At 1 April 2022	1,757,279
Depreciation:	
At 1 April 2022	419,828
Depreciation charge	15,758
At 31 March 2023	435,586
Net book value:	
At 31 March 2023	1,321,693
At 31 March 2022	1,337,451

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Debtors

		Grou	ın	Cha	rity
		2023	2022	2023	2022
		£	£ ,	£	£
	Trade debtors	237,670	266,723	236,904	266,024
	Amounts owed by group undertakings		-	7,649	19,843
	Prepayments and accrued income	45,579	57,097	45,579	57,097
		283,249	323,820	290,132	342,964
16	Cash and Bank				
		Grou	ıp '	Cha	rity
		2023	2022	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
	Cash in bank and in hand	4,365,561	4,465,171	4,358,288	4,445,997
	Advanced funding	283,705	374,052	283,705	374,052
	People in Need Bank Account	7,482	3,532	7,842	3,532
		4,656,748	4,842,755	4,649,835	4,823,581

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Grou	ip .	Char	ity
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	36,045	27,294	36,045	27,294
Taxation and social security	22,600	20,027	22,600	20,027
Other creditors & deferred income	283,705	374,052	283,705	374,052
Accruals	18,737	331,951	18,737	331,951
Amount's held on behalf of People in Need	7,482	3,532	7,482	3,532
	368,569	756,856	368,569	756,856

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	People in Need £	Deferred Income £
Balance brought forward at 31 March 2022	3,532	374,052
Additions during the year	5,950	27,963
Amounts distributed	(2,000)	(118,310)
	7,482	283,705
Balance to be carried forward at 31 March 2023		

18 Fund reconciliation

Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains & Losses £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted Designated –	385,453	266,152	(206,922)		-	444,683
Pension scheme Designated – Core activities post	115,261				(61,543)	53,718
March 2022 Designated –	405,739	-			61,543	467,282
Future Roof Repair	60,000	<u> </u>	-	-		60,000
	966,453	266,152	(206,922)			1,025,683

The £53,718designated to the pension scheme is to cover potential future liabilities in relation to Pensions Trust scheme.

The designated fund in relation to core activities post March 2023 is to cover future deficits on core activities.

The designated fund in relation to future roof repairs is for known future expenditure in relation to work required on the roof.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18 Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 April				Balance at 31 March
	2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
BSC Small Grants	1 627			(1,627)	A TREE
	1,627 455	`2,000	(2.455)	. (1,027)	
Be a Good Neighbour		2,000	(2,455)		
Children & Young People	11,420	3,000	(14,420)		
Children & Young People (SIG)		45,581	(45,581)		
Community Achievement Awards	2,162	-	(2,162)		
Creative People and Places (Flux)	559,713	403,562	(516,458)		446,817
COVID Winter Grant	196				196
COMF Grants	41,616		(38,285)		3,331
Community Champions	9,000		(9,000)		
Community Renewal Fund	39,309	297,333	(303,362)		33,280
Digital Aspirant Funding	201,568	257,000	(38,406)		163,162
Emergency Assistance	3,173		206	(2,458)	921
Grants	-,			(-,,	
Feasibility Study	6,659				6,659
Flood Damage	21,922		(10,960)		10,962
Food in Crisis	,	10,000			10,000
Green and Blue SP Data	750		(750)		_
Household Support Fund	4,750	44,000	(49,835)	4,085	3,000
Internal Voluntary	9,969				9,969
Approach Advisor					
Neighbourhood Gov. Imp	3,030	14 L	(279)		2,751
Pilot					
NHS BAME SPS	1,667		(1,667)		
Volunteers					
NHS HEP - BAME Insight	43,276		(17,887)		25,389
NHS Cultural Competency	3,000		(3,000)		
NHS Children Social	70,000		(2,521)		67,479
Prescribing					
NHS GP's Activity Support	36,573			_	36,573
NHS SPS IBCF	224,413				224,413
NHS Mental Health Social	50,000	9-1-4	•		50,000
Scheme NHS Mental Health	43,981	197,150	(221,702)	<u> </u>	19,429
Programme					
NHS Mental Health User	3,000	•			3,000
Voice					
NHS Mental Health	53,000		(23,523)		29,477
Provider Network					
NHS Health Engagement	193,133	A STATE OF THE STA	(29,733)		163,400
NHS Long Covid Support	52,049	3 T 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	(44,857)	1-4	7,192

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18 Fund reconciliation (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Balance b/f	1,691,411	1,002,626	(1,376,637)		1,317,400
NHS Mental Health Grants	482,268		(246,672)		235,596
NHS UECC Link Worker Scheme	60,000	15,000	(14,759)		60,241
NHS BAME Crisis Grants	50,100		(23,825)	-	26,275
NHS SMI Patient Voice	20,000		(10,000)		10,000
NHS Micro Commissioning	80,000	81,920			161,920
NHS Fitter Better Sooner	35,000				35,000
NHS PCN Link Workers	11,836	257,305	(261,632)		7,509
NHS PCN Link Workers Training	2,239		(221)		2,018
NHS Social Prescribing Service	210,368	563,328	(525,642)		248,054
NHS Andy's Man Club		5,000			5,000
NHS Community Connectors		110,930			110,930
NHS Stroke Link Worker	-	36,421	•		36,421
Obj 1 HR & Legal	31,999		-		31,999
Research/Sector	6,900		(1,000)		5,900
SPS Link Workers		16,800	(16,800)	STEEL STEEL	
Single Infrastructure Grant	-	126,000	(126,000)		
Smiles for Miles	18,243	370,727	(242,733)	<u>.</u>	146,237
State of the Sector Research	18,000				18,000
STP/ICS Integrated	2,000				2,000
Volunteering					
SYB ICS VCS SRO Role	7,093		(7,093)	•	•
SY HR Basis – Big Lottery	6,423				6,423
SY HR Impact	1,528				1,528
SYB Cancer Alliance WMTY	40,815		(215)		40,600
Kitemark					
SY ICS VCSE Sector	42,907		(22,994)	-	19,913
SY ICS Engagement Co-	100,000		(18,241)		81,759
ordinator					
VCS Resilience	500,000				500,000
VCS Seasonal Pressures	115,000			-	115,000
Violence Reduction Unit	3,958			- The second	3,958
Volunteer Expenses	<u>\</u>	134	(134)		_
VTL Other Income	9,509				9,509
SYIP Capital	660,041		(15,500)		644,541
Building Recovery in		79,961	(22,223)		79,961
Communities					7-1-1
NAVCA Ukraine		5,000	(28)		4,972
SY ICB		9,750		- 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	9,750
Rotherham ASC Funding		29,176	(7,500)		21,676

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18 Fund reconciliation (continued)

1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure £	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
4,207,638	2,710,078	(2,917,626)		4,000,090
	62,794			62,794
	18,894	-	-	18,894
	365,000	(329,091)	-	35,909
	13 <mark>9,71</mark> 5			139,715
4,207,638	3,296,481	(3,246,717)		4,257,402
	1 April 2022 £ 4,207,638	1 April 2022 Income £ 4,207,638 2,710,078 - 62,794 - 18,894 - 365,000 - 139,715	1 April 2022 Income Expenditure £ £ £ 4,207,638 2,710,078 (2,917,626) - 62,794 18,894 365,000 (329,091) - 139,715 -	1 April 2022 Income Expenditure Transfers £ £ £ 4,207,638 2,710,078 (2,917,626) 62,794 18,894 365,000 (329,091) 139,715 -

Restricted Fund descriptions

BSC Small Grants	A small grants programme aimed at community groups that can demonstrate and promote good community relations, bring people and neighbourhoods together			
Be a Good Neighbour	roduction of 2 films and design of leaflet around 'being a good neighbour'			
Children & Young People	To promote and provide services for children, young people and families			
Children & Young People (SIG)	To promote and provide services for children, young people and families			
Community Achievement Awards	Awards in recognition of VCS and volunteers			
Creative People and Places (Flux)	Action-research programme designed to deliver lasting impact on Rotherham communities' participation in arts and culture			
Covid Winter Grant	Grants to support local VCS organisations including Community Food Members to enable provision of Christmas & Easter food support to families in Rotherham			
COMF Grants	Support a programme of activity with focus on supporting those coming out of shielding, bringing back community infrastructure lost due to Covid-19 and			
Community Champions	Support to deliver the ambitions of the Community Champions programme through effective community engagement			
Community Renewal Fund	Delivery of services by VAR and other VCS partners in line with the the Anything's Possible Rotherham project prioritising Investment in skills, supporting people into employment and investment in communities and places.			
Digital Aspirant Funding	Funding from NHSx to enhance digital & IT improvements			
Emergency Assistance Grants	Grants to organisations for the provision of food and essential Supplies			
Feasibility Study	Premises procurement study			
Flood Damage	Fixed assets less accumulated depreciation provided by insurers due to the flood damage			

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Restricted Fund descriptions (continued)

Food in Crisis Support for the Food in Crisis Partnership

Green & Blue SP Data SP Data monitoring & evaluation

Household Support Fund Grants to VCS organisation to provide food support to families in Rotherham

Int.Volunteer Approach

Working with ICS on integrated approaches to volunteering

Advisor Working with its on integrated approaches to volunteering

Neighbourhood Gov. Imp Implementation of a resident/voluntary and community 'neighbourhood governance'

Pilot structure in a targeted geographical area.

NHS BAME SPS Scoping BAME volunteer programme

NHS HEP - BAME Insight Project to increase BAME participation in social prescribing.

NHS Cultural Competency Cultural competency training for GP staff

NHS Children's Social
Prescribing
Social prescribing service specifically for children

NHS GP's Activity Support Support & develop the engagement strategy with GP's beyond the current project

NHS SPS IBCF Integrated Better Care Funding

NHS Mental Health Social Expansion of SPS Mental Health as part of Care Navigation Pilot, linked to targeted GP

Scheme surgeries

NHS Mental Health Scheme providing VCS liaison services between mental health professionals, services

Programme and patients

NHS Mental Health User
Funding to support consultations with service users

Voice Funding to support consultations with service users

NHS Mental Health
Provider Network

Developing and supporting VCS to increase mental health support activity

NHS Health Engagement Supporting engagement of the public in Health messages

NHS SP Long Covid
Support
Social Prescribing service aimed at patients suffering from long covid

NHS Mental Health Grants Canacity huilding grants programme supporting mental health

NHS Mental Health Grants

Capacity building grants programme supporting mental health

NHS Rotherham UECC

Social Prescribing in Rotherham Hospital

Link Worker Scheme

NHS BAME Crisis Grant

Capacity building grants programme supporting mental health for BAME VCS

NHS SMI Patient Voice

NHS SMI Patient Voice 20K to externally commission capacity building for mental health voice

NHS Micro Commissioning To support the mental health provider network to fill gaps in provision

NHS Fitter, Better, Sooner Supporting Patients to access support pre-surgery

NHS PCN Link Workers A national initiative to give patients access to link worker to provide non-medical

support

NHS PCN SP Link Worker

Training Specific training for Link workers

NHS Social Prescribing

Project providing VCS liaison services to GP practices.

Service

NHS Andy's Man Club

Room hire and refreshments, Andy's Man Club, Rotherham.

NHS Community

Community (Mental Health) Connectors -VAR operating and management costs

NHS Stroke Link Worker Social Prescribing as part of Stroke Pathway

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Restricted Fund descriptions (continued)

Obj 1 HR & Legal HR & Legal service for the voluntary and community sector across South Yorkshire

Research/Sector Continuation of surveys of the sector

SPS Link Workers Delivery of a community asset-based approach to mental health

Single Infrastructure

Rotherham (VCS) Infrastructure Services Grant

Smiles For Miles Increase provision and support for children and young people in Rotherham.

Delivered by 11 VCS members of the Children, Young People & Families Consortium.

Managed by VAR on behalf of the consortium

State of the Sector

South Yorkshire wide state of the VCS research Research

STP/ICS Integrated Vol Working with ICS on integrated approaches to volunteering

SYB ICS VCS SRO role To strengthen the relationship with, and embed SYB VCSE partners at all levels within

the Integrated Care System

SY HR-Basis - Big Lottery To support research into the long-term sustainability of HR in South Yorkshire.

Continuation of HR service for the voluntary and community sector across South SY HR Impact

Yorkshire

SYB Cancer Alliance **WMTY Kitemark** SY ICS VCSE Sector

Developing a programme of activity around cancer patients and what matters to them.

To support VCSE frontline engagement in the design of the ICS & VCSE MoU, and

engagement in ICB work

SY ICS VCSE Engagement

Co-ordinator **VCS** Resilience Recruitment and employment of Engagement Co-ordination

Financial resilience to support sustainability of the sector

VCS Seasonal Pressures To commission activity that supports reducing pressures on health services

Violence Reduction Unit Community voice on violence reduction strategy

Volunteer Expenses Volunteer expenses for Rotherham Heroes through the covid pandemic.

VTL Other Income Training events income

SYIP Capital To bring about a step change in the Voluntary and Community Sector to enable greater

contribution to the economic regeneration of Rotherham

Building Recovery in Communities

NAVCA Ukraine

Services and community activities to aid recovery of drug and alcohol addiction

The support and development of x3 peer support groups and a VCS providers group to

support Ukrainian refugees.

SY ICB ICB Partner VCSE Role -Remuneration of Chief Exec's salary

Supporting Patients to stay out of hospital and statutory services, including additional **Rotherham ASC Funding**

safe and well checks completed on patients discharged from virtual wards

RDASH Mental Health & **Wellbeing Navigators RDASH Expert by**

Mental Health workers to link into VCSE services

Experience

Mental Health Services / Transformation -user input and VAR co-ordination

Shared Prosperity Fund

Financial Inclusion and Positive Activities to alleviate the cost of living crisis"

Family Hubs Programme

Funding from RMBC to support VCS involvement in the development of the Family hubs

model

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2023	Unrestricted	Revaluation	Designated	Restricted	
	funds	reserve	funds	funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	12,088			699,569	711,65
Debtors	20,970			262,279	283,24
Cash at bank	721,431		581,000	3,346,475	4,648,90
VAR People in Need account				7,842	7,84
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(309,806)	-		(58,763)	(368,569
Total	444,683		581,000	4,257,402	5,283,08
Total	444,083		381,000	4,237,402	, 5,283,08
Analysis of net assets between	funds (continu	ed)			
2022	Unrestricted	Revaluation	Designated	Restricted	
	funds	reserve	funds	funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
					4
Fixed assets	16,311			748,061	764,37
Debtors	25,672			298,148	323,82
Cash at bank	742,154		581,000	3,516,069	4,839,22
VAR People in Need account				3,532	3,53
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(398,684)			(358,172)	(756,85
Total	385,453		581,000	4,207,638	5,174,09
Total - econciliation of net (expenditur		net cash flow fr			5,174
			om operating a	2023	202
				£	202
Net income for year				108,994	2,062,8
Interest receivable				(42,291)	(5,83
Depreciation of tangible fixed as	sets			52,715	39,5
Depreciation of tangible fixed as				40,571	
				411.771	(//) 7/
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors					(275,5 ⁴ 89,6
				(388,287)	89,6

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

21 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash Flows	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	4,842,755	(186,007)	4,656,748
Debt due within 1 year		-	
Debt due after 1 year			
Total	4,842,755	(186,007)	4,656,748

22 Spectrum Futures CIC Profit and loss account For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Income		
Sales	23,300	20,631
Grants		
Total Income	23,300	20,631
Expenditure		
Cost of sales	(23,300)	(20,631)
Grant expenditure		
Total expenditure	(23,300)	(20,631)
Net expenditure .		-

23 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

a) Defined contribution pension plans

The charity operates defined contribution pension plans for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £63,263 (2022: £52,540). Outstanding defined contribution payments at year end were £nil (2022:£nil).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

23 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits (continued)

b) Multi employer pension plan

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore, it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore, the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025	£3,312,000, per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)
From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025:	£11,243,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities. VAR's share of these revised contributions was £172 during the year to March 2023, previously £590 to March 2022.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the charity has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the charity recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

The present value of the deficit repayment obligation, as noted above, has not been provided for in the Balance Sheet because it is immaterial.

VAR paid contributions at the rates between 6% and 9% during the accounting period. Members paid contributions at the rates between 0% and 32% during the accounting period.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

23 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits (continued)

When an employer withdraws from a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme which is in deficit, the employer is required by law to pay its share of the deficit, calculated on a statutory basis (known as the buy-out basis). The calculation basis that applies to the Growth Plan was amended due to a change in the definition of money purchase contained in the Pensions Act 2011 and therefore Series 3 liabilities have to be included in the calculation of an employer's debt on withdrawal.

VAR has been notified by the Pensions Trust of the estimated employer debt on withdrawal from the Plan based on the financial position of the Plan as at 30 September 2021. As of this date, the estimated employer debt for VAR was £53,718, the estimated debt in the prior year accounts (2022) was £105,561. The decrease in the estimated debt liability is due to greater than expected investment returns, at a time of reduced government bonds yields, which increase liabilities in the scheme. A designated fund has been created by the trustees to reflect this potential future liability.

24 Related party transactions

None of the trustees (or persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the period, but expenses were reimbursed, for travel and internet, totalling £851 (2022: £331).

J Dalton was a Trustee and Director of VAR and the Chairperson to Shiloh. During the year VAR made grants of £18,129 (2022: £13,207) to Shiloh.

C Batchford is a Trustee and Director of VAR and is also an employee of Social Supermarket. During the year VAR made grants of £8,948 (2022: £10,400) to Social Supermarket.

Other transactions

Several VAR trustees are also employees of VAR members organisation to which VAR provides payroll and accountancy services. The charges for these services are relatively small and always on an arm's length basis.