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**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023
for
LEEDS WOMEN'S AID**

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LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

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for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

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Every woman deserves
respect and support

Directors' and Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 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 Chair's Foreword

I am delighted to introduce the Directors' and Trustees' report for Leeds Women's Aid (LWA) for the year ended 31 March 2023. Whilst the year presented the organisation with some significant challenges, many of which were being faced by others up and down the country, we have much to reflect on positively and to be extremely proud of.

The celebratory event for the 50th anniversary of the provision of LWA's services was a fantastic one, attended by LWA staff, supporters and partners. We were delighted to have both Nicole Jacobs (Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales) and Rachel Reeves, MP (LWA's Patron) in attendance, as well as watching and hearing some extremely moving contributions from staff past and present. The event was a real showcase of the incredible work that the organisation does and the much-needed support that it provides to all those who use its services.

The summer of 2022 saw us launch what turned out to be a very successful recruitment campaign for new trustees; we were very pleased to be able to appoint three new trustees to the Board and to draw on the expertise they bring from their respective professional backgrounds. Trustee recruitment was a major part of our Governance Improvement Plan, which we continued to work on throughout the year. This also saw some additional work on the structure of the organisation, with new appointments being made to both to the Senior Leadership Team and a crucial operational role within the Fundraising and Marketing Team.

As was the case for so many other organisations like ours, the cost of living continued to present a huge challenge both in terms of day to day running costs but also in terms of the impact this had on our clients and the financial support that they required. We have worked hard to mitigate the effects of this as much as possible and at the same time we have looked to support staff throughout this, as investing in staff wellbeing as well as their professional development has been a key element of our strategy as an organisation.

Seemingly in contrast to the cost of living challenges, we saw a significant increase in income on the previous year – an increase of £1.1m from 2022 to £3.4m, a large proportion of which came from donations from supporters. Increasing income from donations is an extremely important part of our fundraising strategy which we are continually working on developing in order to ensure the organisation can continue to be financially stable and viable, and therefore continue to provide the services that we know are so vital for the women and children who need them.

This year saw Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team participate in a successful away day during which we reviewed and updated our strategy for the next three years. We are all too aware of the extremely high level of demand for the services that LWA provides, and it is our mission to continue to provide these services to the highest possible level and in line with our values and culture.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the entire staff team and volunteers, as well as to extend gratitude to each and every one of LWAs supporters and donors. This is a very exciting time for LWA, and we are very much looking forward to seeing the development of the organisation over the coming year and beyond.

Executive Summary

1 Our Provenance

LWA was established 50 years ago in 1972 by committed feminist activists wanting to support women and children experiencing and living with Domestic Violence and Abuse (DV & A). In 1973 we opened the first refuge outside of London and the second in the whole of the UK. LWA is now the largest women's charity in Leeds.

It is an incredible honour to be able to celebrate over 50 years of delivering such amazing lifesaving services. We are very proud of what we have achieved and pleased to outline our future plans.

“The kindness and dignity with which I was treated helped me recover my sense of myself beyond abuse. Thank you”.

“I don't think I would have survived had it not been for your support. I had broken away from the relationship with the abuser but of course, that didn't stop the abuse or prevent the escalation in dangerous, unstable stalking.... you restored my self-respect and ability to feel safe and look to the future. The future otherwise would've remained very bleak.”

2 What We Do?

We provide a comprehensive and wide range of services to support women and children experiencing and living with DV & A.

Much more detail is included in this report and on our website: www.leedswomensaid.org.uk.

The end of 2022/2023 saw a further increase in funding through the New Burdens Funding, established by the government in response to the Domestic Abuse Act. This meant we could plan to further increase and develop services, but also importantly invest in our current, mainly accommodation based, offer. The funding was also confirmed through to March 2025, giving more stability for the next two years.

3 How We Do It?

We continue to benefit from an increase in staffing, enabling us to deliver more services and reach more women and children. Numbers of significant contacts and support offered has risen again and has for the first time reached over 13,000, including service users and practitioners.

Our people remain our greatest asset and strength, and we support, develop and invest in our teams. Together we deliver lifesaving services that we know are needed and also help to lead the agenda for ending violence against women and girls, and ensuring that women and children's voices are heard across the City.

This year our Board and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) began work to revise our strategy for 2023-2026. We describe in section 1.3 the progress we have made towards our current strategic objectives. We will report on our new objectives in next year's report.

4 Fundraising and Finance

We have continued to deliver services coming out of the pandemic and we have built on and continued to increase our profile. This has helped us to attract additional funding. Our fundraising and marketing team have continued to achieve successes, diversifying funding as per our strategic objectives - see section 5.1.

As to our overall financial position, see section 5.7 for more detail but in summary we:

- Increased our income by over £1 million to £3,941,445.
- Delivered a surplus of £17,502 in 2022/23.
- Maintained our unrestricted reserves at a level of £822,424. This level of unrestricted reserves compares with our revised reserves policy level of between £716,000 and £836,000.
- Concluded our investment in growth and infrastructure, initially identified and designated at a cost of £433,276 over a 2-year period. However, we have managed to maintain our unrestricted reserves despite investing into the structure without the need to use the majority of the designated funds.

5 Governance and risk management

Our governance structures are well defined and work well. This year we have enhanced our committee structure, adding a People & Organisational Development Committee, in line with our strategy of investing in our people.

Our new Finance & Resources Director has introduced a range of new financial and other policies which the Board have approved.

The Board recruited three new trustees with a wealth of strategic, governance, HR, marketing and employment law experience.

The Board ensure that risk management is regularly considered and our risk register is fit for purpose.

6 Our future

LWA's strengths are in delivering excellent services, leading collaborative partnerships, developing new and innovative services and having strategic influence locally, regionally and nationally.

This year, along with previous years, has seen a further increase in demand for LWA's services, and we are working in partnership with the Women & Girls Alliance - Leeds (formerly Women's Lives Leeds {WLL}) and Women Friendly Leeds to introduce new services and improve influence across the City in line with our strategic objective to be a leader of, and a voice for, women-centred support in Leeds and surrounding areas.

In 2023 – 2024 the Board are revising our strategic objectives (see section 6 Future Plans) in order to:

1. Update, refresh and extend our strategy to 2025/26.
2. Work with commissioners on considering ways to ensure that the commissioned services continue in the best way from April 2025.
3. Continue to develop our people, both staff and trustees, ensuring that they are supported, developed and invested in.
4. Continue our work on equity, diversity and inclusion, with our focus this year on neurodiversity and anti-racist practices.
5. Continue to develop an LWA social housing strategy to decide on our medium and long-term approach to social housing.

The Board and SLT are determined to build on the successes illustrated in this report and do even more to deliver on our beliefs that:

- All women and children should live in safety, free from abuse and fear.
- Every woman and child have a voice and should be empowered, inspired and listened to.
- Women centred support is powerful and improves the lives of women, men and children.

These beliefs are the major driver for why we do what we do and the glue that holds together our staff, trustees, volunteers, funders and supporters.

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1 Purpose and Impact

1.1 Summary

LWA was established in 1972 and therefore celebrated its 50th year in operation last year. It was formed by committed feminist activists wanting to support women and children experiencing and living with DV & A.

LWA is the largest women's charity in Leeds and although the scope of our work and activity has developed, supporting women and girls who have multiple and the most complex of needs through our partnership work, and additionally, coordinating some services to men and transmen through our commissioned services, we remain committed to our feminist approach and the client groups with whom we work. We continue to provide a range of the very best services for vulnerable women and families who are victims and survivors of: domestic, sexual & honour-based violence and abuse; forced marriage; trafficking; stalking and harassment.

LWA continues to be the lead agency in the local authority commissioned Leeds Domestic Violence Service (LDVS) Consortium and the W&GA-L National Lottery Community Fund and Comic Relief funded projects. LWA also leads additional partnership work around voice and influence and women and girl's safety.

LWA is in the 6th year of the 8-year LDVS contract, being responsible for the delivery of the commissioned and non-commissioned refuge provision, the Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) service, the 24/7 helpline, and other community-based services.

In addition, LWA continue to offer community development, police control room consultation and support, on-line live chat support, healthy relationship and staying safe programmes and activities, support for women with multiple and complex needs and has been integral in setting up and delivering new projects such as Ask for Angela and the Women's Night Safe Space.

LWA supports women and children predominantly from Leeds and the Yorkshire and Humber region, but also often works with women from across the UK when safety issues arise.

Additional funding through the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has enabled us to continue to lead, develop and expand, the large multi-agency partnership on behalf of LDVS. This includes the Sanctuary Support Team, explained in more detail in section 2.7 as well as the LDVS Voices project, section 2.12, working collaboratively with partners to obtain and share the views of victims-survivors of DV & A across Leeds in from a range of people and communities, including women, men, LGBT+ people and children and young people.

We have been the charity of choice for many individuals and organisations. Last year we succeeded in raising “£50,000 for 50-years” and invested in an ambitious new play area for children, space for young people, and a tranquil getaway for our residents at our oldest refuge.

This year we are launching a fundraising appeal to build a new children and young people’s hub at our emergency refuge, Emmeline, for families recovering from domestic violence and abuse.

From April 2022 to March 2023 we supported over 100 children and young people in refuge settings, with almost every adult accessing the refuge service having one or more children who have witnessed or experienced the trauma of domestic violence and abuse.

We want to break the cycle of abuse and ensure children in our refuges can access support to overcome the trauma of abuse. We will report on this in next year’s annual report.

From April 2022 to March 2023, the numbers of calls to our helpline continued to increase, surpassing previous peak levels and last year’s record. Total calls and short-term work reached almost 7,600 for the year. Requests for our refuges continued to soar, but we can rarely admit more than a fraction of those that make enquiries or referrals due to a lower number of transfers to alternative accommodation.

LWA continues to show leadership and strength in the sector, working hard to increase funding to partners to help influence positive changes. We have ensured that our LDVS partners, and other organisations that we’ve brought into the large LDVS-led consortia projects, have received further funding. We also continue to show generous leadership with the Women & Girls Alliance – Leeds/Women’s Lives Leeds Alliance, for example funding our Projects & Partnership’s Director to work one day a month helping their team with funding, project development and sustainability.

1.2 Evidence of Excellence and Impact

We have continued our collaborations with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) and Leeds City Council, regarding reducing violence against women and girls, particularly in relation to streets and parks, and the night-time economy and were successful in obtaining funding through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). This work will begin in our next financial year and we will report in next year’s update.

LWA has been instrumental this year in working with partners in the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board, Violence Against Women and Girls Board, and Safer Leeds Executive, to raise awareness and action regarding both VAWG and domestic abuse, including increasing the number of victims-survivors voices that are heard and acted on.

Our work leading the Sanctuary Support Team has created national conversations and shows how we can holistically support people from different backgrounds and communities whilst making their properties more safe and secure.

We have made huge advances in working with victims-survivors in our DV&A Voices project, in ensuring that their voices are heard and that they are used to influence real change in the City by stakeholders, commissioners, decision makers and planners.

We are also delighted with the work our expanded children and young people's teams are doing both in refuge and in the community, and have a section dedicated to this work in 2.5 below.

1.3 Progress on strategic objectives

Our strategic objectives remained central to our deployment and impact during this year and we have begun to consider refining our strategic objectives, and extending our strategy to 2026.

We currently have five strategic objectives and our recent progress against each of them is reported on below.

1. To be a leader of, and a voice for, women-centred support in Leeds and surrounding areas.

Our key objective focusses our attention on how we can help to lead our sector in improving our combined and collaborative voice and improve the lives of women and girls in Leeds. Like many of our sister organisations, we work with a wide range of individuals and stakeholders in delivering services individually and in partnership, and although that work can include working with all genders, we don't lose our focus on highlighting and prioritising women-centred support and working towards ending violence against women and girls.

We are a 'leader' in two different ways – "Leadership" in relation to being formal leaders of consortia, attending meetings, being an expert and voice of the sector, and "Generous Leadership" which is equally important to us and involves pro-bono work, supporting smaller organisations and using our time and resources for the benefit of others.

Examples of our Leadership this year:

- We created a new Practitioner Quality Support Coordinator (PQSC) who works with housing providers who receive funding through the New Burdens Funding to provide extra domestic abuse support for their residents. We act as experts in the field to support other practitioners to create consistency and high-quality services. The PQSC will also lead on the Practitioner Forum.
- Leading a number of multi-partner consortia including the two local authority commissioned domestic abuse contracts, and a number of partnerships within the Women and Girls Alliance – Leeds. We are particularly proud of the work that we are doing in the Sanctuary Support Team, by leading 9 organisations in an LDVS and wider partners project, expanding this work and bringing other partners on board.
- Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) – this has been a highlight at the end of this financial year, for LWA to lead on the SPF on behalf of the Women and Girls Alliance – Leeds and the Third Sector to shape it to focus on women and girls' outcomes.

Examples of Generous Leadership this year:

- A director and manager worked with a small partner organisation working with women from minoritised communities to bid for Leeds Community Foundation strategic development training, undertake other capacity building work to make them more resilient and to work with them to obtain the Cyber Essentials quality mark.
 - Creating partnerships to discuss funding with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and other commissioners regarding women-centred support.
 - Sharing current LWA policies with others and working with other women's organisations to create new policies, and obtaining professional advice on behalf of other organisations.
- 2. To deliver our strategy by investing in our people (staff, volunteers and trustees), with particular regard to training and development, and by putting our values as well as equality and diversity at the centre of the way we do things.**

We are delighted that our new Finance and Resources Team continued to develop, including our standalone HR department. We appointed a new Director of Finance and Resources for the first time. This role is bringing together our finance, HR, impact and data and facilities support functions into a dynamic team supporting the organisation.

The Director of Finance and Resources has worked with staff to create a Wellbeing Committee and a Health and Safety committee, both of which are popular and staff at all levels are getting involved. The Wellbeing Committee will be sending regular wellbeing newsletters to all staff and are organising a "Lunch and Learn" event on menopause and pelvic health.

This year we launched our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion priorities, which were to raise awareness of neurodiversity across the organisation, and to introduce and work within anti-racist practices.

The percentage of team leaders and managers from Black and Minoritised communities has increased.

We have started mandatory anti-racism and neurodiversity training for staff and planned our first ever internal staff conference for May 2023 focussing on these two main issues, having external speakers and staff experiences, along with staff awards, to be nominated by staff themselves.

New staff development is seen to be high with many new staff, including managers and directors commenting that they have never previously had as much personal development or relevant training.

We have devised and delivered specialised domestic abuse training for all non-front-line staff that can be rolled out to other partners.

We also run breakfast drop in sessions for staff and trustees revolving at different sites, allowing people to meet and network with team members from across the organisation. We have also started to have SLT and trustee representation at specific refuge residents' meetings.

3. To have an organisation structure and infrastructure that underpins all our work and is financially sustainable.

Along with the new structural investment detailed in last year's annual report, we have continued to collaborate and develop our structure, responding to requests for partnerships and support, bringing in new and additional funding for LWA and partners in Leeds, and creating further teams.

This includes the new LDVS-led Voices project, and the women's safety work with W&GA-L, which are discussed later in the report.

Our Board and SLT have confidence that our organisational structure and the infrastructure around it is the best it has been for many years, and enables us to effectively and efficiently continue to develop the excellent work we are doing, allows for investment in the future and the ability to live by our values and be responsive to new areas of work.

4. To invest in diversifying funding and income streams to increase stability and sustainability.

We have succeeded in diversifying our funding and income streams, securing longer term funding and working with commissioners to secure future contract work and variations in contracts.

Our funding is becoming more complex and we are less reliant on a specific number of funds. This increases the pressure on the finance team, dealing with numerous funders, external partners and stakeholders, sub-contractors and housing benefit. We are looking at the structure of, and investment in, our internal finance team in the next financial year.

Our ratio of unrestricted income to restricted income is expected to rise from 13%:87% to 27%/73% next year. We have also budgeted for our income to exceed £4 million next year.

5. To actively explore and decide how we can increase the housing offer in Leeds for women and children experiencing DV & A.

We had a Board and SLT strategic day, and an in-depth strategic discussion with our Refuge Manager and Housing Management Coordinator regarding potential investment in further properties, and have been researching a number of different options to increase our property portfolio.

We are a leader and participant in housing related work and have improved our profile with the local authority and work in partnership with a number of other providers.

We also had to return two properties to landlords due to them becoming unsafe after safeguarding incidents, but worked hard with other providers to obtain two more replacement properties.

2 Achievements and Performance

LWA continues to grow from strength to strength and our impacts are being felt across the City and the wider UK. Some specific achievements are:

2.1 Staff Engagement and Commitment

Recruitment continues to improve and we have seen some great additions to our staff teams. We are pleased that we continue to recruit, induct, support and invest in new and existing staff.

LWA has a challenging Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy to ensure that LWA treats all staff, colleagues in other agencies and service users fairly and in a way that encourages them to feel included in LWA's activities and goals and to encourage all members of staff to achieve and maintain a high standard of conduct, especially in relation to the treatment of colleagues and service users who may not share their ability, age group, ethnicity, gender, marital status, religious beliefs, sex, sexual orientation or any other protected characteristic as laid down by legislation.

Staff engagement remains high, and we are particularly proud of how we have prioritised working together to put anti-racist practices and neurodiversity firmly on our agenda this year. Discussions around black history, white privilege, racial bias, microaggressions and allyship have started, and training has ranged from formal training, to discussion groups, through to materials in written and visual form, including articles and videos.

2.2 Awards

As part of LDVS we won the Most Supportive Domestic Violence Services 2023 - West Yorkshire in the GHP Mental Health Awards.

Our Chief Executive was nominated for the Standing Together Blooming Strong Awards in November 2022, which recognised the work of strong women on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

2.3 Business Partnerships

We continue to maintain and develop valuable business and community relationships. Support includes money raised from fundraising activities, business grants and in-kind support.

“John Lewis Leeds has been happy to support Leeds Women's Aid over the past five years. We are proud of the relationship we have with the charity and the work they do in the local community”

- John Lewis and Partners, Leeds

“Leeds Roses are so proud to be supporting Leeds Women's Aid and the fantastic work they do. As a local women's team, it's important to us to be involved with local charities, and LWA is close to our hearts. We look forward to supporting them for years to come and are delighted to wear their heart on our jersey sleeves.”

- Leeds Roses Women's Ice Hockey Team

2.4 Our Refuges

We are in our second year of receiving additional investments from Leeds City Council, through the Department of Levelling up and Communities (DHLUC) funding.

This year has seen pockets of high turnovers of residents moving-on from our refuges. Our housekeeping team have been working closely with our contractors to ensure the repair, decoration and cleaning of each unit is completed to a high standard and time efficient.

This has been a challenge for the team as several of the residents moving-on had been long-stayers and therefore the majority of the flats required complete refurbishment. This is additional work to ongoing repairs and maintenance tasks.

We support the local authority and other stakeholders by sending out a daily update that provides information of voids in refuges including our own within Leeds and Yorkshire that Leeds local authority can tap into for clients fleeing domestic violence and abuse.

Our refuges continue to be safe, secure, clean, vibrant and welcoming for families who are having to leave everything behind and flee.

“I have fled domestic violence before and stayed in another refuge. This place is so much better I just can't believe it. It's so lovely. I like that we had a welcome pack, it was clean and the children had toys on their bed. I do feel it's more like home here.”

Client feedback to housekeeper.

The previous changes in the staffing structure allowing us to recruit additional staff have increased the numbers of staff working out of hours shifts, which is helping with additional support and activities and emergency admissions if required. In addition, we recruited a fabulous housekeeper for LWA refuges starting in February 2023, which has significantly reduced the workload for our support workers.

The Out of Hours Team have completed Helpline Partnership Training Level 2/3 and have helped the organisation in actively working towards the Helpline Partnership Quality Mark and have adapted to practice changes well.

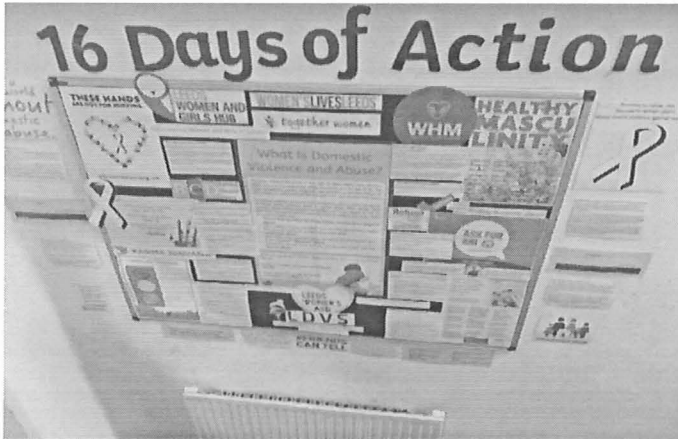
During 2023, our Housing Management Co-ordinator successfully sourced two new dispersed properties to replace two properties that had become unsafe for our clients.

The Housing Management Co-ordinator also attends regular partnership meetings with the local authority to ensure our clients are: registered with housing under Band A priority; are actively bidding; and helped and supported when they move-on from refuge with things such as payments of discretionary housing, provision of white goods & furniture packages.

Our Domestic Violence Support Workers in refuge work hard to make our residences welcoming and normalising, but also engaging with women and children in activities and raising awareness. Activities included:

16 Days of Action Campaign

Each staff member was allocated time to deliver awareness raising of the impacts of domestic violence and abuse. A huge amount of work was undertaken during the 16 days of action campaign, running from 25th November, the International Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women, through to 10th December, International Human Rights Day. Activities were delivered on a face-to-face basis.



Black History Month

Work around raising awareness in October 2022 for Black History Month was undertaken, whereby staff engaged with residents including at board and residents' meetings.



International Women's Day (IWD)



The refuge team celebrated International Women's Day with our families in refuge. To show our unity and celebrate IWD across our sites staff wore the colour purple and coordinated activities with our residents raising awareness of social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.

The team additionally conducted workshops with residents raising awareness of the difference between Equality v Equity. Powerful quotes were read out from feminist authors which included a get-together enjoying music, food, refreshments and getting involved in creative art.

"We very much enjoyed coming together as a community with shared experiences. I feel I have formed really good friendships and feel supported by staff".

Recipes for Life

Our partners in Women Friendly Leeds visited our refuges to facilitate a 'Recipe for Life' workshop whereby our residents took part in creating something for inclusion into the Recipes for Life book they are creating, which aims to be filled with various women's recipes and advice.

Fun in the Snow

During March 2023 the weather changed and we had a little snow fall. Several residents and team enjoyed time together making snow-persons, with plenty of laughter within refuge. As the snow melted, this was a reminder that regardless of the immense trauma and pain women and children experience whilst being victims-survivors of domestic violence and abuse, there is hope that we can all continue to do our very best at making a real difference in ensuring all women and children are safe, protected, basic needs are met. We want to work towards everyone having equality of opportunity with encouragement and guidance for all to thrive, to feel listened to and loved.



Our refuge team have also been celebrating events and creating awareness with our residents on topics such as Chinese New Year, LGBTQ+ month and Autism/Neurodiversity month.

Therapy

We have continued to provide a therapy service working in partnership with Women's Counselling Therapy Service, primarily 1:1 support to clients and family intervention with a 'whole family' led approach. There has been an increase in referrals during the end of the year due to the turnover of clients at refuge i.e. moving in and/or moving on.

Case Study:

Malia* (not her real name) and her child arrived at our refuge seeking safety and solace, having fled from domestic abuse in their hometown. The journey was not easy, but they were supported by social care, who provided invaluable assistance in securing refuge for them and ensuring they could bring their belongings.

With support, Malia opened up about the eight years of abuse at the hands of her husband. She described him as controlling, verbally abusive, and selfish. He neglected their child and isolated Malia from her own family. Financially, he only provided a small allowance to sustain their family home.

As we delved deeper, Malia revealed that despite the restrictions imposed upon her, she managed to maintain some semblance of independence when it came to daily tasks like shopping, eating, and bathing. However, her husband's jealousy flared whenever she interacted with male friends, accusing her of infidelity. Malia showed remarkable resilience and growth by actively participating in programs like the Freedom Program and Own My Life, which she found immensely beneficial.

Malia shared her overwhelming relief upon entering our refuge. She felt as if a tremendous weight had been lifted from her shoulders, the refuge became her sanctuary, and she expressed happiness and relaxation like never before. She spoke of her gratitude for the support system she had in her mother and sister, and she was thankful to be in a City where she felt safe.

Our dedicated team, including the refuge workers and the LWA Children & Young People's team, provided comprehensive support to Malia and her child. We recognised the challenges they faced, especially with the child's fluctuating behaviour. We worked closely together to ensure the family received the assistance they needed. Over time, the family progressed towards achieving their goals and the child settled into a new specialist school with an EHCP (Education, Health, and Care Plan), all thanks to the ongoing support from our children's team.

In the present, Malia continues to build her life anew. She actively participates in counselling therapy services offered within refuge and group support delivered by a partner organisation. Malia is eager to resume the Staying Safe Program and is eager to volunteer and make new friends.

In addition to these endeavours, the family strengthens their network of support by visiting Malia's parents regularly. These connections have been a vital source of strength and encouragement throughout their journey. They have had no contact with the abuser and Malia feels safe, especially since they are now residing out of the area.

Malia eagerly anticipates the coming months when she may find a new home once leaving refuge. Being in the refuge has empowered her to make decisions with confidence.

2.5 Children & Young People's (CYP)Team

We are really fortunate to have a really energetic and passionate CYP team, both in refuge and in the community. This has expanded our team and we are working with more CYP than ever.

Refuge Team:

The CYP Team continue to provide support to every child/parent in refuge in order to ensure they are accessing early years provision, education, training, parenting support and emotional well-being support. Each CYP has a tailor-made support plan to meet their needs throughout their time at refuge.

The team run a Thursday after-school club during term time for reception age and above, which attracts an average of 10 children each week. It offers weekly structured activities which the children and young people have been actively consulted on.

At the beginning of October 2022, the CYP implemented a new Nurture Group which takes place once a week. The group sessions have been very successful with high client engagement. Sessions have been based on confidence building, talking about feelings, living with anxiety, coping mechanisms, confidence building, life skills, online safety and bullying.

In November and December 2022, the team successfully engaged with Hyde Park Source by delivering a variety of activities with our clients i.e. cookery, sports, arts & crafts, focused work sessions about self-esteem and much more. Between the two services and directly with clients we also got together to take part in Christmas activities and share a feast of Christmas food.

Two CYP support workers were trained in the Women's Aid 'You, Me and Mum Programme (YMM)' which started in January 2023. The workers initially completed an introductory session with clients in December 2022 and received very positive feedback/engagement from clients. The programme is being delivered within refuge over 10 weeks. It aims to empower and support victims-survivors in furthering their understanding of their role as mothers and in addressing the needs of children and young people who have lived with domestic abuse. The team aim to also deliver a focused wellbeing session directly after the YMM programme session.

Feedback from a client regarding the CYP team:

"The team are amazing. I felt really supported by my worker and in the short time I've been at refuge, I've learnt so much. I understand so much more about me and parenting, that has helped me to better support my children".

Feedback from a client regarding a CYP Party:

"I loved it! We all had a great time and it was good for us Mums to be able to socialise with each other".

The CYP refuge team are supporting nearly 60 children within all of our refuges at any one time.

Community Team:

Two part time workers joined us in November 2022 to provide our Elevate project - one to one and group work support in the community for CYP who have or are experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

The team have worked so hard to establish this project that during March 2023, only four months into the project, they were at caseload capacity and therefore a new waiting list process has been implemented. Both workers are holding a caseload of 12 CYP each and there are four families placed on the waiting list to-date. The waiting list is reviewed on a basis of length of time on waiting list and the level of risk.

2.6 Leeds Domestic Violence Service (LDVS)

LDVS was delighted that the hugely successful commissioned contract has been extended for a further three years, and the first year of that extension has been a good year. We remain grateful to the continued support and investment from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA), the Ministry of Justice and DHLUC allowing LDVS to be bigger and better than ever.

Our partnership with Behind Closed Doors (BCD) and Women's Health Matters (WHM) continues to be strong and respectful, working together to continue to enhance our offer to those experiencing domestic violence and abuse in Leeds. This relationship has continued and evolved this year with our increasing partnerships, including the DV&A Voices and Sanctuary Support Team.

LWA delivers a large part of the LDVS community services. We offer the 24/7 helpline through our Access and Assessment Team (AAT), along with assessment, drop-ins, coordinating the Daily Risk Assessment Meeting (DRAM) contacts and a caseworker dealing with high risk cases on a short-term basis, balancing needs and risk whilst other parts of the service are at capacity. We also deliver the IDVA service, which involves a team leader, lead IDVA, two senior IDVAs working with adults with complex needs, children and young people, together with IDVAs specialising in the domestic violence court, IDSVAs working with women and girls experiencing sexual and domestic abuse, and requiring mental health support. Most of our IDVAs and all of our IDSVAs are accredited either by SafeLives or WAFE, and our team leader is SafeLives trained and accredited. 51% of all of our referrals come through DRAM and MARAC.

Domestic violence and abuse continues to be a gendered issue: in the LDVS-wide community services 92% of people supported were female with 93% of the perpetrators were male; in the wider LWA only services 98% of people supported were female, 96% perpetrators were male. Across all services 86% of the perpetrators were current or ex-partners.

The cost of living crisis following the legacy of the lockdowns continues to impact on service users' isolation, mental health, separation from family and friends, parental stresses, financial problems, furlough and job losses, so the IDVA role has changed to include a lot more emotional support alongside the practical help.

IDVA

IDVAs regularly are over capacity and often we have to make the decision that we can only accept referrals from DRAM and MARAC, or those where there is a criminal case that has been charged. Despite the increase in funding, the demand is relentless and capacity can't keep up.

IDVAs, on top of high caseloads, are attending MARAC meetings twice a week, DRAM meetings every day and fortnightly Clare's Law meetings.

The beginning of the year saw non-fatal Strangulation become a crime as part of the Domestic Abuse Act. The legislation carries a higher sentence and reflects the gravity of the offence. This comes after years of campaigning and IDVAs discussing how inequitable it was when someone was strangled but not killed, the perpetrator ended up being charged with a low-level common assault.

More cases are being discussed in the DRAM and MARAC processes where suspects have been arrested (and charged) for this new crime.

The Lead IDVA has presented to the Domestic Abuse Voice and Accountability (DAVA) Forum about the specialist complex needs for IDVA posts, and as a result a ground breaking impact report was produced. The interest and engagement from this has led the third sector agencies involved to recognise a need to improve complex needs experiences in the City. We are now helping to improve experiences of complex needs adults, in order to present the case to the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board (DALPB). The DALPB is working towards developing a holistic domestic violence and abuse strategy over the next 12 months. By using this partnership, we can mobilise the resources of many different services to provide a response to victims-survivors that is needs-led, trauma-informed and reflects the compassionate City ethos.

One IDVA, together with the IDVA Team Leader, attended a training session at Leeds Magistrates Court to deliver information to six newly appointed Magistrates regarding domestic violence, abuse, power and control. This was extremely well received and they have been invited to attend at future sessions.

“The Magistrates’ found your professional input really valuable, they learned so much about your vital role and how it fits into the judicial process. You were able to give real life examples that brought the training to life. The number of questions they had for you demonstrated how interested and engaged they were. You were both able to answer questions that the legal training team would have found difficult to answer. You both received excellent feedback, thank you.”

“Your attendance at this training was very valuable. I must say most of the information was not known by the group today. Therefore, please keep attending and enlighten other magistrates about the important and informative work you do in the region thereby making the job of magistrates easier when dealing with domestic abuse cases”.

Access & Assessment Team (AAT)

AAT are the heart of our service and operate the first point of contact for many service users. They have been contacting all MARAC referrals and DRAM referrals before they are heard at meetings. This has meant that individuals have been able to access LDVS support sooner and have their voices heard earlier.

Drop-ins continue to improve and grow in demand since re-opening following the pandemic. These remain key for women to access whenever they need, particularly for those who aren’t confident in accessing mainstream services.

The team are going through the Helplines Partnership Quality Mark Assessment and have had positive feedback at each stage.

The AAT have also been leading the way within LWA for wellbeing and support, with the Team Leader being a beacon for supporting, nurturing and developing her team, and sharing that passion with the whole organisation.

Case study:

Cindy* (not her real name) experienced a challenging period in her life as she found herself in a six-month relationship with an abusive partner, who subjected her to emotional coercion, harassment, and physical assault. They lived together during this tumultuous time. Additionally, Cindy was also coping with the profound loss of a close family member.

Having never shared her experience with any support services, it was when the Police became involved that she first realised the extent of her abuse. She recognised that her grief had clouded her judgment when she initially met her abuser, as he portrayed concern and care towards her. Despite early doubts, she made excuses for his behaviour, believing he could provide the support she needed in her vulnerable state.

Cindy was referred to our IDVA Team for support by the Police, via the DRAM. With the support of her IDVA Cindy began to identify the abusive patterns and control her partner exerted over her life. The IDVA team helped Cindy to navigate the complexities of the criminal justice system and keeping her updated with the progress of the case and the court hearings, ensuring she understood the legal proceedings and offering their expertise along the way. The IDVA accompanied her to the trial to support her on the day and while giving evidence.

Recognizing the importance of her safety and comfort, the IDVA team also advocated for special measures to be implemented at the trial and requested that a Restraining Order be granted on completion of the criminal case.

The assistance provided by her IDVA played a fundamental role in helping Cindy regain control over her life. Through their support, she successfully obtained a five-year Restraining Order, granting her the much-needed protection and peace of mind she deserved.

At one point, Cindy contemplated uprooting her life by moving to a new home to escape the abusive situation. However, with the steadfast support of her IDVA, she realized that such drastic measures were unnecessary. The IDVA's continuous updates and unwavering presence made her feel safer and more empowered, allowing her to make the decision to remain in her current environment.

Cindy recognizes that her journey towards healing and reclaiming her life would not have been possible without the support and guidance of her IDVA. Their dedication and advocacy empowered her to overcome the challenges she faced and take back control of her life. She now stands as a testament to the strength and resilience of survivors of domestic violence, and how it can be difficult to realise what is happening when it begins but that with support you can take back control and rebuild your life.

2.7 Sanctuary Support Team (SST)

Funding has continued and developed for the SST through the local authority as part of the government's New Burdens Funding. This is an innovative concept of working to make victims-survivor's homes into safe accommodation without them having to leave, by obtaining target hardening and safety measures and providing a holistic package of support to protect and support families to remain independent.

Target hardening comes from Leeds Housing Options (LHO) and the scheme is currently in place to make individuals in fear of crime feel safer in their homes and to potentially prevent homelessness.

LDVS and partners offer emotional, practical and advocacy support focusing on, but not limited to, their experience of domestic abuse. Since last year the project has created additional pathways for survivors of honour-based violence and abuse and for those who are seeking asylum.

All the initial roles have been appointed, so the full complement of the team is now in place. In the last year we extended the Karma Nirvana post to 28hrs and applied flex to the service to better reach and provide the specific support this community needs.

The SST staff are managed by a line manager in their employing organisation and are also matrix managed by the SST Leader - a system we spearheaded within Women's Lives Leeds and want to extend to other collaborative working situations.

The Sanctuary Team Leader has embedded systems and procedures to support the hosting arrangements of the front-line delivery team. Regular team meetings and one to one catch ups are offered to staff.

While the team's support centres around safe housing and domestic violence and abuse support, they are able to be person-centred in their approach. Some clients have suffered with isolation, and the team have assisted in helping them feel more included in the local community.

Examples of this include: learning new skills in a group setting; mental health groups; language classes and family groups. Feedback from a service user who does not currently have recourse to public funds stated that she was so thankful for her support worker who assisted her with accessing a local group. Through the work done, both the service user and their child were able to go on a group trip within the school holidays to the seaside – she said the trip gave herself and her son such a boost to their wellbeing, she explained it was lovely to see him playing in the sea for hours and a day out like this would not have been possible otherwise.

In the next financial year, the individual organisational leaders will be meeting together with the aim to facilitate the development of this partnership, to learn from each other and to discuss additional opportunities that they, as a partnership, could develop.

The first impact report has been published and since the project started 212 referrals have been accepted, with 68 of those having children to be considered. To date 92% of those referrals say they feel safer; 88% said they felt more confident and 80% said they feel better about themselves. In addition, 3 out of 5 service users have said that their health has improved too.

LHO has fed back to us that they are getting referrals from places they never have before such as schools and foodbanks, which is really positive news.

We continue to be very adaptive in the way that we accept referrals, as moving from taking referrals from LHO only to developing a pathway from the internal organisations to make the process more streamlined for the support workers and for the individuals accessing support.

Future development will see the team being able to take higher risk cases, which will improve the pathways from MARAC and DRAM, that again will work for the staff and service users, but also wider LDVS teams such as the IDVAs and AAT.

2.8 Labyrinth Project

This year saw the conclusion of the Labyrinth Project which was a national partnership project that LWA was involved in, led by Solace Women's Aid, which focussed on women's: safety; rights; employability & law; and legal rights. The outcomes of the project were celebrated in a national event, and learning has been shared widely, which was both on-line and in person, with the LWA Projects and Partnerships Director being invited to be a speaker and panellist for the occasion.

Despite being operational for only 18 months and working within the context of Covid-19, Labyrinth succeeded in exceeding all its original delivery targets. Collectively the project reached 33,463 women of which LWA specifically engaged 161 female professionals and supported 1,070 women.

The partnership was strong and continues to develop with the Projects and Partnerships Director maintaining the relationship between LWA and Solace with the view to working together in the future.

2.9 Practitioner Quality Support Coordinator (PQSC)

This new post was created during this year and is aimed at supporting newly created specialist domestic violence and abuse workers in four other supported housing organisations. Initial meetings took place with each agency within the first two weeks of the service starting. Peer support was the main issue that was identified.

Now the practitioners meet four-weekly with the Coordinator to look at training needs, support and good practice. We have also provided training on DASH risk assessments and a briefing on the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme Briefing (Clare's Law).

The worker is already working alongside Safer Stronger Leeds communities in order to act as a practitioner in the domestic violence and abuse sector in offering joint training to practitioners across Leeds.

The PQSC is main point of contact for practitioners attending the Practitioner Forum and an offer has been made to agencies across Leeds to act as a point of contact if practitioners are working with service users/cases and would like specialist support or advice. A report is being prepared which will capture the outcomes from the agencies and give a picture of the impact that that the practitioner roles make across Leeds.

2.10 DRAMs

Daily Risk Assessment Meetings were introduced in July 2021 in order to reduce the burden on agencies of the daily MARAC meetings, and to facilitate quicker and safer responses to victims-survivors in Leeds. The three core agencies are the Police, LDVS and Children Social Care. Since the DRAM was introduced, over 3,700 cases were discussed with LWA's staff attempting to contact every single victim-survivor.

The arrangements are now established and they work by triaging the high-risk Police incidents, allowing more of the appropriate cases to be discussed at MARAC. The DRAM has reduced pressure on all of the other MARAC agencies who now only need to attend two meetings per week, apart from LDVS (as Police and Children's Social Care meet daily anyway to discuss families reported to the Police).

LDVS has to attempt contact with every single victim-survivor before the DRAM meeting at 1pm each day. This has been an incredible feat with the IDVA and AAT teams working closely and cleverly in a fast paced and pressurised environment, to process the referrals that begin to arrive from 7.30 am through to the contacting of victims-survivors and having the meeting later in the day.

These arrangements continue to have a profoundly positive affect on victims-survivors as their views are integral to the meetings, and appropriate referrals and support can be targeted immediately, whereas the previous MARAC system wasn't able to do that. The effects on LDVS however remain a significant challenge.

After undertaking a detailed review of the DRAM process from the point of view of LWA delivered parts of the LDVS service, for each DRAM meeting (1½ hours) it takes 19 staff hours. This is phenomenal and really shows how invested we are in the process. This is equivalent to 2½ days of staff time per 1½ hour DRAM meeting.

2.11 Clare's Law

The DVDS (Clare's Law) was introduced across all Police Forces in England and Wales in 2014, and our IDVAs have been involved since then, attending panel meetings, sharing decisions for what should be disclosed and how, and often undertaking joint disclosure meetings with the Police and victims-survivors. Under the scheme, members of the public can ask the Police for information on their partner's criminal history and therefore know if their partner poses a risk to them, under a "Right to Ask" provision. Additionally, the Police can approach someone, unsolicited, under a "Right to Know" provision, when information held by them or any other agency shows concerning or safeguarding related information about another person whom they are in a relationship with.

The anticipated increase in demand has meant that Clare's Law meetings, often chaired by LWA, take place three times a month.

2.12 Domestic Violence & Abuse (DV&A) Voices

This really exciting new project is focussing on the victims-survivors and has been incorporated into LWA's Projects and Partnerships Team this year. Following on from the successful foundations developed through the Labyrinth Project, this project aims to facilitate a range of victims-survivors to contribute to and influence conversations and decisions in the Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board.

With a key focus being on: women's; men's; children's; and the LGBT* Communities' voices, a multi-disciplinary team, facilitated by LWA on behalf of LDVS, and hosted with partner organisations, has been established.

The team are currently working on a collaborative podcast, that can be included in statutory training. The "You Don't Know What You Don't Know" podcast will be played during the training to inform attendees about personal challenges and experiences of victims-survivors around accessing their services and what changes they would like to see.

This work is being keenly followed by the Domestic Abuse Commissioners Office, who are prioritising victim-survivor voices.

2.13 Women & Girls Alliance – Women’s Lives Leeds

Women’s Lives Leeds partnership has changed its name to the W&GA-L. Some of the Alliance’s funded projects retain the WLL brand name, including the WLL Empowering Systems Change project. This work aims to: embed the Complex Needs Service and its learning; develop the partnership of the Alliance itself, including strategic development; and include women and girls from their respective organisations in those conversations. The “Women’s Speak Group” is proving to be successful in facilitating voice and opinion by those who attend.

The name change is one milestone in the Alliance’s development, along with the re-development of the existing website, a restructured purpose, new values and an exciting emerging strategy to drive the Alliance forward.

The WLL VOICES project funded by the Comic Relief Power Up Fund continues to lead the Women Friendly Leeds (WFL) movement and provide opportunities for women and girls to influence and shape conversations around their safety, health and wellbeing. Highlights include a Q&A Session with Detective Superintendent Vanessa Rolfe; A Menstruation to Menopause event as part of the Women of West Yorkshire (WOW) festival. Being chosen as the project to receive funds from an American group called Bon Iver and an incredible programme called Arts to Activism in partnership with Leeds Met, which delivered workshops across the City.

However, parts of the project will be drawing to a close during the next financial year, but due to a successful partnership application to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the project will continue for a further 18 months.

The Women’s Safe Parks consultation and “Reclaim the Parks” activities have been the springboard for future involvement to inform the development of national guidance, which aims to influence local authorities when developing parks and public spaces.

LWA’s Projects and Partnerships Director was invited to be a speaker and panellist at the event hosted by Leeds University to launch the guidance.

The value and impact of our work on influencing safe spaces, public areas and parks is demonstrated by an invite from Bristol University for LWA to be involved as a steering group member for a similar initiative in Bristol.

The Women’s Night-time Safe Space (WNSS), which initially took the form of a Health Bus on Dortmund Square in Leeds City centre, has been funded and continues to successfully support women in the night-time economy. Evidence is continually being collected which will be pulled together and consulted on before developing a business case for the sustainability of this initiative in the next financial year. The WNSS has already supported some very vulnerable women, with on average 30 women accessing it each night, demonstrating its value and necessity as a service.

3 Support provided

3.1 The numbers from April 2022 to March 2023:

There has been an increased demand for both our accommodation and community-based services, higher even than the dramatic increases that we saw last year.

Most referrals and requests for refuge and emergency accommodation cannot be accepted due to capacity constraints, however the total number of women and children supported in refuge accommodation was 220.

The 24-hour telephone helpline calls and one-off work reached just under 7,600 calls for the first time. This is an increase again on last year, which was our previous record year.

Our community-based services, including helpline, IDVA and drop-ins continued to support more clients.

Support was provided to adults aged between 16 and 85, 31 different languages spoken, including BSL, 11% of people supported required an interpreter and 55% had mental health vulnerabilities.

3.2 Types of Abuse

The average length of the abuse our service users have experienced is 5 years. Controlling and coercive behaviour and harassment and stalking has increased this year:

- 70% (up from 55%) have experienced controlling and coercive behaviour
- 41% have experienced financial abuse
- 55% (up from 48%) have experienced harassment/stalking/surveillance
- 46% (up from 39%) have experienced threats to kill

3.3 Impact and Service User Feedback

Service user feedback included:

100% said

- I was listened to and believed by staff here
- I was supported to talk about my experiences of violence and abuse
- The service I accessed was non-judgemental

96% said

- I feel that my privacy was respected
- I was supported to make my own choices
- Staff here have been knowledgeable and competent
- I'd come back to the service again if I needed to

Service users said:

Q: If using this service made a difference in your life, please tell us how – what's changed for you?

"I felt supported and empowered to understand that what I had experienced was in fact, abuse, despite no physical violence occurring."

"I found myself in a difficult and dangerous situation and was referred to the services by the Police. My case worker, warm and friendly, was supportive, non-judgemental and knowledgeable. She did not tell me what to do or what is the best solution to my problem. Instead, she provided information on my rights and options, while reassuring me that I would be supported whatever my decision is. She was easy to talk to, approachable and professional."

"It made me understand I'm not alone and can reach out and speak to people about what's happening, that gave me great advice on all matters not just the abuse I suffered"

"The kindness and dignity with which I was treated helped me recover my sense of myself beyond abuse. Thank you"

"The service has been there every step of the way and not feeling alone or 'in the dark'"

Q: How would things be different for you if you'd not received support here?

"I don't think I would have survived. I had broken away from the relationship with the abuser but of course, that didn't stop the abuse or prevent the escalation in dangerous, unstable stalking....the service restored my self-respect and ability to feel safe and look to the future. The future otherwise would've remained very bleak."

"I would not have known what was happening with the charges. It felt good to have support from someone away from the situation"

"I would still be in an abusive marriage because I would not have had anywhere safe to go."

Q: What was missing from the support you received from us? How can we improve?

"I am grateful for the fact that the services exist. For me personally, the service provided was what I needed. Thank you!"

"I don't think the service has any improvements to make, the commitment, professional competence and integrity of the staff really is quite wonderful. I think more resource needs to be invested in the service rather than victims of domestic abuse going round in circles with the Police. I really don't believe the majority of Police Officers have a clue when it comes to domestic violence, perhaps officers should be seconded to LDVS for a while as part of their CPD."

"Services were brilliant overall and also staff members were knowledgeable and experienced but hiring more staff will be helpful for clients in the meantime."

4 Values and Culture

At LWA, our behaviours support our purpose and create our culture, which in turn drives innovation and growth.

We do what we do because we believe:

- All women and children should live in safety, free from abuse and fear.
- Every woman and child have a voice and should be empowered, inspired and listened to.
- Women centred support is powerful and improves the lives of women, men and children.

Our **Values** reflect our organisation's views; they are the principles, standards & qualities that tell the story about the way in which we conduct our work.

Be Exceptional

We are experts in our field and proud of having a women-centred approach. We are pioneers and leaders, striving to perform and innovate.

Be Courageous

We are honest, inventive and have the integrity to challenge perceptions and practice. We are encouraging and empowering of each other to be courageous and brave.

Be Inclusive

We are diverse, welcoming, approachable and inclusive as employers, service providers and people.

We promote unity, fairness and respect.

Be Inspirational

We are proud of our creativity and how we motivate, listen, empower and support each other. We are encouraging and lead by example to achieve the best.

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Be Responsive

We are collaborative, aware, compassionate and sensitive.

We adapt our approach to meet changing needs.

4.1 The Behaviours that create our Culture

Our Culture is a set of basic assumptions that we all share, these are 'norms' that guide the way people interact with each other and others or put in a different way, 'the way we do things here'.

These behaviours apply to everyone, irrespective of position or seniority. Structural hierarchy represents the division of work and skills, not the division of people.

We not only agree to uphold professional ethical standards but will go further in our commitment to hold ourselves accountable to maintaining behaviours that seek to create a safe and respectful culture and prevent incidences of workplace bullying.

Our key principles are:

- To challenge and support each other to be exceptional by being curious about different ways of doing things, thinking beyond our roles, and embracing learning and development in all its forms.
- To be courageous enough to demonstrate humility and vulnerability, and to approach failure with curiosity rather than criticism.
- We welcome, accept and include everyone based on inherent worth and value, enabling divergent thinking in an inclusive environment.
- We believe that everyone has the potential to be inspirational both in what they do, and the way they do it.
- Through our compassionate lens, we find solutions by being responsive, agile and adaptable.

Our Conduct agreement is now an every day part of our working lives.

4.2 Staff feedback

What is the best thing about working for LWA?

We have had a number of staff leave for promotions and strategic roles outside of the organisation - for example, the Domestic Abuse Commissioners Office and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. This is a great testament to the expertise that our staff develop and how they can share with a wider audience to improve the way people experiencing domestic abuse are dealt with.

Comments from staff who have recently left:

“What makes Leeds Women's Aid is all the fantastic and passionate women that work here and I will miss working with a team that shows that commitment! I look forward to see what you all get up to next on the socials”.

“I have loved working at Leeds Women’s Aid and it is a very sad day for me, and whilst a new adventure awaits, I will miss everyone greatly.”

5 **Operating model and risks**

5.1 Fundraising

We are regulated by the Fundraising Regulator and all our fundraising practices are ethical and considerate. We have an in-house Fundraising and Marketing Director, and do not employ fundraising companies or consultants. All our fundraising and marketing is done to further the organisations charitable activities.

We fund our work with income from a wide range of restricted and unrestricted funds. Our restricted funds include our commissioned services by which we are contracted after an open tender to deliver and report back on specific service delivery. Our largest contract is from Leeds City Council, delivering the LDVS Consortium. Other restricted income includes additional grants from Leeds City Council, along with grants from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, the Ministry of Justice, the Department of Levelling Up and Communities, the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF), Children in Need and Comic Relief.

Our unrestricted income gives us the flexibility to fund a range of things directly for our service users and for our infrastructure. It also allows us to invest in reserves (see section 5.6 of this report), which can be designated for specific charitable purposes.

Our fundraising and marketing team have continued to be creative and effective in raising funds for both restricted and unrestricted income streams. In celebration of our 50-year anniversary a target of £50,000 was raised to fund a new playground for Emmeline refuge. The money was raised through a variety of income streams which included a public appeal, grant making trusts, business and community support. The team were able to work with key stakeholders to promote the appeal effectively and reach the target within the set timescale.

Work on the playground was completed in Autumn 2022.

Our strategy of increasing individual giving and supporter base is continuing, and we have a range of regular givers, one off donations, people doing fundraising events and developing our legacy strategy. Fundraising events have included supporters doing the Three Peaks challenge, six runs round the clock and an Inflatable run. Our amazing supporters raised just over £40,000 last year.

To celebrate Leeds Women's Aid 50th anniversary we hosted an event which was a huge success. It was a great opportunity to invite our supporters and key stakeholders to meet LWA staff and give them an opportunity to hear about what we have achieved and what our future plans are.

5.2 Charity Shop

Our charity continues to have a positive presence within the local community and has a strong and loyal customer base and receive high quality donations which we are very grateful and sincerely thank them for. The Retail Manager has been resourceful in raising a diverse range of income through the shop such as RAG's, eBay, we buy books scheme, vintage cash cow and recycle for charity. We also participated in the local community late night Christmas shopping event hosted by local arts and crafts people.

The Retail Manager continues to arrange special shopping events for groups of residents from our refuges to come to the shop and choose whatever they like from the shop for free. These events are very well received by both residents and staff alike as it really helps families.

5.3 Donations and volunteers

We have received grants, donations and gifts in kind from hundreds of individuals and organisations, and would particularly like to thank the following donors and funders:

Aecom, Asda, Beaverbrooks, Bevan Brittan, Burberry, Caval Foundation, Coca Cola, Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Charitable Trust, Eversheds Sutherland, Gledhow Sports and Social Club, Golden Acre Foods, Graham Stowe Bateson Solicitors, Headrow House, HSBC, John Lewis, Leeds Women's Ice Hockey Team, Limehouse, Master of Craft, Marshall Mill, Michael Page, Morrisons Foundation, Oakwood Solicitors, Punch Creative, Ritter Sport, Sir George Martin Trust, Ten percent Foundation, The Charles and Elsie Sykes Trust, Travlaw Legal Services, Smallwood Trust, Supply Chain NHS, Yorkshire Building Society, Wade Charity, Water Lane Boathouse, Zedex Ltd, Zurich Community Trust.

In addition, LWA values its individual supporters and fundraisers for their dedication and hard work, some of whom have been tirelessly fundraising for the organisation for over 21 years. Some reasons why people support LWA:

"You helped a good friend of mine through a terrible event and I can't thank you enough. Just a small token of appreciation."

"I hope this contributes to your brilliant efforts in helping women and their families during difficult times".

We are proud to work with volunteers of all ages from teenagers working on their Duke of Edinburgh Award to people wanting to support LWA and help their community. Due to their hard work and dedication we have a thriving and well-established shop and without them the shop would not be the success it is today.

We currently have on average 13 regular volunteers assisting in the day to day running of the shop, which equates to around 1,764 hours. This is equivalent to an in-kind investment of around £400 per week, using the real living wage hourly rate.

Without our volunteers the shop would not be what it is today, a well-established charity shop offering a unique and friendly shopping experience.

Why people volunteer:

"I appreciate the hard work LWA do supporting women in Leeds I know how much of a difference you make. I really wanted the opportunity to join the team and help out by volunteering."

"I volunteer with LWA because a lovely lady I knew was abused and eventually killed by her partner. I wanted to do something in her memory which included helping those like her."

5.4 Investments

As reported in last year's report, work has progressed with regards to LWA's investment policy and strategy. A deposit account was opened with CCLA, which has enabled interest to be earned on funds held whilst increasing the level of protection to LWA's financial resources. The non-interest-bearing current account is now only being used for immediate working capital requirements. Within the year Bank of England interest rates have risen from 0.75% to 4.25%, and this has provided much needed additional funds, and other things being equal, should continue to do so in at least the short term. Work continues to be done on the appropriateness and value to be invested in ethical investment portfolio funds, and we will report on this next year.

5.5 Reserves Policy

The Board review our reserves policy at least annually, and the policy is risk-based and considers good practice in the charity sector and is therefore:

- Based on a detailed understanding of the actual and predicted cash inflows and outflows of the charity.
- Not based upon holding a set number of months cover on expenditure.
- Integrated with the risk assessment and strategic plans of the charity.
- Not based upon a closure scenario unless this is considered likely.
- Regularly reported to and reviewed by the Trustee Board.

It was agreed that our reserves policy should provide:

- A level of working capital that protects the continuity of our core work, allowing for funding we receive for restricted funded projects.

- A level of security against the financial risks identified in our risk assessment, including cover for unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss or deferral of income.
- A level of funding for possible opportunities (Designated Funds).
- A level of funding following the unexpected and unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 to plan for any future similar occurrences.
- A level of funding for infrastructure investments.

Arising from a review of our risk-based reserves policy, the Board approved an updated reserves policy in August 2023, increasing the required levels of reserves to a range between £716,000 and £836,000. Our new unrestricted reserves total falls comfortably at the higher end of this range.

5.6 Financial Review

Principal funding sources continue to be Local Authority contracts and rental income including Housing Benefit. We are very grateful for the respectful partnership that we continue to enjoy with Leeds City Council. This year they have provided us robust and considerate contract management and worked with us to secure additional funding for our much-needed services.

This year we have received funding through government sources from both the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Ministry of Justice. We are exceedingly grateful to all support that has been provided and the additional funding in year to support our services.

Voids (empty refuge spaces) at 15.8% were much higher than the previous last 2 year's levels (21/22 - 7.5%, 20/21 - 8.5%), and bad debt written off remained at 1%. Although voids are much higher than usual, we are pleased at how the services have been managed, as the target for voids in normal circumstances is 8% and bad debts is 4%. The continued reduction in the level of bad debts is testament to the hard work of the refuge teams in managing the clients' financial situations both when the clients are in refuge and when they are able to move on, and the skill and expertise of our finance team in making and reviewing appropriate provisions.

Planned voids mainly cover the period when units are empty due to cleaning and maintenance or occasionally for the reservation of a unit for a woman urgently needing to flee to safety.

The voids for our non-commissioned refuges at 15.8% were negatively impacted by remedial building works that were required in one of our refuges which resulted in 2 properties being unusable with no income being received for approximately 10 weeks. Our commissioned refuge voids increased to 10.6% (compared to 6.8% last year). The two dispersed properties became unsuitable due to significant safeguarding risks and were handed back to the Housing Association within the final quarter of this financial year. A period of 3 months elapsed between this issue arising and the two new properties being fit for use. We therefore anticipate that voids will reduce in 2023/24.

The trustees submit the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The net income for the year amounts to a surplus of £17,502. This compares to a surplus in 2022 of £42,681, and the reduction is largely due to the level of voids as detailed above. Reserves carried forward are £981,762 of which £159,338 are restricted and £822,424 are unrestricted funds.

Within the 2021 accounts we reported that we had £250,000 in designated funds for our second year of our 2-year period for investment in our growth and infrastructure to meet the continuing need and demand for what we do. This investment has now been completed at a cost of £57,000 versus the £250,000 provided for.

Our unrestricted reserves at £822,424 fall comfortably at the higher end of the new reserves range. We had expected that the investment could take us below the lower level of our unrestricted reserves but excellent financial management has allowed us to protect our unrestricted reserves and not require full use of the designation for investment.

6 Future plans

LWA's strengths are in delivering excellent services, leading collaborative partnerships, developing new and innovative services and having strategic influence locally, regionally and nationally.

Demand for our services continues to increase and we are proactively looking at ways in which we can develop, improve and increase our services to support more women and children. We do this by playing to our strengths for development and working within our partnerships.

We have built on and revised our strategic objectives for 2023 – 2026, they are:

1. To be a leader of, and a voice for, women-centred support in Leeds and surrounding areas.
2. To be a great place to work where people can develop and grow and our values, including equity and diversity, underpin what we do and how we do it.
3. To be an organisation that innovates by identifying and investing in opportunities ensuring long term sustainability and stability.
4. To reflect on and assess how our accommodation offer impacts clients in Leeds and to explore opportunities to enhance high quality accommodation provision.

7 Governance and decision-making

LWA operates as a charitable company and registered its purpose and objectives with the Charity Commission on 12 November 1991. It is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association which set out clearly the purpose of the charity together with rules about how it conducts its business, including its governance.

Following a regular assessment of the trustee skills and experience we need to deliver our strategy, trustees are recruited by external advertisement in the same way that employees and workers are recruited, and there are role profiles and an application form.

Our growing reputation and profile mean that we also receive unsolicited approaches from time to time.

Applicants are interviewed by the Chair/Deputy Chair and Chief Executive, and the final decision is made by the Trustee Board. All new Trustees receive an induction, and training is planned, commissioned and delivered regularly.

The organisation employs a Chief Executive who takes decisions on the day to day running of the charity. The Chief Executive manages staff, ensures proper financial management,

follows policies agreed by the Trustees, and complies with legal obligations and those directed by funders, the Charity Commission, Companies House and other regulatory bodies. Trustees ensure adherence to legal requirements, i.e. maintaining correct policies: Health and Safety at Work; Fire Safety; Risk Assessments; recruitment and selection; and other policies such as grievance and disciplinary.

LWA is an independent organisation - however, it benefits from being part of the wider Women's Aid network across the UK.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the Chair of Trustees and in accordance with the charity's policy withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest could arise.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations: none of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior manager of the charity with a client or other stakeholder must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

We are also keeping abreast of the developments in the Charity Act 2022, Some provisions have been introduced in this financial year, with the second tranche in the next financial year.

7.1 Risk management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- A fully updated Risk Register, comprising of an annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces.
- The establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual reviews.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.
- A review of our committee structure, with two separate committees focussing on risk, governance, finance, people and organisational development, in addition to our Fundraising and Marketing Committee. These committees have trustee and senior management representation along with a commissioned external and independent Health & Safety consultant and the organisation's Data Protection Lead when required.

The Risk Register focuses attention on the areas of: Governance and Management; Operational Risks regarding People and Activities/Premises; Financial; Environmental and External. We identified further risks following an incident of someone being housed in refuge who was unbeknown to us a serious offender, which was duly reported to the Charity Commission. This incident has been successfully closed by the Commission.

Other risks regularly identified include that of our service users being at risk of injury or even death. There are also ongoing, daily risk assessments on service delivery, and at regular intervals in respect of premises.

Attention has also been focused on other non-financial risks including those arising from fire, flood, terrorist attack, technology, reputation and health and safety of staff. These risks are managed by having robust policies and procedures in place, and through regular awareness training for staff.

Financial sustainability is one of the risks identified by the charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is a regular review of LWA's financial position through management reports including available liquid funds to settle debts as they fall due, liaison with the bank when necessary, and active management of debtors and creditors balances to ensure sufficient working capital. LWA continues to be dynamic and strategic in its use of unrestricted and designated reserves.

7.2 Data Security and Protection

Data security and protection is of paramount importance to LWA. We deal with very sensitive personal data relating to the people we support, our staff and our supporters so it is vital that we process this information securely and in accordance with data protection law.

The organisation continues to comply with the Data Protection Act 2018. As data controllers, LWA continues to monitor and review our statutory due diligence. LWA has a named Data Protection Lead (DPL), who is a qualified Data Protection Practitioner.

She continues to report to the CEO and the Resources and Governance Committee of the Board regarding Subject Access Requests, Data Breaches and areas of consideration and improvement. This is reviewed both internally within LWA, and also as consortium lead for our LDVS and W&GA-L partnerships.

All LWA staff receive data protection training, which was updated this year and continues to be rolled out. Briefings and regular updates are circulated to all staff to ensure that they remain up to date.

There have been no breaches of data which have needed to be reported to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO).

7.3 Information, Communications, Technology (ICT)

Our ICT strategy evolves depending on environmental and staffing changes. Next year we are conducting an organisational wide IT refresh, to enable better hybrid working and hot desking for staff and for partners in other organisations.

8 **Statutory information**

8.1 Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit in the Charities Act 2011 in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on the advancement of health and saving of lives.

8.2 Auditors

A resolution to re-appoint BK Plus Audit Ltd (successor firm to Riley & Co Limited), Chartered Certified Accountants & Registered Auditors as auditors for this financial year was proposed and agreed at the Annual General Meeting.

8.3 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 as follows:

Ms C Clapham (appointed 21 September 2022)
Ms M Clarke
Ms HL Daniels
Ms JM Ezard (appointed 21 September 2022)
Dr NC Ikeogu
Ms J Mcara
Ms A Norman (resigned 19 April 2023)
Ms R Tredget
Dr L Whewell

8.4 Statement of responsibilities of the Trustees

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 company as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to;

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

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

8.5 Statement of disclosure of information to Auditors

The Trustees of the company who held office at the date of approval of this annual report confirm that so far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the company's auditors in connection with preparing their report) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each Director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved on behalf of the Board.

Nneka Ikeogu

Nneka Ikeogu
Director and Chair of the Board

22 November
..... 2023

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Leeds Women's Aid (Registered number: 02627468)**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Leeds Women's Aid (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2023 and of its 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.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 21 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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 Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Leeds Women's Aid (Registered number: 02627468)**

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- 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 company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the industry 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 company, including the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;
- We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- Ensured 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 a susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- Understanding the design of the company's remuneration policies.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of 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 set out in note 2 were indicative of potential bias; and
- Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risks 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; and
- Reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Leeds Women's Aid (Registered number: 02627468)**

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from the financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

V J Atkinson FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of BK Plus Audit Ltd
52 St Johns Lane
Halifax
West Yorkshire
HX1 2BW



Date: **23 November 2023**

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/3/23 Total funds £	31/3/22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	43,420	62,817	106,237	70,008
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	5	797,575	2,969,230	3,766,805	2,707,926
Other trading activities	3	63,366	-	63,366	66,672
Investment income	4	5,036	-	5,036	276
Total		<u>909,397</u>	<u>3,032,047</u>	<u>3,941,444</u>	<u>2,844,882</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	69,225	-	69,225	67,618
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	7	757,166	3,007,750	3,764,916	2,660,916
Governance costs		82,558	7,243	89,801	73,667
Total		<u>908,949</u>	<u>3,014,993</u>	<u>3,923,942</u>	<u>2,802,201</u>
NET INCOME					
Transfers between funds	19	448	17,054	17,502	42,681
		(57,353)	57,353	-	-
Net movement in funds		(56,905)	74,407	17,502	42,681
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		879,329	84,931	964,260	921,579
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>822,424</u>	<u>159,338</u>	<u>981,762</u>	<u>964,260</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02627468)

Balance Sheet
31st March 2023

	Notes	31/3/23 £	31/3/22 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	14	77,634	62,467
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	15	239,523	616,240
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,648,162</u>	<u>1,439,583</u>
		1,887,685	2,055,823
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(983,557)	(1,154,030)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>904,128</u>	<u>901,793</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>981,762</u>	<u>964,260</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>981,762</u>	<u>964,260</u>
FUNDS	19		
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		389,148	446,053
Designated funds		<u>433,276</u>	<u>433,276</u>
		<u>822,424</u>	<u>879,329</u>
Restricted funds		<u>159,338</u>	<u>84,931</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>981,762</u>	<u>964,260</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on22..November..2023..... and were signed on its behalf by:

Nkeka Ikeogu

.....
N C Ikeogu - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

	Notes	31/3/23 £	31/3/22 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>246,207</u>	<u>416,656</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>246,207</u>	<u>416,656</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(42,664)	(41,994)
Interest received		<u>5,036</u>	<u>276</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(37,628)</u>	<u>(41,718)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>1,439,583</u>	<u>1,064,645</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>1,648,162</u></u>	<u><u>1,439,583</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	17,502	42,681
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	27,497	13,371
Interest received	(5,036)	(276)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	376,717	(331,930)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(170,473)</u>	<u>692,810</u>
Net cash provided by operations	<u>246,207</u>	<u>416,656</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/22	Cash flow	At 31/3/23
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>1,439,583</u>	<u>208,579</u>	<u>1,648,162</u>
	<u>1,439,583</u>	<u>208,579</u>	<u>1,648,162</u>
Total	<u>1,439,583</u>	<u>208,579</u>	<u>1,648,162</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

Income

For donations to be recognised in the financial statements, the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing before the year end. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be confirmed, then this income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity, and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably, and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example, the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services, a corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

No amount is including in the financial statements in relation to volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Gifts in kind, donated for resale, are recognised within 'Income from other trading activities' at the net realisable value in the financial year in which they are sold.

Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognised when receivable and are included at fair value. These gifts are not deferred over the life of the asset.

For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received, at that point income is recognised. On occasion legacies will be notified to the charity where it is not possible to reliably measure the amount expected to be distributed, on these occasions, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and the details disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

Income from trading activities, includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred, income from the charity shop is included in the financial year in which it is received.

The charity receives government grants in respect of its charitable activities, income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement to them and after any performance conditions have been met, when it is probable that the income will be received and when the amount can be measured reliably. If these entitlement conditions are not met the income is treated as deferred income.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which the expenditure arose.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Plant and machinery	- Straight line over 4 years
Fixtures and fittings	- Straight line over 4 years

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Donated goods

Donated goods received by the charity shop network have not been valued in these accounts, as it has not proved practical or possible to reliably measure the value of the stock at the year end.

The charity operates a retail gift aid scheme to reclaim gift aid on the value of donated goods sold for those donors registered with the scheme.

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Donations	<u>106,237</u>	<u>70,008</u>
3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Shop income	<u>63,366</u>	<u>66,672</u>
4. INVESTMENT INCOME	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>5,036</u>	<u>276</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

5. TOTAL INCOME BY ACTIVITY TYPE

	2023		2022	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Bon Iver	-	11,977	-	-
Children in Need	-	25,357	-	42,887
Comic Relief	-	114,071	-	122,242
Comic Relief - Covid 19	-	-	-	-
Donations	-	62,583	-	20,915
Domestic Violence Voices	-	25,403	-	-
Early Help Hub	-	120,000	-	120,000
Empowering Systems Change	-	231,126	-	61,263
Funded Leeds Domestic Violence Service Refuge	470,162	248,922	486,731	248,922
GP Pilot	-	-	-	34,281
Household Support Fund	-	5,000	-	-
Independent Refuge	324,947	-	335,958	-
Leeds Domestic Violence Service Management and Administration	45,016	706,967	50,245	693,979
Ministry of Justice - Covid 19	-	266,102	-	76,340
Ministry of Justice - Elevate Fund	-	66,760	-	-
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	-	90,608	-	86,766
New Burdens Fund - Sanctuary Support	-	300,507	-	70,388
New Burdens Fund - LDVS Refuge	-	381,881	-	101,557
New Burdens Fund - Independent Refuge	-	241,265	-	59,632
Online Chat	5,000	-	-	9,826
Practitioner Support	-	18,208	-	-
Safer Streets	-	38,258	-	46,163
Shop	64,272	-	66,672	-
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth	-	20,236	-	45,000
VRU Police Control Room	-	56,816	-	50,754
Womens Lives Leeds	-	-	-	14,361
	<u>909,397</u>	<u>3,032,047</u>	<u>939,606</u>	<u>1,905,276</u>
Total		<u>3,941,444</u>		<u>2,844,882</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

6. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Staff costs	36,081	33,806
Rent and Service Charges	21,270	20,844
Insurance	800	819
Repairs and Maintenance	400	293
Cleaning and Hygiene	1,012	1,109
Telephone	536	718
Personnel and Welfare Costs	103	174
ICT, Database and Website	57	123
Training	-	95
Postage and Stationery	2,465	2,366
Marketing and Publicity	96	97
Equipment Rentals	302	302
Bank Charges	2,067	2,208
Travel Costs	51	69
Recruitment Costs	-	347
Health and Safety	49	217
Miscellaneous	344	439
Depreciation	<u>3,592</u>	<u>3,592</u>
	<u>69,225</u>	<u>67,618</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

7. TOTAL COSTS BY ACTIVITY TYPE

	2023		2022	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Bon Iver	-	28	-	-
Children in Need	-	26,501	-	44,129
Comic Relief	-	117,561	-	148,885
Comic Relief - Covid 19	-	-	-	893
Donations	-	18,695	-	3,116
Domestic Violence Voices	-	25,403	-	-
Early Help Hub	-	120,000	-	120,000
Empowering Systems Change	-	213,570	-	56,993
Funded Leeds Domestic Violence Service Refuge	438,186	248,922	563,833	248,922
Governance	82,558	-	50,913	22,754
GP Pilot	-	-	-	34,281
Household Support Fund	-	5,000	-	-
Independent Refuge	255,958	-	269,373	-
Leeds Domestic Violence Service Management and Administration	50,377	-	(125,113)	-
Ministry of Justice - Covid 19	-	266,101	-	72,535
Ministry of Justice - Elevate Fund	-	66,761	-	-
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	-	96,582	-	63,950
New Burdens Fund - Sanctuary Support	-	300,507	-	69,956
New Burdens Fund - LDVS Refuge	-	381,881	-	101,422
New Burdens Fund - Independent Refuge	-	241,265	-	59,498
Online Chat	12,645	-	-	15,378
Practitioner Support	-	18,208	-	-
Safer Streets	-	24,654	-	41,627
Shop	69,225	-	67,618	-
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth	-	22,107	-	43,127
Staying Safe	-	60	-	-
VRU Police Control Room	-	56,816	-	50,651
Womens Lives Leeds	-	-	-	55,292
	<u>908,949</u>	<u>3,014,993</u>	<u>826,624</u>	<u>1,975,577</u>
Total		<u>3,923,942</u>		<u>2,802,201</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Staff costs	2,033,285	1,501,625
Rates and water	43,633	28,599
Insurance	14,580	12,592
Light and heat	115,074	80,069
Telephone	30,318	33,472
Postage and stationery	7,630	6,322
Advertising	11,300	10,567
Sundries	4,116	-
Rent	203,470	186,344
Repairs and maintenance	98,071	121,339
Cleaning and Hygiene	9,314	5,566
Computer repairs and maintenance	40,037	34,573
Agency staff	3,388	24,465
Subscriptions	7,161	6,060
Training, Coaching and Conferences	47,287	11,591
Interpreting Fees	9,532	9,249
Motor and travel expenses	9,325	3,092
Personnal and Welfare Costs	10,288	4,565
Activities Costs	17,946	23,873
Subcontract - Partners	413,897	101,812
Service Costs	632,584	479,796
Bad Debt Provision	(23,876)	(36,987)
Health and Safety	2,651	2,553
	<u>3,741,011</u>	<u>2,651,137</u>

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Charitable activities	23,905
Governance costs	<u>89,801</u>
	<u>113,706</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

9. SUPPORT COSTS - continued

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	Charitable activities £	Governance costs £	31/3/23 Total activities £	31/3/22 Total activities £
Auditors' remuneration	-	7,404	7,404	6,840
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	-	-	-	2,039
Legal, professional and HR	-	38,317	38,317	36,359
Recruitment Costs	-	32,749	32,749	16,653
Bank charges	-	2,117	2,117	1,507
Governance Costs	-	9,214	9,214	10,269
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>23,905</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,905</u>	<u>9,779</u>
	<u>23,905</u>	<u>89,801</u>	<u>113,706</u>	<u>83,446</u>

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31/3/23 £	31/3/22 £
Auditors' remuneration - Bohorun's	-	1,200
Auditors remuneration - Riley and Co	7,404	5,640
Other non-audit services	-	2,039
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>27,497</u>	<u>13,372</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2023 nor for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2023 nor for the year ended 31st March 2022.

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

12. STAFF COSTS

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,821,863	1,353,546
Social security costs	170,306	123,195
Other pension costs	<u>77,197</u>	<u>58,690</u>
	<u>2,069,366</u>	<u>1,535,431</u>

Staff costs noted above exclude costs for relief staff.

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

	31/3/23	31/3/22
Refuge and Aftercare	16	16
Community Services	33	26
Social Enterprise and Funding	4	4
Management and Administration	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>62</u>	<u>54</u>

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

	31/3/23	31/3/22
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 75.

The key management personnel of the charity have been identified as the CEO, Operations Director, Fundraising and Marketing Director and Projects and Partnerships Director. Also included for 2022/23 is the Finance and Resources Director who started working for the charity on 2 August 2022.

The aggregate employment benefits, including employers national insurance and pension contributions, for these key management personnel for the year was £274,482 (2022: £216,852).

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	48,492	21,516	70,008
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	824,166	1,883,760	2,707,926
Other trading activities	66,672	-	66,672
Investment income	<u>276</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>276</u>
Total	<u>939,606</u>	<u>1,905,276</u>	<u>2,844,882</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	67,618	-	67,618
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	685,339	1,975,577	2,660,916
Governance costs	<u>73,667</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,667</u>
Total	<u>826,624</u>	<u>1,975,577</u>	<u>2,802,201</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	112,982	(70,301)	42,681
Transfers between funds	<u>(29,439)</u>	<u>29,439</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	83,543	(40,862)	42,681
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>795,787</u>	<u>125,792</u>	<u>921,579</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>879,330</u>	<u>84,930</u>	<u>964,260</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2022	67,758	101,818	169,576
Additions	<u>2,842</u>	<u>39,822</u>	<u>42,664</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>70,600</u>	<u>141,640</u>	<u>212,240</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2022	55,833	51,276	107,109
Charge for year	<u>6,141</u>	<u>21,356</u>	<u>27,497</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>61,974</u>	<u>72,632</u>	<u>134,606</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2023	<u>8,626</u>	<u>69,008</u>	<u>77,634</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>11,925</u>	<u>50,542</u>	<u>62,467</u>

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/3/23 £	31/3/22 £
Trade debtors	203,724	491,366
Other debtors	(200)	2,000
Prepayments	35,999	78,278
Accrued income	-	44,596
	<u>239,523</u>	<u>616,240</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Trade creditors	38,374	10,131
Social security and other taxes	40,880	29,887
Other creditors	95	54
Pension control account	10,925	8,598
Net salaries control	(236)	(281)
Accruals	89,075	66,022
Deferred income	<u>804,444</u>	<u>1,039,619</u>
	<u>983,557</u>	<u>1,154,030</u>

Deferred income

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
At 1 April 2022	1,039,619	289,289
Deferred income received during the year	2,178,938	1,898,371
Deferred income released during the year	<u>(2,414,113)</u>	<u>(1,148,041)</u>
	<u>804,444</u>	<u>1,039,619</u>

17. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	31/3/23	31/3/22
	£	£
Within one year	54,049	51,899
Between one and five years	<u>51,950</u>	<u>105,999</u>
	<u>105,999</u>	<u>157,898</u>

18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31/3/23 Total funds	31/3/22 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	46,333	31,301	77,634	62,467
Current assets	1,759,648	128,037	1,887,685	2,055,823
Current liabilities	<u>(983,557)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(983,557)</u>	<u>(1,154,030)</u>
	<u>822,424</u>	<u>159,338</u>	<u>981,762</u>	<u>964,260</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	446,053	448	(57,353)	389,148
Designated funds	<u>433,276</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>433,276</u>
	879,329	448	(57,353)	822,424
Restricted funds				
Bon Iver	-	11,949	-	11,949
Children in Need	1,193	(1,144)	(49)	-
Comic Relief	10,162	(3,490)	-	6,672
Designated Donations	10,000	-	-	10,000
Donations	31,278	12,587	-	43,865
Donations - Emmeline Play Area	-	31,301	-	31,301
Empowering Systems Change	3,506	17,556	-	21,062
Last Resort Fund	5,243	-	-	5,243
Leeds Domestic Violence Service	-	(57,404)	57,404	-
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	18,676	(5,974)	-	12,702
Safer Streets 4	-	13,604	-	13,604
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth Project	1,873	(1,871)	(2)	-
Staying Safe	<u>3,000</u>	<u>(60)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,940</u>
	<u>84,931</u>	<u>17,054</u>	<u>57,353</u>	<u>159,338</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>964,260</u>	<u>17,502</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>981,762</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	909,398	(908,950)	448
Restricted funds			
Bon Iver	11,977	(28)	11,949
Children in Need	25,357	(26,501)	(1,144)
Comic Relief	114,071	(117,561)	(3,490)
Domestic Violence Voices	25,403	(25,403)	-
Donations	28,457	(15,870)	12,587
Donations - Emmeline Play Area	39,126	(7,825)	31,301
Early Help Hub	120,000	(120,000)	-
Empowering Systems Change	231,126	(213,570)	17,556
Funded Leeds Domestic Violence Service			
Refuge	248,922	(248,922)	-
Leeds Domestic Violence Service	706,967	(764,371)	(57,404)
Ministry of Justice - Covid 19 (Leeds Women's Aid)	266,102	(266,102)	-
Ministry of Justice - Elevate Fund	66,760	(66,760)	-
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	90,608	(96,582)	(5,974)
New Burdens Fund - Independent Refuge	241,265	(241,265)	-
New Burdens Fund - Leeds Domestic Violence Service Refuge	381,881	(381,881)	-
New Burdens Fund - Practitioner Support	18,208	(18,208)	-
New Burdens Fund - Sanctuary Support Team	300,507	(300,507)	-
Safer Streets 4	38,258	(24,654)	13,604
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth Project	20,235	(22,106)	(1,871)
Staying Safe	-	(60)	(60)
VRU Police Control Room	56,816	(56,816)	-
	<u>3,032,046</u>	<u>(3,014,992)</u>	<u>17,054</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,941,444</u>	<u>(3,923,942)</u>	<u>17,502</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	362,511	112,981	(29,439)	446,053
Designated funds	<u>433,276</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>433,276</u>
	795,787	112,981	(29,439)	879,329
Restricted funds				
Children in Need	2,479	(1,286)	-	1,193
Comic Relief	43,637	(33,475)	-	10,162
Comic Relief - Covid 19	893	(893)	-	-
Designated Donations	10,000	-	-	10,000
Donations	13,479	17,799	-	31,278
Empowering Systems Change	-	3,506	-	3,506
Last Resort Fund	5,243	-	-	5,243
Leeds Domestic Violence Service	-	(29,437)	29,437	-
Ministry of Justice - Covid 19 (Leeds)	-	-	-	-
Women's Aid	-	(2)	2	-
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	-	18,676	-	18,676
Online Chat	5,552	(5,552)	-	-
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth Project	-	1,873	-	1,873
Staying Safe	3,000	-	-	3,000
VRU Police Control Room	1	(3)	2	-
Women's Lives Leeds	<u>41,508</u>	<u>(41,506)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>125,792</u>	<u>(70,300)</u>	<u>29,439</u>	<u>84,931</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>921,579</u></u>	<u><u>42,681</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>964,260</u></u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	939,606	(826,625)	112,981
Restricted funds			
Children in Need	42,887	(44,173)	(1,286)
Comic Relief	122,242	(155,717)	(33,475)
Comic Relief - Covid 19	-	(893)	(893)
Donations	20,915	(3,116)	17,799
Early Help Hub	120,000	(120,000)	-
Empowering Systems Change	61,263	(57,757)	3,506
Funded Leeds Domestic Violence Service Refuge	248,922	(248,922)	-
GP Pilot	34,281	(34,281)	-
Leeds Domestic Violence Service	693,979	(723,416)	(29,437)
Ministry of Justice - Covid 19 (Leeds Women's Aid)	76,340	(76,342)	(2)
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	86,766	(68,090)	18,676
New Burdens Fund - Independent Refuge	59,632	(59,632)	-
New Burdens Fund - Leeds Domestic Violence Service Refuge	101,557	(101,557)	-
New Burdens Fund - Sanctuary Support Team	70,388	(70,388)	-
Online Chat	9,826	(15,378)	(5,552)
Safer Streets 1	30,349	(30,349)	-
Safer Streets 2	15,814	(15,814)	-
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth Project	45,000	(43,127)	1,873
VRU Police Control Room	50,754	(50,757)	(3)
Women's Lives Leeds	14,361	(55,867)	(41,506)
	<u>1,905,276</u>	<u>(1,975,576)</u>	<u>(70,300)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,844,882</u>	<u>(2,802,201)</u>	<u>42,681</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	362,511	113,429	(86,792)	389,148
Designated funds	<u>433,276</u>	-	-	<u>433,276</u>
	795,787	113,429	(86,792)	822,424
Restricted funds				
Bon Iver	-	11,949	-	11,949
Children in Need	2,479	(2,430)	(49)	-
Comic Relief	43,637	(36,965)	-	6,672
Comic Relief - Covid 19	893	(893)	-	-
Designated Donations	10,000	-	-	10,000
Donations	13,479	30,386	-	43,865
Donations - Emmeline Play Area	-	31,301	-	31,301
Empowering Systems Change	-	21,062	-	21,062
Last Resort Fund	5,243	-	-	5,243
Leeds Domestic Violence Service	-	(86,841)	86,841	-
Ministry of Justice - Covid 19 (Leeds Women's Aid)	-	(2)	2	-
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	-	12,702	-	12,702
Online Chat	5,552	(5,552)	-	-
Safer Streets 4	-	13,604	-	13,604
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth Project	-	2	(2)	-
Staying Safe	3,000	(60)	-	2,940
VRU Police Control Room	1	(3)	2	-
Women's Lives Leeds	<u>41,508</u>	<u>(41,506)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>125,792</u>	<u>(53,246)</u>	<u>86,792</u>	<u>159,338</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>921,579</u>	<u>60,183</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>981,762</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,849,004	(1,735,575)	113,429
Restricted funds			
Bon Iver	11,977	(28)	11,949
Children in Need	68,244	(70,674)	(2,430)
Comic Relief	236,313	(273,278)	(36,965)
Comic Relief - Covid 19	-	(893)	(893)
Domestic Violence Voices	25,403	(25,403)	-
Donations	49,372	(18,986)	30,386
Donations - Emmeline Play Area	39,126	(7,825)	31,301
Early Help Hub	240,000	(240,000)	-
Empowering Systems Change	292,389	(271,327)	21,062
Funded Leeds Domestic Violence Service			
Refuge	497,844	(497,844)	-
GP Pilot	34,281	(34,281)	-
Leeds Domestic Violence Service	1,400,946	(1,487,787)	(86,841)
Ministry of Justice - Covid 19 (Leeds			
Women's Aid)	342,442	(342,444)	(2)
Ministry of Justice - Elevate Fund	66,760	(66,760)	-
Ministry of Justice - FDSH IDVA	177,374	(164,672)	12,702
New Burdens Fund - Independent Refuge	300,897	(300,897)	-
New Burdens Fund - Leeds Domestic			
Violence Service Refuge	483,438	(483,438)	-
New Burdens Fund - Practitioner Support	18,208	(18,208)	-
New Burdens Fund - Sanctuary Support			
Team	370,895	(370,895)	-
Online Chat	9,826	(15,378)	(5,552)
Safer Streets 1	30,349	(30,349)	-
Safer Streets 2	15,814	(15,814)	-
Safer Streets 4	38,258	(24,654)	13,604
Solace Women's Aid - Labyrinth Project	65,235	(65,233)	2
Staying Safe	-	(60)	(60)
VRU Police Control Room	107,570	(107,573)	(3)
Women's Lives Leeds	14,361	(55,867)	(41,506)
	<u>4,937,322</u>	<u>(4,990,568)</u>	<u>(53,246)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>6,786,326</u>	<u>(6,726,143)</u>	<u>60,183</u>

LEEDS WOMEN'S AID

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2023.

21. FRC ETHICAL STANDARD - PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR SMALL ENTITIES

In common with many other businesses of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

22. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The charity is under the control of the board of trustees.