



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date				
From	1	April	2021	To	31	March	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Aylesbury Homeless Action Group

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1009983

Charity's principal address

2 Rickfords Hill

Aylesbury

Bucks

Postcode

HP20 2RX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Sue Giles	Chair		
2	Paul Walter	Treasurer		
3	Linda Puttick			
4	Gill Lawrence			
5	Robert Brown			
6	Antonia Reed		Elected 26 th July 2022	Board of Trustees
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Association

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed/Invited by Executive Committee

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To relieve hardship, need and distress amongst those who are homeless, in particular people of the ages 18 years or over.

To educate the public concerning the homeless and inadequately housed.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The coronavirus pandemic continued to have an impact on the delivery of services for the first half of the year. Support to service users continued to be provided by telephone, email and video call.

Whilst drop in sessions remained suspended, since September 2021 support workers have met service users face to face for full assessments and follow-on support.

In addition to support and advice from case workers we continue to offer clients: ongoing tenancy support, access to grants for rent in advance/deposits, emergency provisions, housing starter packs, support with benefits, access to a mental health nurse for those clients needing extra help in this area, a free weekly advocacy clinic with legal advice from a housing solicitor (in partnership with Wycombe Homeless Connection & Hillingdon Law Centre).

We also support clients who are part of Buckinghamshire Council's Rough Sleeper Initiative. We do not have a time limit on our support nor a fixed moment when a client's case is closed.

Around 35-40% of clients are under 35. These clients are only entitled to the Local Housing Allowance shared room rate of £340 (£78.59pw). Most rooms in Aylesbury are at least £100pw so it can be very difficult to find affordable housing for this group of clients if they are not employed.

Around 50-60% of our clients are already homeless when they contact us. This does not necessarily mean that they are rough sleeping. They might also be sofa-surfing or staying with relatives temporarily. During the lockdown period from March 2020 to roughly May 2021 most rough sleepers were offered emergency accommodation through the government funded "Everyone In" policy.

Our mental health project was piloted in November 2019. A high proportion of clients (70%) disclosed underlying mental health issues and stated that this had an impact on their housing. The project runs one day a week and case workers identify clients that they feel would benefit from some additional psychological help. The mental health worker only sees people who are not receiving support in this area from other agencies. Prior to lockdown appointments were face to face, but since then they have been done by telephone. Clients responded well to their sessions. Much of the work offered is teaching clients coping strategies that they can use when issues arise. During lockdown 100% of the 18 clients who received this support felt that they had improved how they managed their mental health, had improved how they felt about themselves and had a greater sense of hope for the future.

All our services are offered free of charge to the general public.

We confirm that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This year 214 (185) people sought help from the charity. Of these 121 (101) were accessing services for the first time. 50% (59%) of homeless clients have secured housing in the past year. Within the twelve month period we worked with 58 (51) clients to prevent them from becoming homeless and 42 (75) clients received ongoing tenancy support.

During the first full year of the advocacy clinic we were able to support 22 clients with housing legal advice.

Mental health support was taken up by 11 (19) clients during the year.

Figures in brackets denote the data from 2020/21.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

AHAG aims to maintain reserves consisting of:

- Reserves to meet redundancy liabilities
- General contingency reserves equal to between six & twelve months total expenditure.

Unrestricted funds at 31st March 2022 are £179,552. After meeting the requirements above there are sufficient reserves to meet these requirements.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

AHAG's work is supported by of the Henry Smith Charity, Buckinghamshire Council, the Sobell Foundation and the Rothschild Foundation. Additionally we received £32,000 in donations from local churches businesses and individuals during the year.

The Clare Foundation kindly supported us with funding towards securing short-stay emergency accommodation for clients and Heart of Bucks gave a grant towards our Essential needs fund. This helps us to provide personalised support for clients. The Vicar's Relief Fund continues to support our clients with grants towards accessing accommodation.

The charity has a continued to receive a small number of donations in kind (food, clothing, toiletries) during the period. These were kindly donated by members of the public.

Section F Other optional information


In the second half of the year AHAG and WHC have been exploring ways that both organisations could work more closely together to help further our aims of preventing homelessness across the County. This work resulted in a short term agreement collaborative between the organisations where the CEO of WHC was seconded to AHAG for 2 days per week. We continue to explore opportunities between both organisations as we have common aims with regard to homelessness and prevention and hope to build stronger ties in the coming years.

The trustees have decided to suspend the process of conversion to a CIO until after the partnership work with Wycombe Homeless Connection has been reviewed.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	SUE GILES	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	
Date	24.10.22.	



Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 01-Apr-21	To	Period end date 31-Mar-22
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
AVDC Core Fund Grant		23,290	-	23,290	23,290.00
Buckinghamshire Council		775		775	30,000.00
Buckinghamshire Council Rough Sleeper Initiative	39,829			39,829	36,604.73
Buckinghamshire Council Local Emergency Support				-	5,000.00
Henry Smith Charity		30,000		30,000	30,000.00
Rothschild Foundation (Advocacy work)		10,000		10,000	26,500.00
Rothschild Foundation (Rent arrears)				-	40,000.00
The Clare Foundation	3,000			3,000	
Heart of Bucks	5,000			5,000	
Sobell Foundation				-	10,000.00
Groundwork UK (Tesco)(Starter packs)				-	1,166.00
Vicar's Relief Fund		2,340		2,340	2,675.00
Christmas Hamper Fund				-	3,451.52
Gift Aid	893			893	1,272.97
Other donations	32,138			32,138	23,974.14
Interest	981			981	1,269.58
Other income	140	99		239	76.68
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	81,982	66,504	-	148,486	234,181
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	81,982	66,504	-	148,486	234,181
A3 Payments					
Staff Costs	67,821	65,345	-	133,166	123,276
Rent (Office & Hub)	6,247	1,385	-	7,632	6,360
Rent (B&B)	874			874	-
Database		288		288	288
Rent Deposit Scheme	295	36,150		36,445	16,418
Utilities & Telephone	1,046	1,771		2,817	2,440
Office Expenses	4,653	822		5,375	318
Starter Packs	94	1,176		1,269	1,406
Web & Publicity				-	135
Catering	706	382		1,087	133
Training & Travel	1,515	179		1,694	41
Fundraising & Marketing costs	2,052			2,052	144
Miscellaneous costs	1,185	360		1,546	899
Insurance		928		928	849
Christmas Hamper Fund				-	3,452
				-	-
Sub total	86,389	108,785	-	195,174	156,157
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	86,389	108,785	-	195,174	156,157
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 4,407	- 42,281	-	- 46,688	78,023
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	183,959	92,615	-	276,573	198,550
Cash funds this year end	179,552	50,333	-	229,885	276,573

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current accounts net of uncleared cheques	94,308	50,333	-
	Savings accounts	85,022	-	-
	Petty cash & Gift cards	224	-	-
	Total cash funds	179,552	50,333	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	OK	Restricted funds to nearest £	OK	Endowment funds to nearest £
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B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Some rent deposits may be received back at a future date (not quantified)	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

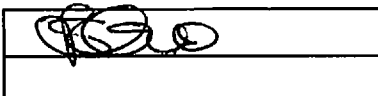
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	DUE GILES	24.10.22



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name:
Aylesbury Homeless Action Group

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1009983

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed:

Date:

26/10/22

Name:

R J Marshall

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

Address:

45 Walton Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7SR

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

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

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