



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
<b>From</b>	1	April	2022	<b>To</b>	31	March	2023

## 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			
7	Angel Strachan		Elected 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Board of Trustees
8				
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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 Board of Trustees

### 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, or at risk of homelessness, 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)**

Our main service is our 1:1 case work with clients where we provide face to face housing advice and support for people who are either homeless or at risk of homelessness.

We continue to offer clients: ongoing tenancy support, access to grants for rent in advance/deposits, emergency provisions including supermarket vouchers, housing starter packs, support with benefits, and access to a mental health nurse for those clients needing extra help in this area.

We work in partnership with Wycombe Homeless Connection to run a Buckinghamshire-wide homelessness prevention service. We help clients who are dealing with rogue landlords, in some cases they are receiving harassment from landlords or unacceptable or even dangerous conditions in their homes. We also help those people who have either lost income or only have the same level of income but are facing rent increases meaning that they are getting into rent arrears. We help them to budget, maximise their income, negotiate with their landlords as well as other options to help them find a way to stay in their home. We also work with some clients to help them find somewhere else to live before becoming homeless.

We continue to 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.

Demand for our services has increased by 64% on the previous year. To ensure that we can support everyone who needs our help we have had to increase our staff numbers and coupled with the cost-of-living crisis our expenditure has risen by 32%.

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 351 (214) people sought help from the charity. Of these 245 (121) were accessing services for the first time – double the number from the previous year. With rents continuing to increase and the number of landlords reducing it is becoming increasingly challenging to source affordable accommodation for our clients. Nevertheless, 48% (50%) of homeless clients have been assisted to secure housing in the past year. Within the twelve-month period we worked with 75 (58) clients to prevent them from becoming homeless and 80 (42) clients received ongoing tenancy support.

The joint Homelessness Prevention Project prevented 65 households from becoming homeless and prevented 35% of evictions which would have occurred across the county. Additionally 35 households saw unfavourable decisions by the local authority, regarding the help they were due, overturned.

Figures in brackets denote the data from 2021.

## 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 a minimum of six months total expenditure.

Unrestricted funds at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 are £181,600. There are currently 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 Clare Foundation and the Rothschild Foundation. Additionally, we received £38,000 in donations from local churches businesses and individuals during the year.

Heart of Bucks gave a grant towards our deposit and rent in advance fund. This and funding from Vicar's Relief Fund allows us 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

A two year partnership agreement was made with Wycombe Homeless Connection in June 2022.

A Steering Group consisting of trustees and key employees from both charities has been meeting regularly to assess the progress of the partnership. Based on these discussions and observations the Steering Group firmly believes that the collaboration between the charities should continue and be strengthened. During this period James Boulton has been acting as CEO for both organisations and collaboration has taken place among various teams.

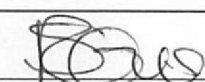
The partnership continues to receive support from Buckinghamshire Council, as well as our three main local funders: Heart of Bucks, The Rothschild Foundation, and the Clare Foundation. We are grateful for their ongoing commitment to our joint efforts.

As we progress, we are planning to communicate externally with our supporters and partner agencies to provide updates on our progress.

## 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)	SOSLAIN RHIANNON GILES	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	
Date	10.1.24	



Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period  
from

Period covered  
01-Apr-22

To

Period covered  
31-Mar-23

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Henry Smith Charity		40,000	-	40,000	30,000
Buckinghamshire Council Rough Sleeper Initiative	37,370		-	37,370	39,829
AVDC Core Fund Grant		23,290	-	23,290	23,290
The Clare Foundation	32,250		-	32,250	3,000
Thomas Hickman Charity	24,415		-	24,415	
William Harding Charity	10,000		-	10,000	
Heart of Bucks		10,000	-	10,000	5,000
Fairhive Thriving Community Fund	10,000		-	10,000	-
Rectory Foundation	5,000		-	5,000	-
The Talent Fund		5,000	-	5,000	
Anson Charitable Trust	2,000		-	2,000	
Mobbs Memorial Trust	2,000		-	2,000	
Vicar's Relief Fund		3,283	-	3,283	2,340
Buckinghamshire Council Local Emergency Support	300		-	300	-
Rothschild Foundation (Advocacy work)			-	-	10,000
Buckinghamshire Council			-	-	775
Gift Aid	941		-	941	893
Other donations	38,239		-	38,239	32,138
Returned deposits		2,837	-	2,837	
Interest	1,666		-	1,666	981
Other income	1,285		-	1,285	239
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>165,465</b>	<b>84,410</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>249,875</b>	<b>148,486</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>165,465</b>	<b>84,410</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>249,875</b>	<b>148,486</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Staff Costs	135,737.95	69,758.76	-	205,497	133,166
Rent (Office & Drop in)	8,995.00		-	8,995	7,632
Rent (Emergency accommodation)	2,085.60		-	2,086	874
Database	288.00		-	288	288
Rent Deposit Scheme		19,904.01	-	19,904	36,445
Utilities & Telephone	2,909.66	865.73	-	3,775	2,817
Office Expenses	4,161.29	2,443.55	-	6,605	5,375
Starter Packs		580.02	-	580	1,269
Web & Publicity	195.67		-	196	-
Catering	1,298.73	12.96	-	1,312	1,087
Training & Travel	2,448.96	209.00	-	2,658	1,694
Fundraising & Marketing costs	1,784.97		-	1,785	2,052
Miscellaneous costs	2,782.56		-	2,783	1,546
Insurance	928.23		-	928	928
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>163,616.62</b>	<b>93,774.03</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>257,391</b>	<b>195,174</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>163,617</b>	<b>93,774</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>257,391</b>	<b>195,174</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,848</b>	<b>- 9,364.45</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 7,516</b>	<b>- 46,688</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>179,551.82</b>	<b>50,333.15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>229,884.97</b>	<b>276,573.29</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>181,400.13</b>	<b>40,968.70</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>222,368.83</b>	<b>229,884.97</b>

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current accounts net of uncleared cheques	96,832	40,969	-
	Savings accounts	85,022	-	-
	Petty cash & Gift cards	546	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>181,400</b>	<b>40,969</b>	-

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

OK OK OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Some rent deposits may be received back at a future date (not quantified)	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	POLE WALTER	22/11/23
Linda Puttick	LINDA PUTTICK	21/11/23