

**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

**Report of the Committee**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

**Reserve Policy**

The trustees/directors consider that reserves of £36,367 should be aimed for to cover funding deficits and fluctuations for security of the operations of the charity. This equates to six months expenditure of the charity at 2020/2021 levels.

**Financial Summary**

The total income for the year was £69,208 (2021: £83,918) and the expenditure was £72,734 (2021: £54,057), giving a slight deficit of £3,526 (2021: £29,861 surplus).

Restricted funds at the year-end were £116,868 wholly represented by the project's premises (Tangible Fixed Asset —Lodge Road).

As at 31st March 2022 Unrestricted Funds were £124,489 (2021: £124,547).

Despite this level of funds, the obtaining of further core funding remains a vital requirement for project sustainability.

**FUTURE PLANS 2022/2023**

- To work towards continuing financial sustainability for the organisation
- To continue to develop a strategic, flexible and adaptable business plan
- To bring together and inform all stakeholders about our work
- To collaborate and work in partnership with peer organisations
- Continue to offer core services to our membership and wider community

**Structure, Governance and Management**

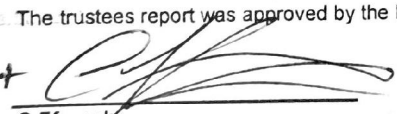
The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and is a company limited by guarantee.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company laws and who served during the year were:

Name	Appointed	Resigned
- J Cash	December 2016	October 2021
- P Brocklesby	September 2013	
- S Graham	December 2016	June 2022
- R McFee	October 2010	
- C Ffrench	November 2018	

Trustees are appointed at the AGM having been nominated from within the membership. None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

  
C Ffrench

(Chair)

Date: 27/10/2022

**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of OSCAR Sandwell**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

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We report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 set out on pages eight to twelve.

**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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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 statements below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- which gives us reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Severn Accounting  
Victoria House  
63/64 Foregate Street  
WORCESTER,  
WR1 1DX

Date: 27/10/2022

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2022

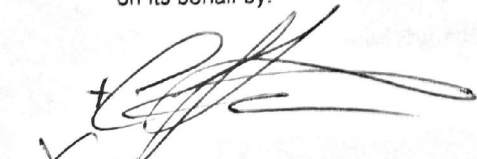
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	7	13,478	116,868	130,346	132,464
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		112,890	-	112,890	114,498
		112,890	-	112,890	114,498
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	1,879	-	1,879	2,079
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		111,011	-	111,011	112,419
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		124,489	116,868	241,357	244,883
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due more than one year		-	-	-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		124,489	116,868	241,357	244,883
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	11			124,489	124,547
Restricted fund	11			116,868	120,336
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
				241,357	244,883

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022 relating to small companies. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The trustees' responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts 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 its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 27th October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

X   
Trustee:

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

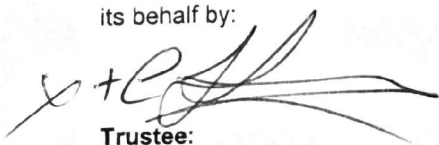
Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>INCOME FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	3,809	-	3,809	4,727
Charitable activities	2	65,394	-	65,394	79,183
Investment income	3	5	-	5	8
Other income		-	-	-	-
<b>Total income</b>		<b>69,208</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69,208</b>	<b>83,918</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	4	67,766	3,468	71,234	52,557
Other resources expended		-	-	-	-
Governance costs	5	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>69,266</b>	<b>3,468</b>	<b>72,734</b>	<b>54,057</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		<b>(58)</b>	<b>(3,468)</b>	<b>(3,526)</b>	<b>29,861</b>
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
		<b>(58)</b>	<b>(3,468)</b>	<b>(3,526)</b>	<b>29,861</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>124,547</b>	<b>120,336</b>	<b>244,883</b>	<b>215,022</b>
<b>Movement between funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>124,489</b>	<b>116,868</b>	<b>241,357</b>	<b>244,883</b>

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 27th October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Trustee:

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	7	13,478	116,868	130,346	132,464
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		112,890	-	112,890	114,498
		112,890	-	112,890	114,498
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	1,879	-	1,879	2,079
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		111,011	-	111,011	112,419
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		124,489	116,868	241,357	244,883
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due more than one year		-	-	-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		124,489	116,868	241,357	244,883
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	11			124,489	124,547
Restricted fund	11			116,868	120,336
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				241,357	244,883

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022 relating to small companies. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The trustees' responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts 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 its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 27th October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Trustee:

**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

**1. Principal Accounting Policies**

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**Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for charities applying FRS 102 as it applies from 1st January 2015. The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

**Going concern**

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual 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 the basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and Buildings	2% on cost
Property Improvements	2.6316% on cost
Computer equipment	33.33% on cost
Office equipment	10% on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year

**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 each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

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**Impairment of fixed assets**

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in income/ (expenditure for the year, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

**Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as

**Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method

**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

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**Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled

**Employee benefits**

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

**Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>2.1. Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations and gifts	3,809	4,727
Legacies receivable	-	-
	<u>3,809</u>	<u>4,727</u>
<b>2.2. Charitable activities</b>		
Performance related grants	48,491	58,613
African Health Policy Network (COVID related)	-	10,000
Furlough income (COVID related)	4,297	10,570
Covid Survey project	2,000	
Engaging Community Project	500	
Grants received	9,904	
Other charitable activities	202	-
	<u>65,394</u>	<u>79,183</u>
<b>Analysis by funds</b>		
Unrestricted funds	69,203	
Restricted funds	-	
	<u>69,203</u>	
<b>For the year ended 31 March 2021</b>		
Unrestricted funds		83,910
Restricted funds		<u>83,910</u>
<b>3. Investment income</b>		
	£	£
Interest receivable	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>
<b>4. Charitable activities expenditure</b>		
	£	£
Staff costs	54,511	36,948
Depreciation and impairment	5,443	4,335
Other charitable expenditure	1,396	1,090
	<u>61,350</u>	<u>42,373</u>
Share of support costs (see note 5)	9,884	10,184
share of governance costs (see note 5)	1,500	1,500
	<u>72,734</u>	<u>54,057</u>
<b>Analysis by funds</b>		
Unrestricted funds	69,266	50,589
Restricted funds	3,468	3,468
	<u>72,734</u>	<u>54,057</u>
<b>For the year ended 31 March 2020</b>		
Unrestricted funds		50,589
Restricted funds		<u>3,468</u>
		<u>54,057</u>

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

5. Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Support	9,884		9,884	10,184
Governance		1,500	1,500	1,500
	<u>9,884</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>11,384</u>	<u>11,684</u>

Analyse between:

Charitable activities	9,884	1,500	11,384	11,684
Non-charitable activities	-	-	-	-
	<u>9,884</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>11,384</u>	<u>11,684</u>

6. Employment

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
General staff	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

Employment costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	54,511	36,948
	<u>54,511</u>	<u>36,948</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

7. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	Property Improvements	Computer Equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Office Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£		£
01/04/2021	216,737	4,187	-	7,566	43,349	271,839
Additions	-	-	3,326	-	-	3,326
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>31/03/2022</b>	<b>216,737</b>	<b>4,187</b>	<b>3,326</b>	<b>7,566</b>	<b>43,349</b>	<b>275,166</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
01/04/2021	91,898	1,101	-	3,028	43,349	139,376
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	3,468	110	1,109	757	-	5,444
<b>31/03/2022</b>	<b>95,366</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>3,785</b>	<b>43,349</b>	<b>144,820</b>
<b>Net book value</b>						
31/03/2022	121,371	2,976	2,217	3,782	-	130,346
31/03/2021	124,839	3,086	-	4,539	-	132,464

8. Debtors

Prepayments

2022	2021
£	£
-	-
<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

9. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

Credit card  
Other creditors and accruals  
PAYE/NIC due

2022	2021
£	£
-	-
1,500	1,701
379	378
<b>1,879</b>	<b>2,079</b>

Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

10. Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
NLCB Property Grant	120,336	-	(3,468)	116,868
	<u>120,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,468)</u>	<u>116,868</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
Net incoming/outgoing resources	124,547	69,208	(69,266)	124,489
	<u>124,547</u>	<u>69,208</u>	<u>(69,266)</u>	<u>124,489</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>244,883</u>	<u>69,208</u>	<u>(72,734)</u>	<u>241,357</u>

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	13,478	116,868	130,346
Current assets(liabilities)	111,011	-	111,011
	<u>124,489</u>	<u>116,868</u>	<u>241,357</u>

12. Related party transactions

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or expenses during the year in respect of their duties as trustees. However one trustee was employed by the charity as a full time Chief Executive Officer.

**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell  
Company Limited**

**Report of the Trustees  
and  
Unaudited Financial Statements**

**For the Year ended 31 March 2022**

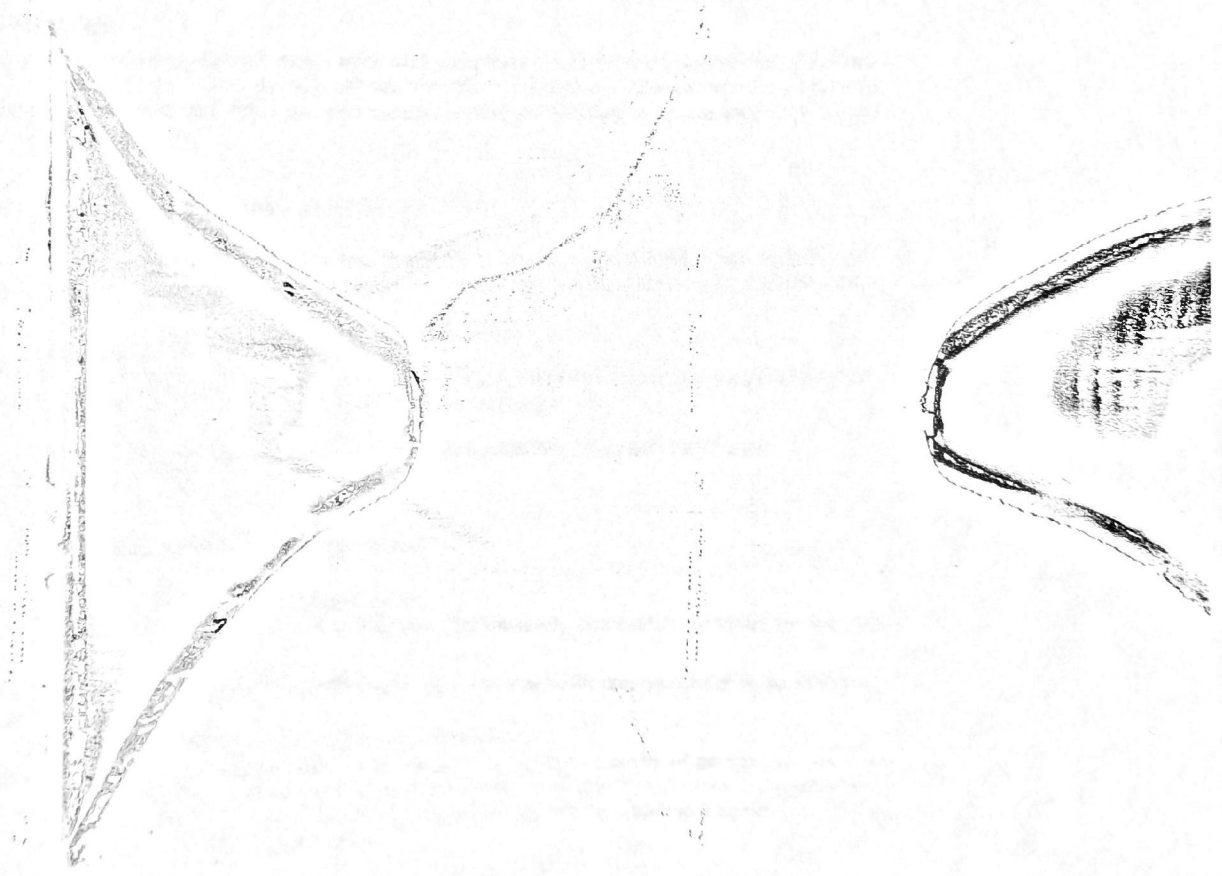
**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

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**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

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**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

**The Committee, Advisors & Registration Details**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

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**Company Secretary:** Miss R Mcfee

**Committee of Management:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Appointed</b>	<b>Resigned</b>
J Cash	December 2016	October 2021
P Brocklesby	September 2013	
S Graham	December 2016	June 2022
R McFee	October 2010	
C Ffrench	November 2018	

**Independent examiners:**

**Severn Accounting**  
63/64 Forgate Street  
Victoria House  
Worcester  
WR1 1DX

**Registration details:** Charity Commission (Number 1080599)

**Companies Registration Number:** 03736648

**Registered Office:** 120 Lodge Street  
West Bromwich  
West Midlands  
B70 8PL

**Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

**Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**Principal Activities**

Our key activities are the provision of advice and information, raising awareness, education and training, health promotion, user group, social activities, volunteers, student placement and work experience and social media.

OSCAR Sandwell Company Limited is incorporated under the Charities Act 2011 and under Companies Act 2006

**Going Concern**

The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak and its financial effect has meant that the Board and Chief Executive have been reviewing the financial plans of the Charity to ensure that it can remain a going concern.

Given the strength of the balance sheet and availability of funding from Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC), the Board believe that, while uncertainty exists, this does not pose a material uncertainty that would cast doubt on the Charity ability to continue as a going concern. The Board, therefore, consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

**Statement of the responsibilities of the Committee**

The Committee is responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity Commission legislation requires the Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have adopted the provision of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". In preparing these 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;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Disclosure of information to independent examiners**

In so far as each of the trustees is aware:

- there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiners are aware of that information.

**COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS**

The first six months of this financial year was still very much affected by the limitations of the pandemic with furlough ending September 2021. We took a cautious approach to the work of the charity.

Our Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia clients were deemed as clinically vulnerable. Supporting our clients and their families via social media (Whatsapp, zoom, teams) continued. Social distancing meant no face to face meetings, no socialising through meetings, no events and no children's activities, no home visits and no hospital visits as this was still felt to be a risk. The key, hands on way our support is provided had to be changed to ensure we could still provide support to our clients. The centre was open everyday from October 2021 and we were able to offer support at the centre from this time.

## Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell

### Report of the Committee

For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

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#### Objectives and activities

The profile of OSCAR Sandwell Company Limited continues to steadily grow locally, regionally and nationally. Our key activities are the provision of advice and information, raising awareness, education and training, health promotion, user group, social activities, volunteers, student placement and work experience and social media. The charity's objectives are: to support and promote relief of persons who are living with the effects of Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia disorders and to promote public awareness and knowledge of these disorders within the Sandwell Borough.

The main areas of OSCAR Sandwell's activity are the provision of advice and information, raising awareness, education and training, health promotion, referral to counselling support, user group, social activities, volunteers, student placement and work experience (all affected by COVID 19 this year)

Our focus was on delivering our services for those affected by Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Blood disorders in Sandwell and the surrounding area. We have worked (virtually) in partnership and collaboration with statutory and voluntary organisations to continue to impact services to our client group.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

#### Advice and information

We focused on ensuring our clients and carers were kept up to date on government Coronavirus guidelines, information and grants. As our clients are high risk and clinically vulnerable we utilised local services such as Sandwell Council, Healthwatch and the short term support worker we recruited to ensure they had relevant support and information.

#### GRANTS, PROJECTS AND CONTRACTS

##### Background - Land and Buildings

We have been at our premises since 1998. The source of funding for the land and building was from a historic Property Grant awarded in 1997 and was spent on acquiring the land and building the premises which opened in 1998.

##### Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council SMBC

Provision through our Service Level Agreement was remote as the Centre closed due to lockdown, our roomhire and social gatherings were cancelled. We did lose some income because of this.

##### Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group (SWBCCG-Better Care Fund)

This funding ended 31st March 2021

#### PARTNERSHIP WORKING/GETTING OUR VOICE HEARD

##### BCU - Birmingham City University- Student Placement

We had a 2nd Year Social Work Student from Birmingham City University successfully complete her 1st Year

placement. This was a complete remote/virtual placement. She was able to still provide support to our clients.

##### DMU (De Montfort Uni) & University Hospitals Leicester NHS Trust

COVID Shielding Research Study. A regional partnership study where the majority of participants were our clients. Questionnaires undertaken on the impact of Covid and shielding. Some key outcomes highlighted were mental health and well being ongoing support, adequate funding for OSCAR Sandwell so it can help to provide these services. The results were disseminated widely.

## **Organisation for Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) Sandwell**

### **Report of the Committee**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

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#### **WBACRC Research - Black, Covid and Lockdown In Our Own Words**

We were one of the partner organisations. The project provided community (non-academic) research of the Black African/Caribbean community by the Black African/Caribbean community. This research aims give a voice to black people and their experience of the lockdown and the impact of Covid on them. Our adult clients took part in the discussions and surveys. The findings were launched.

#### **Mental Well being Project**

Funded through the African Health Policy Network, this short term project to look at the Mental Well being of our client base via remote support. We were able to recruit a part time support worker for this project.

#### **Vaccination Project**

We recruited clients and carers who had the Covid vaccinations to record and create videos of their experiences as a promotional tool to encourage others within the community to increase vaccination uptake.

#### **Engagement Community Project**

Clients took part in group session with Healthwatch Sandwell and discussed their experiences of living with long term conditions and the services they receive.

#### **SACBWG - Sandwell African and Caribbean Black Working Group**

(Virtual Meetings) Black Led Community Organisations Meeting- Set up initially by Cllr J Taylor to look at developing a forum for the Black African and Caribbean community and building strong partnerships. Organisations within the Health and Care Sector including service delivery of Mental Health, Older people day care, youth support, Faith groups and long term health conditions.

#### **Governance**

The organisation has continued to work toward improving and strengthening our governance to enable us to demonstrate our accountability, transparency, effectiveness and efficient, equitable whilst working within the rule of the law. The Board has continued to ensure the organisation is working in an efficient and effective financial basis. This is an ongoing priority for the organisation.

#### **Community involvement**

We continue to work in partnership to develop and deliver within the local Sandwell and surrounding areas including local schools and community centres. This partnership has helped to raise awareness of OSCAR Services. We utilised Zoom/Teams, phonecalls, social media to offer services and support to our clients and the wider community.

#### **Student placements**

One placement offered remotely due to national lockdown.

#### **Partnership working**

Both virtual and in person Partnership continues within this financial year with a range of voluntary and statutory agencies/organisation. We continued to liaise and work in partnership which allowed organisations to support our events and activities. These included, DeMontfort University, Healthwatch Sandwell, Birmingham City University, WBACRC, SCVO, the NHS, Black Country Living Museum and SCAT Centre – City Hospital and African Health Policy Network.

#### **Volunteers**

Due to National Lockdown during the first half of the year and remote working we limited the volunteers to the BCU student on remote placement.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW, ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

#### **Principal funding sources**

Funding for OSCAR Sandwell is provided by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) through service level agreement or grant which is measured through performance and outputs. The SWBCCG grant was previously significantly reduced (by approx. 90%) ended on 31st March 2021 and this continues to have significant impact. Core staffing levels are reduced and the level of service being offered by the organisation.