



Shopmobility South Gloucestershire Chair's August 2024 Report

Dear Member / Carer

We are most grateful to our volunteer Tony who has been able to continue to operate a service on a Tuesday and cover periods of annual leave.

Sheridan had originally covered this day but given financial challenges reduced his hours partly in response to future funding uncertainties.

We have been reasonably successful in securing grants over the last 12 months from external grant providers and remain grateful to the local towns and parishes for their continued financial support to us.

I would like to thank our external grant providers for providing funding to us, most notably Quartet, Co-op, Postcode Lottery and National Lottery.

We would like to thank the Yate & District Bowling Club for donating £400.00 to us earlier in the year.

We remain grateful to WECA, (West of England Combined Authority) who have provided us with a small grant and reimbursed the cost of hiring a scooter or wheelchair from us via the bus pass.

Securing funding going forward could be particularly challenging as there is uncertainty whether the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) will continue re-imbursing the cost of hire for bus pass holders after March 2025.

This bespoke arrangement has been in place since we started operating in April 2006 and was originally administered by South Gloucestershire Council until 2020.

WECA funding is crucial as some members on low income would struggle to pay a daily hire rate and create the very financial barrier we are trying to redress and disincentivize people from using the service.

The Area Wide Grant is likely to cease at the end of this year and the funding we request from each District Councillor is also likely to be reduced from £3,000.00 to £1,000.00

We have widely promoted our search for suitable volunteers who may be happy to provide a few hours a week to support Tony, which could lead to opening a further day.

I would ask people to contact Sheridan if you want to know more about the role before making any commitment.

We have increased promotion of our service by making more effective use of social media including regular updates and photos. I would like to thank Tesco for allowing us to promote our service by displaying posters in their foyer and toilets

This has led to a steady increase in user numbers since the impact of COVID and we expect more people will continue to use our service going forward given the ageing population, particularly if bus pass holders re-imburement is able to continue.

We have registered nearly 100 new members between July 2023 to June 2024 and over 2,100 people since we started operating in April 2006

People continue to value the service, and this is reflected in the very positive responses we have received via our previous annual questionnaire that is emailed to our members or carer's.

I would urge people to complete the annual questionnaire as a means of providing evidence to future grant providers that the service remains very important to people or those who have used us in the past.

We welcome any comments made which will be anonymized.

We strive to work more closely with Community Transport to encourage people without access to a car to reach our service and keen to work with agencies who might be able to assist.

We welcome to our Committee Bobby Oliver who joined our committee earlier in the year. Bobby has a wealth of knowledge on transport issues as manager of the Mobility Hub, representative of the national body of Shopmobility UK and Trustee of Bristol Shopmobility.

I would like to give my customary thanks to all the Trustees for their contributions to our charity and in recognizing the value of the service.

I would also like to offer my continued appreciation to Dick Whittington who provides us with extensive knowledge and advice on a variety of issues.

We would also like to express our continued appreciation to Yate library, Yate shopping Centre and Pearce Brothers for their support.

We have also had the support of Rich McDonnough, who is a local photographer for undertaking photos for us that we use to promote our service.

Our AGM will be held on Thursday 3rd OCT 2024 at Yate Library commencing 2.00 pm in the exhibition area.

We welcome anyone who wants to attend as we value any contributions people may wish to make.

You may of course raise any issues in the emailed questionnaire that can be discussed at the AGM.

We value comments about the importance of the service in the questionnaire as we need to persuade our grant funders how important the service is to both our member and their carers' in terms of reducing social isolation improving health and wellbeing and promoting independence.

We can provide a paper version that can be collected from the office if required

Janet Biggin

**Alderman J. Biggin
Chairman Shopmobility
South Gloucestershire**

Shopmobility South Gloucestershire
Registered Charity 1107379

Statement of Account to Year Ended 31st March 2024

The following accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charity Commission to comply with the Executive Committee's obligations as the trustees of the Charity for keeping accounting records

Income

	2023/2024	2022/2023
Hire - Diamond Card	4,892	4,892
Hire -Long Term and cash payments	1,489	1,216
WECA	2,100	2,000
Age UK Connecting Communities		1,500
Community Transport WECA	6,000	0
Coop	2,059	0
Doddington Parish	657	750
Sodbury Town Council	500	750
Area Wide Forum	1,500	1,500
Give as you Live		30
South Glos Council Members Award	750	1,750
Yate Town Council	500	500
Quartet	2,500	
Interest	61	12
Postcode Lottery	4,500	
Total Income	27,508	14,900

Expenditure

Office Equipment		405
Equipment		795
Insurance	597	597
Accommodation Rental	1,500	0
Telephone	1,012	0
Memberships	100	20
Wages	12,924	14,910
Marketing & PR	122	779
Accounts & Governance	208	323
Miscellaneous	379	533
Maintenance	465	815
Project Support	1,560	1,560
Total Expenses	18,867	20,737

Surplus/Deficit	8,641	(5,837)
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Balance Sheet @ 31st March 2024

	2023/2024	2022/2023
Current Assets		
Debtors	4,500	193
Prepayments	622	597
Current Account	20,608	16,410
Reserves Account	6,075	6,011
Petty Cash	130	83
Total Assets	<u>31,935</u>	<u>23,294</u>
Net Assets	<u>31,935</u>	<u>23,294</u>
Funded By:		
Reserves B/Fwd	23,294	29,131
I & E	8,641	(5,837)
Members Funds	<u>31,935</u>	<u>23,294</u>

Shopmobility South Gloucestershire

Registered Charity 1107379

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National Lottery	6,000	0
Cooperative Society	2,059	0
Doddington Parish Council	657	750
Sodbury Town Council	500	750
Yate Town Council	500	500
South Gloucestershire Council - Area Wide Forum	1,500	1,500
South Glos Council Members Award	750	1,750
Quartet Community Foundation	2,500	
Postcode Lottery	4,500	
Age UK Connecting Communities		1,500
Give as you Live		30
Interest	61	12
Total Income	27,508	14,900
Expenditure		
Salary Costs	12,924	14,910
Office Equipment		405
Mobility Equipment & Maintenance	465	1,610
Insurance	597	597
Accommodation Rental	1,500	0
Telephone	1,012	0
Memberships	100	20
Marketing & PR	122	779
Accounts & Governance	208	323
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Notes to the Accounts

1. The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis and no account has been taken of accrued/prepaid income or expenditure

**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Shopmobility South Gloucestershire
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 Direction
- . given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the
- . Charities Act) and

Basis of Independent Examiners 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 these 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 Examiners Statement

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

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



M J Bowles
MJIB Accounting Ltd
07/08/2024