Docusign Envelope ID: BE7C0E1A-39C4-8200-8096-8A0775792454

Samaritans – Brighton, Hove and District

Registered Charity No: 1170866

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31st March 2026

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Samaritans - Brighton, Hove & District
Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31st March 2026

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1.

Samaritans – Brighton, Hove and District
Trustees' Report
Year Ended 31st March 2026

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year.

Constitution and Commencement of Operations

Samaritans – Brighton, Hove and District (the "charity") is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO registered number: 1170866) and an affiliated branch of Samaritans, which is itself a company limited by guarantee (registered company number: 757372) and a charity registered in England and Wales (219432) and in Scotland (SC040604).

The charity was registered as a CIO with the Charity Commission and began trading and operations on 1st April 2017, following the transfer of undertaking on that date from an unincorporated branch, the Samaritans of Brighton, Hove and District.

The charity (previously through the unincorporated branch) has had an affiliation with Samaritans that reaches back over 55 years.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity, set out in our Constitution, are to:

- Enable persons in Brighton, Hove and District and the surrounding area as well as elsewhere who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide;
- Promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health; and
- Collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity (SCC) and its affiliates in fulfilling these Objects.

Our vision is that fewer people die by suicide. We aim to achieve this by:

- Reducing the risk factors that make some people more likely to take their own lives;
- Ensuring that people who are at increased risk of suicide are supported;
- Making it less likely that people who do experience suicidal thoughts act on them;
- Reducing the likelihood that people will develop suicidal thoughts.

We are committed to the following values:

- **Listening** - Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.
- **Confidentiality** - If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.
- **Non-judgmental** - We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection.

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- **People making their own decisions** - We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.
- **Human contact** - Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces stress and despair.

Achievements and Performance in 2025-26

The Trustees confirm that, in 2025-26, Samaritans - Brighton, Hove and District continued to meet the charitable purposes set out in our governing document. The charity is responsible for contributing to the achievement of Samaritans' vision across a large area of Sussex, from Shoreham and Henfield in the west to Newhaven and Lewes in the east and Haywards Heath in the north, including, of course, Brighton & Hove.

To bring about the vision that fewer people die by suicide, our volunteers give their undivided attention to any caller who is feeling distress or despair. We aim to be there to listen 24 hours a day, seven days a week and give every caller a consistent service of the highest quality. Even in acute distress, we want our callers to feel held and heard, in control of their own choices, but less alone.

Our volunteers also remain committed to the promotion of better understanding of suicide, suicidal behaviour, and the value of expressing feelings. We bring Samaritans to local people and organisations – above all to individuals and groups more at risk of suicide. We listen to them and we learn.

What we can do for our callers and our local community relies entirely on the motivation, ability and capacity of our volunteers. We nurture that motivation through the kindness and compassion we show each other and the ongoing development we receive. Through our work together, volunteers gain new skills and perspectives, strong friendships and sense of purpose. We increasingly work with other Samaritans branches and the central charity to achieve shared aims and to learn from each other. Our thanks go to all the volunteers whose passion, commitment and generosity gave life to all the charity's considerable work.

Providing emotional support

Responding to callers: Delivering a high-quality listening service to callers, over the phone, using email and webchat, and outside the branch remains the core of what we do. Over the year, we responded to 31,721 (2024-25: 29,201) logged contacts. The table below gives a summary of our support to callers during 2025-26. We are no longer able to see callers face-to-face at our centre, but we gave emotional support to people at events outside the branch.

	2025-26	2024-25
Inbound phone calls	29,696	25,500
Outbound phone calls	874	210
Face-to-face (outside branch)	818	663
Email	721	1,100
Online chat	333	390
Total logged contacts	31,721	29,201

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During 2025-26, 211 volunteers completed at least one listening shift, contributing a remarkable 8,940 listening hours. This level of commitment is testament to the dedication and compassion that lie at the heart of what we do.

Recruiting new volunteers: We rely entirely on volunteers to deliver our listening service and to manage the branch. We are in the fortunate position that over the year we got an average of five applications to join the charity each week. Of these, about half self-deselected before attending an information event or interview. In 2025-26, we held six information events, some on Zoom and some face-to-face, with an average of 20 potential volunteers at each. The aim was to ensure that potential volunteers had a thorough understanding of what volunteering with Samaritans is like, so they can make an informed decision to go ahead. We interviewed all potential volunteers to fill up to 22 training spaces available in each of our three annual cohorts.

To encourage diversity in our volunteers, we posted volunteering adverts on Brighton & Hove buses in 2025. Early signs are that the charity is attracting a wider range of potential volunteers, in terms of ethnicity, socio-economic background and age, in the groups attending information events and interviews.

Developing new volunteers: As a result of our recruitment and selection efforts, we welcomed 59 new volunteers to core development during the year, 32 of whom went on to complete mentoring and embedding. In 2025-26, we introduced a system of one-to-one 'Readiness Calls' before new volunteers took up their places on the core development programmes. This enabled us to connect personally with new volunteers, to ensure they were fully aware of the commitments they were taking on and to answer any questions or concerns they had. Additionally, we introduced one-to-one mid-programme reviews for all trainees. This helped to increase transparency for individuals in terms of the progress they were making and the development areas they needed to work on. We provided each new volunteer with 9 skills practices during core development; a total of 180 sessions per course of 20 new recruits.

By getting to know new volunteers early on, after core development, we were able to match new listening volunteers closely with their mentors, easing the transition to answering calls, providing one to one support and generating an early sense of belonging. Each mentee is supported by mentors for a minimum of 24 hours on the phones, with every call discussed, and written feedback shared with the mentee after every shift. We grew our mentor team to 30 to offer as much flexibility as possible to mentors and mentees alike and to enable mentors to work mainly in pairs, thus sharing the workload and giving mentees two experienced volunteers to listen to.

Further support is offered to all mentees through our check-in team giving a final shift to ease their transition to becoming probationers. Probationers are given sustained ongoing contact and support by two members of our mentoring and embedding team. Probationers complete a shift with one of the check-in team, usually after 3 months, to ease their move to full membership of the branch.

We have created a mentoring and embedding leadership team to oversee all aspects of mentoring. This includes new mentor training and support for probationers. The team also delivers ‘embedding development’ training sessions, which run alongside mentoring.

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As a result of ongoing efforts to improve selection, recruitment and training, as well as mentoring and embedding, and despite saying goodbye to those who had to leave us, our listening volunteer numbers grew to 201 on 31st March 2026 (out of a total of 223 volunteers).

Ongoing development of volunteers: We aim to embed a culture where volunteers learn from and support each other as a normal way of working. With this in mind, we worked hard to develop and expand our continuous development team to make it more resilient and ensure all members of the team feel supported. Continuous development is now a shared deputy director role, with stronger links and more continuity between mentoring, embedding and continuous development. At the end of 2025, we had a lead for the shift leader team of 25 volunteers and a lead for the night-time debriefers team of 68 volunteers; a team overseeing the peer review process; and a 'training continuous development' team made up of members from core and embedding teams, as well as others who have an interest in training.

Central to all of this is our commitment to high quality listening by providing a high standard of continuous development and peer review. We have updated our peer review process to reflect clearly our key policies and core values, with new refresher training for all peer reviewers. We have also developed a guidance sheet for peer reviewers to give greater clarity and consistency in carrying out peer reviews.

We held three refresher sessions for our 20 strong team of peer reviewers and are looking to create more shared roles between mentors and peer reviewers to grow the team. All listening volunteers will continue to be peer reviewed at least once a year. We also developed a 'supported listening' team of 18 volunteers, who listen in to calls by listening volunteers who return after time away (linked with volunteer care) or who are asked to do these shifts as a follow up from their peer review.

We ran two full days of continuous development training in September and November 2025, with 4 follow-up sessions for those who could not attend these days. All but three volunteers attended these sessions, and directors of other local branches were also invited to attend. We covered a range of topics developed from peer review feedback, Samaritans listening-in feedback and updates about working in the community and other activities the charity is involved in. We have updated information in our listening booths and on notice boards in the centre to reflect the key focus points from ongoing development.

Volunteer care: We continued regular contact with new and existing volunteers, through our dedicated volunteer support team. They checked on volunteers' wellbeing, inside and outside the Branch, and offered support where needed. We welcomed 44 mentees and 2 volunteers who transferred in from other branches. Our mentoring, probationary and transferring volunteers teams gave them focused support during their first year with the charity.

We continued action to embed equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in all that we do and we built EDI thinking into our ongoing training sessions, taking steps to make them accessible to all. We aim to value difference and ensure it never becomes a limitation.

We organised social events for volunteers including coffee and cake drop ins, Christmas activity workshops and social gatherings at the pub. And we continued to ensure the centre remains a safe, friendly and relaxed place for volunteers to train, listen to callers and get

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together. This included updating our listening booths with LED lighting, which is safer, more efficient and more welcoming for volunteers; installing new EDI compliant keyboards ensuring we meet current and future accessibility needs; continuing to address operational tasks and issues; and to implement health and safety policies.

We kept in touch with volunteers who needed time out and provided a 'return programme' to help them re-engage, which included on-line training modules and supported shifts. Alongside ongoing support, we encouraged those that could, to contribute to the non-listening work that is so essential to keeping the Branch going.

At the end of the year, we are proud to have over 125 listening volunteers who managed to help the Branch above and beyond the time they give to callers, as well as having 21 support volunteers, who typically contribute as an integral part of one or more teams managing the charity.

Working in the community

We extended our work in local communities, with a particular emphasis on bringing Samaritans to people who are at higher risk of self-harm or suicide. We aimed to make our services as inclusive as possible and raise awareness of them more widely.

Partnership with Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club: Our partnership with Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club (BHAFC) was a new and very significant development in 2025-26. BHAFC was keen to be actively involved in the Premier League's 'Together Against Suicide' campaign, launched on 20 September 2025, which aims to raise awareness of suicide; reduce the stigma around suicide; and increase the help-seeking behaviours of fans. BHAFC wanted to offer more than token support for the Premier League's campaign amongst their predominantly male fan base and accepted the charity's proposal for three strands of work:

- Developing a campaign video and promotional materials;
- Offering emotional support to fans during matches; and
- Training fans and others associated with the club in listening skills.

We pressed ahead with all three strands of work to a tight timetable. The campaign video, 'Kick off the Conversation' was launched at the American Express stadium (Amex) during BHAFC's match against Tottenham Hotspur on 20 September 2025. The film achieved extraordinary reach of over 80 million across platforms and 5 million organic views, including 2 million in the first 48 hours. It generated thousands of heartfelt comments, shares and media features from BBC News, Ad Age, Creative Moment, LBB Online, and Shots, as well as shoutouts from James Corden, Richard Osman, Vernon Kay, Dame Kelly Holmes and Roman Kemp. Its makers, Be The Fox, were awarded a bronze arrow in the 'emotional impact' category of the British Arrows awards in March 2026.

We started offering emotional support at the Amex on 20th September and have had a team of volunteers at all Premier League matches since then. Thanks to Samaritans of Horsham and Crawley, we also organised the provision of emotional support at the Broadfield stadium in Crawley for BHAFC Women's matches in the Women's Super League.

This work culminated in a 'takeover' day at BHAFC's match against Liverpool FC at the Amex on 21 March, when the campaign video was replayed to spectators, volunteers were

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interviewed pitch side during half-time, and the fans were reminded about the importance of listening.

We launched an innovative programme of listening workshops for fans, BHAFC employees and associates in October 2025 and by year-end had held 20 workshops attended by 529 people. The workshops reinforced the key message of 'Kick off the Conversation' (that being listened to can have a profound effect on how you feel) and introduced participants to the listening skills Samaritans volunteer use every day. Further workshops are planned for 2026-27.

This was a very significant commitment for an already fully committed charity, and its success was entirely dependent on the dedication, professionalism and sheer hard work of a large team of volunteers.

Lewes Prison: Our amazing team of sixteen volunteers, from Brighton and Eastbourne branches, continued to support Listeners at Lewes prison. We trained two cohorts of new volunteers during 2025-26 and had eleven trained Listeners at the end of the year. Because of a high turnover, due to moving on and release, we regularly have to start a new campaign, selection and training of new Listeners. Our award presentations when Listeners complete their training, with their visitors, our prison team and a Governor present, are always joyful celebrations. We provided ongoing weekly support through debriefs, and fortnightly one-to-one support, seeing Listeners on the wings. In addition, we continued to stress the importance of officer training on the Listener scheme, and took part in bite size training, when the occasion arose.

Support for those experiencing bereavement: We continued our long-standing partnership with Cruse Bereavement Care (East Sussex). We offer interim emotional support to those clients referred to us by Cruse East Sussex who need extra support while they wait to be allocated their one-to-one bereavement care. This interim support usually takes the form of a weekly phone call. In 2025-26 we had in the region of 40 referrals. The length of time we supported each client varied from a few days to several weeks. Our service is greatly appreciated by Cruse East Sussex and represents another way we can reach out to those in our local community who are most at risk of suicide.

We also continued to support 'Facing the Future', a Samaritans-led project on Zoom, that gives those bereaved by suicide the opportunity to share their experiences and feelings with others who have lost people in the same way.

Reaching people who are more at risk of suicide: We strengthened relationships with key organisations who support those more vulnerable to the risk of suicide, primarily through the Brighton & Hove Suicide Prevention partnership.

In March 2025, we launched a one-year pilot callback scheme for Gypsies and Travellers in association with the local charity **Friends, Families and Travellers** (FFT). Travellers are six times more likely to take their lives than the population in general. FFT trained our volunteers in issues affecting Gypsies and Travellers, so that they could refer people who were struggling or suicidal for a callback. The number of referrals from FFT has been extremely limited – largely because of wariness from the Gypsy and Traveller community – making the scheme

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difficult to evaluate. We are now considering extending the pilot and investigating ways to adapt the scheme, increase awareness and meet need.

In March 2026, we prepared the launch of a drop-in listening service for local charity, **Stopover**, which provides supported housing in Brighton & Hove and Worthing for vulnerable young women aged 16-30. We had a Stopover staff briefing and team input session, followed by a branch information meeting for volunteers interested in hearing more about the service and potentially interested in joining the listening team. The service will open fully in June 2026.

LGBTQ+ community: Participation in large local events, especially Pride and Trans Pride, enhances our visibility and is much enjoyed by our volunteers. In 2025, over a hundred volunteers from five different branches in the region joined the Pride parade. And we had a strong presence at Trans Pride, with our well-attended stand. We also held a 'learn to listen' workshop for The Clare Project, a local charity supporting trans, non-binary and intersex adults in Sussex.

Working with railway staff: We continued to build our relationships with railway staff at local stations and to offer focused support. The branch again turned out in force at seven railway stations in the district, for Samaritans' 2026 Small Talk Saves Lives campaign. Some 30 volunteers gave out 2,600 leaflets encouraging people to start conversations if they think someone may need a kind word. British Transport Police officers joined our teams, and we were supported by station staff at Brighton, Lewes, Hove, Hassocks, Burgess Hill, Preston Park and Haywards Heath. On the day before our campaign started there were three attempted suicides on the railway in the region. Efforts like Small Talk Saves Lives play a vital role in trying to reduce such shocking statistics.

Young people and schools: Our young persons team has again been very active. Fifteen volunteers have attended 39 different events in and around Brighton at 6th Form Colleges, the universities of Sussex and Brighton and other further education colleges. The events have ranged from Freshers Fairs, Mental Health week, assemblies, Personal Social Health and Economic lessons to listening workshops.

Collaboration with other branches and the central charity

Our links with other branches grew during 2025-26. We continued to work, at an operational level, in partnership with Eastbourne branch at Lewes prison; and with Eastbourne, Horsham and Crawley, Central London, Reigate and Croydon branches at Pride. The Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club (BHAFC) project led us to create a new arrangement with Horsham and Crawley branch to provide emotional support at BHAFC Women's matches at Broadfield stadium in Crawley. And we responded to requests from Leatherhead and Worthing branches for help to support their core training.

We were also pleased to find ourselves part of the 'pathfinder' South-East Region, supporting Samaritans Central Charity in its programme to 'future proof' the work of Samaritans nationally. We worked closely with the South-East Regional Director and other branches to explore and test different ways of working.

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Plans for the Future

At the end of the year, the charity was working to develop a new strategy aimed at finding improvements to what we do that will benefit our callers, our volunteers and the local community. This work will be set in the context of the Samaritans Central Charity's 'future proofing' work.

Financial Review

Results for the year

We report a total surplus for the year of £42,433 (2024-25: net surplus of £7,900) across both restricted and unrestricted funds. Total income was £124,640 (2024-25: £73,894). Total expenditure was £83,725 (2024-25: £65,009). These headline numbers are explained in more detail below.

Restricted funds

We spent £Nil (2024-25: £4,277) of our restricted funds during the year. As a result, our Volunteer Thank You Fund Increased to £421 (2024-25: £121). There are plans for a thank you event in May 2026.

Unrestricted funds

We had a surplus on unrestricted funds of £42,133 (2024-25: surplus of £11,177). This increased our total unrestricted reserves (including our designated fund) to £494,708 (2024-25: £452,575).

Our partnership with Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club (BHAFC) had a significant financial impact. Excluding the £20,000 recharge for the campaign film 'Kick off the conversation' and training films, fees for training and recharges of other costs have generated income of £22,861 and costs of £3,146.

Excluding the impact of the BHAFC partnership, our unrestricted surplus was £22,418 (2024-25: £11,177), with income of £81,479 (2024-25: of £72,894), expenditure of £60,579 (2024-25: £60,733) and net gains/(losses) on investments of £1,518 (2024-25: £(984)).

During the year, we received £72,519 (2024-25: £63,190) in income from fundraising events, donations and related gift aid, including the fundraising events disclosed as other trading activities.

We also received £1,750 (2024-25: £3,400) from training that was not part of the BHAFC partnership,

Direct costs relating to our listening service were £12,743 (2024-25: £9,193).

Direct costs related to working in the community were £3,396 (2024-25: £4,561), plus £23,146 related to our BHAFC partnership.

Support costs, excluding depreciation and the central charge, were £24,259 (2024-25: £29,518). Support costs mostly related to keeping our centre – and therefore our listening service – operational. Any apportionment to working in the community and raising funds would be arbitrary. Accordingly, support costs are disclosed separately.

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Designated funds

During the year the charity received a £10,000 donation from The Hollick Family Foundation, and another individual donation of £6,600. On 3rd March 2026, the Trustees decided to earmark these unrestricted donations and use them to cover costs of developing and implementing proposals that better equip the charity for a sustainable future. They decided to add a further amount to bring this Future Proofing designated fund up to £20,000. Work started on developing proposals and £172 of costs were incurred in the year.

Raising funds

In 2025-26, our expenditure to run all the charity's core activities was again around £60,000 (£165 a day). Apart from about £2,800 received from the Ministry of Justice: HM Prisons and Probation Service (HMPPS), to cover all or part of the costs of our work at HM Prison Lewes, we relied entirely on our own fundraising efforts and the generosity of our supporters to fund our 24 hour a day, 365 days of the year service and our presence and activity in the wider community.

Having experienced a deficit in each of the previous three years, in 2024-25 we started a multi-year income generation plan, which included offering external training, inspiring more of us and those we know to make a regular gift to the charity, building relationships with local businesses and other partners, participating in fundraising events and ensuring that the need to fund our future is better understood within our volunteer community. As a result of this much increased and more varied activity, we made a net surplus in 2024-25 of £7,900 and in 2025-26 of £42,433 across both restricted and unrestricted funds.

In 2025-26 we built on known successes and expanded our activities in other areas, notably through our partnership with Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club (BHAFC). Our partnership with BHAFC was the club's response to the Premier League's 'Together Against Suicide' campaign, aimed at raising awareness of suicide; reducing the stigma around suicide; and increasing the help-seeking behaviours of fans. BHAFC used funding from the Premier League to pay for the listening workshops we organised on their behalf. The net amount we raised from the workshops was £21,100.

Funding from our wonderful regular donors (including Gift Aid) rose to about £11,787 in 2025-26 (2024-25: £8,184), covering around 71 days of normal costs. We successfully grew fundraising from sponsored events, with participants in the Brighton half-marathon, marathon and 10k events raising a magnificent £17,411 (106 days) (2025-26: £15,107), and our charity auction and other events brought in another £13,741 (83 days) (2025-26: £22,576). We also received a generous donation of £10,000 from the Hollick Family Foundation (61 days).

We are fortunate to have very generous external supporters and particular thanks are due to the following for helping us in 2025-26:

- Hollick Family Foundation Trust
- Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton and parishioners
- Price of Football podcast – Kieran Maguire and Kevin Day
- Carousels, Brighton seafront, run by Maria Welch, for hosting our charity auction
- Our charity auctioneer, Charlie Langhorne, and all those who donated prizes, including
  - Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club

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- Oeuf Cafe, Hove
- Theatre Royal, Brighton
- Molly Gibbons Massage
- Glyndebourne
- Baroque Jewellers
- Square Townhouse Boutique Hotel
- Sarah Crook, Pilates on the Hill
- Fat Boy Slim
- Goodman Morris Jewellery
- Pilates Studios
- Bailiffscourt Hotel and Spa, Climping West Sussex

We aim in 2026-27 to build further on the experience of the past two years and continue to inspire support. Matching the success of 2025-26 will be a challenge, however, the funding our future team will continue working to ensure the charity has a sustainable financial future.

Reserves Policy

We have a reserves policy to enable continuity of service should we experience a sustained income downturn, or should other reasonably foreseeable losses crystallise. Our target range for free reserves in 2025-26 was between £62,000 and £124,000 (based on between 12 and 24 months of estimated expenditure, excluding depreciation).

At 31st March 2026, we held £185,843 (31st March 2025: £141,707) in 'free' reserves. Free reserves are the total unrestricted reserves of £494,708 less reserves tied up in tangible fixed assets of £308,865.

Total expenditure, less depreciation, for the year was £79,730 (2024-25: £61,078). Our free reserves represented 28 months (2024-25: 28 months) of this expenditure.

Our target range for free reserves in 2026-27 remains based on between 12 and 24 months of estimated expenditure, excluding depreciation and is between £90,000 and £180,000. This will be reassessed from time to time, having regard to our fundraising capacity at that time.

Liquidity and Investment Policy

Our target ranges for liquidity for 2025-26 were:

- £15,500 - £31,000 Instant access funds
- £31,000 - £62,000 Term deposits

Our target ranges for liquidity for 2026-27 are:

- £22,500 - £45,000 Instant access funds
- £45,000 - £90,000 Term deposits

Where the Trustees consider that there is a reasonable likelihood that the charity has sufficient resources to meet obligations as they fall due, surplus cash reserves are invested in a low-risk ethical and/or sustainable equity fund to obtain a financial return, subject to prioritising security (investing with regulated counterparties) then liquidity (appropriate maturity profile) over yield. In 2025-26, our funds were invested in the Investment Fund Services Ltd Charities Aid Foundation Environmental Social and Governance Cautious Fund,

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in line with our investment policy. The value of this investment at the end of the year was £89,319 (2025-26: £66,801).

Risk Management

The Trustees maintain a branch risk register, which is reviewed regularly to ensure we plan and manage the running of the charity as smoothly as possible.

The Trustees have taken out a comprehensive insurance policy to protect against a wide variety of risks. This policy includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

Trustee Governance and Management

The charity is bound by the terms of its Constitution, dated 1st April 2017. The Constitution is available on request from the Secretary at the registered office. Full governance and management details are included in it.

Trustees of the charity have not been remunerated for services provided, although they may receive additional training strictly to assist them in directing the pursuit of charitable objects.

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Reference and administrative details

Principal (registered) address: Unit 1-3, Dubarry House, Newtown Road, Hove BN3 6AE

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the period of the report were:

- Director and Chair – Mick Macve (from 1st April 2025)

Elected or re-elected at AGM on 10th July 2025:

- Michael McGowan – Treasurer
- Alison Meekings – Branch Secretary
- Bernadette Hopper – Trustee
- Catherine Page – Trustee
- Fiona Harrison – Trustee
- Jessica Bannister – Trustee
- Paul Massey – Trustee
- Sarah Webster – Trustee
- Simon Crompton – Trustee
- Simon England – Trustee

Co-opted

- Alison Plant – Trustee

Deputy Directors (from April 2025)

- Recruitment & Selection – Michelle Pearson
- Core Development – Val Woodcock / Rod Bowie
- Mentoring & Embedding – Bernadette Hopper
- Continuous Development – Joanna Johnson / Bernadette Hopper
- Volunteer Care – Dorothy Porter / Rachel Heath
- Working in the Community – Clare Levi / Susie McGowan
- Fundraising – Dean Gallagher
- Centre Operations – Kate Bispham / Marie Gill / Lesley Sullivan
- Prison Support – Nigel Nash

Independent Examiner – Dr Shona Wardrop CA, bk plus Limited, 44 Grand Parade, Brighton BN2 9QA

Bankers – Barclays Bank UK PLC

Solicitor – Osman Ward & Sons, 37 Church Road, Hove BN3 2BW

Independent Examiner

A resolution to reappoint Dr Shona Wardrop CA of Chariot House Ltd was passed at the AGM on 10th July 2025

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees on 28th April 2026
Signed on behalf of all Trustees
Mick Macve
Director and Chair …… Mick Macve

Date …… 26 May 2026

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2.

Samaritans - Brighton, Hove & District
Director's Report
Year Ended 31st March 2026

My first full year as Director has seen the branch flourish. Our nighttime coverage remains consistently high, our outreach has grown from strength to strength, and we have benefited greatly from collaboration with other branches.

There has been a lot of outside noise in the last twelve months. Our callers are living in an increasingly polarised society and many face a cost-of-living crisis, housing problems and increasing demands on public services. Many callers are concerned with the climate emergency and global conflicts. At the same time, the Samaritans organisation is embarking on a ten year "Future Proofing" programme which is aiming to enhance the amazing support we already give to people in distress.

Amidst all of this, over 200 amazing people from Brighton, Hove & District volunteer their time to spread kindness and to make the world a little better, one step at a time. Taking calls from people who are not okay is a privilege; spreading the word in our local community results in very positive feedback; above all, by volunteering with like-minded people, we can all take pride in showing decency, goodness and love for other human beings.

The achievements of the branch over the past year have been a result of the inspirational dedication of 14 wonderful Deputy Directors and 12 incredible Trustees, whose appetite for hard work and selfless achievement seems endless. What is equally impressive is that, in total, around two thirds of volunteers in the branch have taken on an extra role to support the many and varied tasks necessary to keep the branch running. With so much dedication and commitment, it is no wonder that the branch has been identified as a "Scale Up" branch by the central charity.

One of the many interesting developments for me has been to engage with many other branches in the South East. What has become apparent to me is that while every branch is special in its own way, we are all part of a large community of 23,000 volunteers, every one of whom is determined to make Samaritans special.

As one of the biggest branches in the country, with a large office space, excellent night-time coverage, good disabled access and an incredible reputation in our area due to phenomenal outreach work, we are in a wonderful position to ensure that Samaritans – Brighton, Hove & District continues to flourish in the future.

It's been a brilliant year.

Mick Macve

Mick Macve
Branch Director

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3.
Samaritans – Brighton Hove and District
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities in respect of the Accounts
Year Ended 31st March 2026

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (FRS102).

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year.

In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate and proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the charity's constitution.

They are 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.

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4.
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Samaritans - Brighton & Hove District

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Samaritans - Brighton, Hove and District

I report to the charity's Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Samaritans - Brighton, Hove & District ('the charity') for the year ended 31st March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charity are not required to be audited for this year under section 144 of the Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act).

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that:

1. Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

Signed: Shona Wardrop ……

Dr Shona Wardrop CA
bk plus Limited
44 Grand Parade
Brighton BN2 9QA

Date: 26 May 2026 ……

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5.
Samaritans - Brighton & Hove District
Statement of Financial Activities
Year ended 31st March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Incoming resources							
Income from:							
Donations & legacies	3	66,738	300	67,038	58,386	1,000	60,386
Other trading activities	3,5	5,781	-	5,781	3,804	-	3,804
Charitable activities	3	47,682	-	47,682	5,439	-	5,439
Investments	3	4,139	-	4,139	4,265	-	4,265
Total incoming resources		**124,340**	**300**	**124,640**	72,894	1,000	73,894
Resources expended							
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	4,5	2,479	-	2,479	3,159	-	3,159
Charitable activities:							
Listening service	4	12,743	-	12,743	9,193	-	9,193
Working in the community	4	26,542	-	26,542	4,561	3,398	7,959
Prison related activities	4,19	2,726	-	2,726	2,359		2,359
Support costs	4,5	39,235	-	39,235	41,461	879	42,339
Total expenditure		**83,725**	**-**	**83,725**	60,733	4,277	65,009
Net Income before investment gains/(losses)		**40,615**	**300**	**40,915**	12,161	(3,277)	8,884
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	1,518	-	1,518	(984)	-	(984)
Net income/(expenditure)		**42,133**	**300**	**42,433**	11,177	(3,277)	7,900
Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		**42,133**	**300**	**42,433**	11,177	(3,277)	7,900
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		452,575	121	452,696	441,398	3,398	444,796
Total funds carried forward		**494,708**	**421**	**495,129**	452,575	121	452,696

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6.
Samaritans - Brighton, Hove & District
Balance Sheet
Year Ended 31st March 2026

	Note	2026	2025
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	308,865	310,868
Investments	9	89,319	66,801
Total fixed assets		**398,184**	377,669
Current assets			
Debtors	10	7,593	1,070
Investments	11	76,130	59,237
Cash at bank and in hand	12	29,480	26,975
Total current assets		**113,203**	87,283
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	16,258	12,256
Net current assets		**96,945**	75,027
Total net assets		**495,129**	452,696
Funds of the charity	14,15		
Restricted income funds	17,18	421	121
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	16	19,828	-
Unrestricted funds		474,880	452,575
		494,708	452,575
Total funds		**495,129**	452,696

Notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these accounts.

Signed on behalf of all Trustees

Mick Macve
Director and Chair ..... Mick Macve

Michael McGowan
Treasurer ..... Michael McGowan

26 May 2026
Date .....

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7.
Samaritans - Brighton, Hove & District
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended 31st March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income /(expense)	42,433	7,900
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge and write offs	3,995	3,931
Loss/(gain) on investments	(1,518)	984
Interest on investments	(4,139)	(4,265)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(6,522)	216
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	4,001	1,818
Net (outflow)/inflow provided by operating activities	**38,251**	10,583
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends & interest from investment	4,139	4,265
(Increase)/Decrease in current asset investments	(16,893)	(7,256)
Sale of investments	15,000	-
Purchase of investments	(36,000)	(23,000)
Purchase of capital assets	(1,992)	-
Net cash provided from investing activities	**(35,746)**	(25,991)
Changes in cash during the reporting period	**2,504**	(15,408)
Cash at the start of the reporting period	**26,975**	42,382
Cash at the end of the reporting period	**29,480**	26,975

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8.
Samaritans – Brighton, Hove & District
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ended 31st March 2026

Note 1: Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- The Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014; and with
- The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102); and with
- The Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

1.2 Going Concern

The Trustees consider that, based on the current reserves position and the budgeted income and expenditure, there are no material uncertainties that cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

Note 2: Accounting policies

2.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- The charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- It is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and
- The monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).

In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS102 SORP).

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SoFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

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Tax reclaims on donations and gifts
Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Contractual income and performance related grants
This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions.

Donated goods
Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.

Donated services and facilities
Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received, at the value of the gift to the charity, provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.

The charity relies on the unpaid contribution of volunteers in pursuit of the Samaritans' vision and in providing the necessary support and administration. However, it is impractical for their contribution to be measured reliably for accounting purposes.

Support costs
Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Volunteer help
The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustee report.

Income from interest, royalties and dividends
This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable, and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

Investment gains and losses
This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting in revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

2.2 Expenditure and Liabilities
Liability recognition
Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

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Support costs
Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs mostly relate to keeping the charity's centre operational and therefore the charity's listening service, a core charitable activity. Any apportionment to working in the community and raising funds would be small and arbitrary. Accordingly, no such apportionment has been made.

Deferred income
No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

Creditors
The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

Provision for liabilities
A liability is measured at recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

Basic financial instruments
The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS 102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS 102 SORP.

2.3 Assets
Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost more than £1,000. They are valued at cost.

Depreciation rates are applied as follows:

Leasehold land	Over the life of the lease on a straight-line basis
Leasehold building	2% on a straight-line basis
Fixtures, fittings, furniture & equipment	25% on a reducing balance basis

Investments
Fixed asset investments in quoted shared, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Debtors
Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

Current asset investments
The charity has cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date less than one year. These include cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due. The charity accounts for these balances as basic financial instruments.

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Note 3. Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds 2026 £	Restricted Funds 2026 £	Total Funds 2026 £	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations & legacies						
Donations & Gifts	60,705	1,000	61,005	50,519	1,000	51,519
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	6,034	-	6,034	8,867	-	8,867
Total donations & legacies	**66,738**	**1,000**	**67,038**	59,386	1,000	60,386
Income from other trading activities [Note 5]	**5,781**	**-**	**5,781**	3,804	-	3,804
Charitable activities						
Grants						
Central Samaritans - NOMs grant	3,070	-	3,070	2,039	-	2,039
Total Grants	3,070	-	3,070	2,039	-	2,039
Working in the community						
Training	23,454	-	23,454	3,400	-	3,400
Cost recharges	21,158	-	21,158	-	-	-
Total community work income	**44,612**	**-**	**44,612**	3,400	-	3,400
Total charitable activities	**47,682**	**-**	**47,682**	5,439	-	5,439
Income from investments						
Interest income	2,183	-	2,183	2,597	-	2,597
Dividends	1,955	-	1,955	1,667	-	1,667
Total income from investments	**4,139**	**-**	**4,139**	4,265	-	4,265

Note 4. Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2026 £	Restricted Funds 2026 £	Total Funds 2026 £	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £
Expenditure on raising funds						
Donations	491	-	491	693	-	693
Fundraising events	1,972	-	1,972	1,902	-	1,902
Other	286	-	286	564	-	564
Total	2,479	-	2,479	3,159	-	3,159
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Direct costs:						
Listening Service	12,743	-	12,743	9,193	-	9,193
Working in the community:						
Training	983	-	983	391	-	391
Emotional support	1,529	-	1,529	249	-	249
Raising awareness	23,918	-	23,918	3,695	3,398	7,093
Community groups	111	-	111	336	-	336
Working in the community	26,541	-	26,541	4,561	3,398	7,959
Prison related activities	2,726	-	2,726	2,359	-	2,359
Support costs [Note 6]	39,235	-	39,235	41,461	879	42,340
Total	81,245	-	81,245	57,574	4,277	61,851
Total expenditure	**83,724**	**-**	**83,724**	60,733	4,277	65,010

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Note 5. Other trading activities

In 2024-25 the Charity started some fundraising activities that gave rise to other trading income. These included a charity auction and the sale of Christmas cards. This income has been disclosed in the Statement of Financial Affairs and in Note 3 as Other trading income. However, in the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025 this income was included in Donations and legacies in the Statement of Financial Affairs, and in Donations & Gifts in Note 3.

The expenditure relating to these other activities is disclosed in the Statement of Financial Affairs as Expenditure on raising funds, and in note 4 as Expenditure on raising funds – other. In the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025 this expenditure was also included in Expenditure on raising funds in the Statement of Financial Affairs, but in expenditure on fundraising events in Note 4.

Note 6. Support costs

	Unrestricted Funds 2026	**Restricted Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Recruitment, selection & training	3,415	-	1,610	-
Centre premises costs	12,485	-	15,153	-
Centre supplies	2,394	-	2,639	-
Telephone, technology & repairs	2,091	-	6,506	-
Volunteer Care [Note 18]	461	-	471	879
Governance	2,365	-	2,062	-
Finance	1,048	-	1,076	-
Depreciation and write offs	3,995	-	3,931	-
Central charge	10,982	-	8,012	-
Total	**39,235**	**-**	41,461	879

Support costs mostly relate to keeping our centre operational and therefore our listening service, a core charitable activity. Any apportionment to working in the community and raising funds would be small and arbitrary. Accordingly, no such apportionment has been made.

Note 7. Independent examiner's fee

	2026	2025
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,440	1,365
Total	**1,440**	**1,365**

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Note 8. Tangible fixed assets

	Lease-hold land	**Leasehold buildings**	**Fixtures, fittings, furniture, equip-ment**	**Total**	Lease-hold land	Lease-hold buildings	Fixtures, fittings, furniture, equip-ment	Total
	2026	**2026**	**2026**	**2026**	2025	2025	2025	2025
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	£		£	£
Cost								
At start of year	251,484	96,517	57,980	405,981	251,484	96,517	57,980	405,981
Additions	-	-	1,992	1,992	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(1,886)	(1,886)	-	-	-	-
At the end of year	**251,484**	**96,517**	**58,087**	**406,088**	251,484	96,517	57,980	405,981
Accumulated depreciation								
At the start of the year	5,606	36,774	52,733	95,113	5,354	34,844	50,984	91,182
Charge for the year	252	1,930	1,640	3,822	252	1,930	1,748	3,930
Disposals	-	-	(1,712)	(1,712)	-		-	-
At the end of the year	**5,858**	**38,705**	**52,661**	**97,223**	5,606	36,774	52,733	95,113
Net Book Value								
At start of the year	245,878	59,743	5,247	310,868	246,130	61,673	6,997	314,800
At the end of the year	**245,626**	**57,812**	**5,426**	**308,865**	245,878	59,743	5,247	310,868

Leasehold land and buildings

The leasehold interest in Unit 1-3 Dubarry House was acquired under a transfer of undertaking from the predecessor charity on 1st April 2017.

The predecessor charity had acquired a 999-year lease in the property from 24th June 2003 for a premium of £250,000. Legal fees related to this transaction were £1,484. These costs are included in the cost of leasehold land.

Any expenditure on improvements to the leasehold buildings were added to the cost of the leasehold land and buildings.

The leasehold land is being amortised over the life of the lease. The leasehold building is being depreciated at 2% of cost on a straight-line basis.

Note 9. Fixed asset investments

	CAF ESG	CAF ESG
	2026	2025
	£	£
Value at start of year	66,801	44,785
Additions	36,000	23,000
Disposals	(15,000)	-
Gain/(Loss) on disposal	206	-
Gain/(Loss) on revaluation	1,312	(984)
Value at end of year	89,319	66,801

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Note 10. Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Prepayments & accrued income	5,488	906
Other debtors	2,105	165
Total	**7,593**	1,071

Note 11. Current asset investments

	2026	2025
	£	£
Short term cash investments	76,131	59,237
Total	**76,131**	59,237

Note 12. Cash at bank and in hand

	2026	2025
	£	£
Cash at bank and on hand	29,480	26,975
Total	**29,480**	26,975

Note 13. Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Accruals & deferred income	16,258	12,256
Other creditors	-	-
Total	**16,258**	12,256

Note 14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Designated 2026	**Unrestricted 2026**	**Restricted 2026**	**Total 2026**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Tangible assets	-	308,865	-	308,865
Investments	-	89,319	-	89,319
Net current assets	19,828	76,696	421	96,945
Total net assets	**19,828**	**474,880**	**421**	**495,129**

	Designated 2025	Unrestricted 2025	Restricted 2025	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	-	310,868	-	310,868
Investments	-	66,801	-	66,801
Net current assets	-	74,906	121	75,027
Total net assets	**-**	**452,575**	**121**	**452,696**

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Note 15. Movement in funds

	at 1/4/2025 £	Income £	(Expenses) £	Transfers £	Gains/ losses £	at 31/3/2026 £
Designated funds:						
Future Proofing Fund [Note 16]	-	-	(172)	20,000	-	19,828
	-	-	(172)	20,000	-	19,828
Other unrestricted funds	452,575	123,340	(83,553)	(20,000)	1,518	474,880
Total unrestricted funds	**452,575**	**123,340**	**(83,725)**	**-**	**1,518**	**494,708**
Restricted Funds:						
Volunteer Thank You Fund [Note 18]	121	300	-	-	-	421
Total Restricted	**121**	**300**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**421**
Total	**452,696**	**124,640**	**(83,725)**	**-**	**1,518**	**495,129**

Movement in funds prior year

	at 1/4/2024 £	Income £	(Expenses) £	Transfers £	Gains/ losses £	at 31/3/2025 £
Designated funds:						
Future Proofing Fund [Note 16]	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other unrestricted funds	441,398	72,894	(60,733)	-	(984)	452,575
Total unrestricted funds	**441,398**	**72,894**	**(60,733)**		**(984)**	**452,575**
Restricted Funds						
Major Donor Fund [Note 17]	3,399	-	(3,399)	-	-	-
Volunteer Thank You Fund [Note 18]	-	1,000	(879)	-	-	121
Total Restricted	**3,399**	**1,000**	**(4,277)**	**-**	**-**	**121**
Total	**444,797**	**73,894**	**(65,009)**	**-**	**(984)**	**452,696**

Note 16. Designated funds - Future Proofing Fund

During the year the Charity received a £10,000 donation form The Hollick Family Foundation, and another donation of £6,600. On 3rd March 2026. the Trustees decided to earmark these unrestricted donations and use them to cover costs of developing and implementing proposals that better equip the branch for a sustainable future. They decided to add a further amount to bring this Future Proofing designated fund up to £20,000. Work started on developing proposals and £172 was incurred in the year.

Note 17. Restricted funds – Major donor fund

The charity received a restricted donation of £37,500 in 2020-21 which was given by a major donor for various community projects with a focus on young people. During 2024-25 the balance of the fund £3,399 was spent on a short film for young people '*A Call*'.

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Note 18. Restricted funds – Volunteer Thank You Fund

£1,000 of an anonymous donation received in 2024-25 was restricted for use on a celebration for the outgoing Director and his deputies to mark the end of his tenure as Director. All the volunteers in the branch were invited, and this celebration was also a thank you to them. During 2024-25 £879 was spent.

From April 2025 a regular donation is being received as a contribution to this fund. While no expenditure was incurred in 2025-26, there are plans to organise a similar thank you event early in 2026-27. The balance on this fund on 31st March 2026 was £421.

Note 19. Transactions with related parties

During the year payments in total of £300 (2024-25: £318) were made to 3 Trustees (2023-24: 4) to reimburse travel and other out of pocket expenses. There were no other transactions undertaken with related parties.