**Charity number: 1195680**

Registered by the Charity Commission for England & Wales

# Safer off the Streets

## Annual Report and Financial Statement

## For the year ended 30.6.26.

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# Introduction

## Our Charitable Objective

Our charity constitution 3.1 states:

“The purpose of Safer off the Streets is to promote for the public benefit the relief of those in need due to their experience of, or risk of homelessness in Peterborough, in particular but not exclusively through providing information on how and where to access services, supporting engagement with service providers, enabling service providers to better meet need and raising awareness.”

## Chair’s 2025/2026 Reflection

Our organisation primarily exists to support the work and needs of our partnership network across Peterborough as they work tirelessly to directly support the needs of those who sleep rough and/or are experiencing homeless. There has been no respite and hence the work of Safer off the Streets remains as important as ever.

Over the past year, our partnership network has continued to grow, with over **35** partner organisations now engaging with us. Our quarterly, in-person only partnership meetings are now attracting even higher numbers, **60-65** partner representatives regularly, up from 45-50 the previous year.

Our work and activity this year has very much been guided by our refreshed Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Ambitions, as set out below in our ‘Outputs and Outcomes’ section.

Highlights of our work have included providing valuable and insightful learning opportunities for 160 of our partners team members, hosting an Anglia Ruskin University Social Work Placement student, increasing our grants year on year and supporting MHCLG windfall funding distribution to our partners. We also worked to ensure our partners had good opportunities to contribute to the new PCC Housing and Homelessness strategy, whilst continuing to issue relevant communications around homelessness across the city.

I wish to thank our partners for engaging with us during and between quarterly meetings and for getting involved in our activities. Our momentum is continuing to build.

Ultimately, we will only be successful, if our work enables our partners to provide improved support to their clients. Whilst this is hard to judge, we will remain close to our partners and drive activity in areas that can make a real difference.

Anna Lee
Chair of Trustee Board

# Activities & Achievements

## Our Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Ambition Refresh

Following consultation with our partners, during 2025 our trustees agreed the following exciting strategic direction:



During our July 25 to June 26 reporting period, we have used our strategic ambitions to inform and direct our work.

## Outputs & Outcomes

### Supporting our Partners to Deliver Enhanced Services

We have secured experienced facilitators on a number of topics and organised in person learning opportunities for our partners, including; a workshop to explore the Linkages between Domestic Violence and Homelessness, two Stop Suicide workshops, two Strategies for Staying Afloat workshops in support of staff wellbeing, two Introduction to Trauma workshops along with an online Introduction to Hoarding Webinar. In total, these events were attended by over 160 team members from our partner organisations.

We have visited and attended meetings with several of our partners to understand more about their work, their challenges as well as successes, including; My Housing Options, Cross Keys Homes, Amplius, Clinks, Help4Homeless and the Light Project Peterborough. In addition, we coordinated meetings between Queensgate Shopping Centre and several of our outreach partners to ensure Queensgate were aware of the services on offer to those sleeping rough in the city centre.

While we have not found a way forward as yet, we continue to explore how we can facilitate the opening of a Street Storage facility in the city, we will continue to explore how this can be funded, where it can be located and which partner can run the service.

From January to May 2026, we welcomed a Masters Social Work student from the Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), Chigo Nana, to our team to conduct her second-year work placement. As well as supporting us with admin duties, Chigo also wrote papers for us on the stigma felt by those experiencing homelessness, along with the new National Plan to End Homelessness. Most of her time, however, was spent working to support the team and clients at Outside Links. She was able to sit with clients, give them time to talk, help with simple admin tasks and help them to make connections with partners who could help them. Chigo grew in confidence during her placement and gained much helpful insight to aid her future adult social work duties, upon qualification.

Finally, as well as distributing grants totalling £3750 to our partners; Peterborough Homeless Helpers, Outside Links, Light Project Peterborough, a CGL client and YMCA Trinity, we were able to support PCC Housing Needs to promote and distribute MHCLG windfall funding of £50,000 amongst our partners.

### Influencing Strategy, Policy and Practice

Our major focus this year has been to build an understanding of the Government's relatively new National Plan to End Homelessness published in Dec 25 and ensure that this is reflected in the new local Peterborough City Council (PCC) Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy

due to be published by the end of 2026. PCC have been able to utilise our partnership network to secure attendees at their strategy workshops and conduct partners surveys to enable inputs from across our partnership network as they have drafted the strategy.

Our Chair attended the Nov 25 annual rough sleeping count as the independent verifier.

In May 26 we decided to proceed to coordinate a city wide 'Women's Rough Sleeper Census', more on that in next year's Annual Report. On completion it is hoped we will secure good data to support improvements to strategic decisions and funding for women's services.

### Connecting and Communicating

Our quarterly partnership meetings have continued to go from strength to strength during 25/26. The main purpose of the meetings is to ensure all partners get to know each other, to strengthen relationships in support of great collaborative working. We are now booking larger meeting rooms to aid workshop elements of the meeting and allow our partners to move freely to talk to each other.

During our 25/26 period we have provided local updates at each partnership meeting, conducted varied workshops, given opportunities for our partners to spotlight their services, facilitated panel discussions, along with deep diving difficult subjects such as criminal justice and addictions and their impact on homelessness. It has been wonderful to see, hear and witness an average of 60 partner team members per meeting chatting, sharing and working together.

We are always on the look-out for local corporates to provide us with suitable meeting facilities, or funding to support these important meetings.

Our Chair conducted pupil assemblies on homelessness at the Greater Peterborough University Technical College (GPUTC) and distributed their collection of donations at Christmas amongst our partners; Peterborough Foodbank, Light Project Peterborough and Outside Links.

After launching our new Safer off the Streets website around the start of this reporting period, we have worked hard to keep its data up to date and promote its existence. Safer Off The Streets Peterborough

Lastly, our wonderful Communications Volunteer Lead, Hannah, has continued to prepare material for our Social Media posts, our website, press releases as well as compiling our Communications Plan. Our Chair also recorded a podcast with The Peterborough Podcast about the challenges of homelessness in our city, along with explaining more about our partnership work.

## Roles & Contributions of Volunteers

We are an entirely volunteer-led and operated charity, we have no staff positions. As such, it takes a lot of teamwork to keep our work moving forward.

As just mentioned, our very professional Comms Lead Hannah has continued to serve all year as a volunteer, providing valuable communication activity and leadership. We are so thankful for her time, enthusiasm and efforts.
Towards the end of our reporting period we recruited two new volunteers; Alison, to lead on Street Storage activity and Mandy, to lead on the Women's Rough Sleeper Census project. It has been great to receive their enthusiasm, skills and support also.

Not to forget our Trustees, all volunteers. Three new Trustees joined us this year, Jack, Ged and Kiran, all proving to be very valuable contributors to our work. Anna, Joy, Hannah and Emily are also active Trustees.

## The Benefits to those Experiencing Homelessness

As our main focus is to provide support for our partners, enabling them to improve and enhance their work directly with those at risk of homelessness or those that are homeless, it is hard to state the direct benefits felt by our ultimate clients.

Networking/improved collaboration among partners during our partnership meetings and learning opportunities will likely have led to enhanced provision and an increase in skills and knowledge.

Our small partner grants are also an effective way of enhancing key service provision across the city.

## Our Partners and Supporters

Our partners span a wide range of partners including drop in centres/hubs, clinical (physical and mental health) providers, temporary accommodation providers, addiction support, food and provision providers, advice and benefit providers, PCC teams, women's, young people and refugee support organisations, homelessness prevention organisations as well as specialist organisations supporting those exiting prison and training organisations. All of their details can be found on the 'Partners' section of our website.

Thank you to our partners for engaging with our charity and coming along to our quarterly partnership meetings.

Thank you to our supporters who have helped to fund our charity over this last period of operation. The 'Help & Support' page on our website, lists how the public can donate money, items, or volunteer their time across our partnership. It also explains how corporates can engage with our partners for corporate and social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

## Looking Ahead

Our strategic ambitions will continue to guide our activity.

So, what is on our mind as we enter our 26/27 operational year?

- Ensuring our learning opportunities will continue to be tailored towards partner interests and needs.
- Facilitating the first city wide 'Women's Rough Sleeper Census' across Peterborough.
- Widening the breadth of our communications and advocacy seeking to reduce the stigma that homeless individuals are often subjected to.
- Working with PCC Housing Needs to help embed their new Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy by ensuring all of our partners are aware of it's content and understand how they can support it.
- Continuing to promote and expand our website resource.
- Identifying gaps in service and promoting the need to enhance provision in these areas.
- And lots, lots more!

# Structure, Governance and Management

## Type of Governing Document

Our governing document is our "Constitution as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation" dated 23rd August 2021, revised on 19th October 2023

## Statutory Declaration

The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

## Trustee Board & Selection Methods

All trustees contribute operational time and expertise to the charity's activity. These are volunteer positions. The charity trustees are appointed for a period of two years and may be reappointed up to three times, before there must be a break of a minimum of one year.

During the 25/26 operational year, Kevin Dawson stood down from his trustee role after serving six years. Our thanks to Kevin for his many contributions as Company Secretary and Comms Support during his term of office.

Anna Lee (Chair), Hannah Bowers, Joy Nwandu (Treasurer) and Emily Moone have continued in their trustee roles.

Following thorough selection methods, we have welcomed three new trustees to our board; Kiran Kaur-Sohi as our Company Secretary, along with Jack Lund and Ged Dempsey who both bring valuable experience and perspectives of our sector and clients.

Quarterly Trustee Board meetings take place to govern our activity in February, May, August and October each year.

## Trustee Development

New trustees are encouraged to complete Charity Commission and other online trustee training. One to one Chair and trustee reviews take place to discuss and agree how each trustee contributes to our work and to identify additional training needs.

## Charity Commission Submission

Our last AGM was held on 17th October 2025. Our next AGM will be held on 23rd October 2026, where our Annual Report and Financial Reports will be formally approved by our members (partners). We will be submitting the required documentation to the Charity Commission during November 2026, in line with requirements.

# Financial Review & Report

## Financial Position - The year in summary

| | **2025/2026** |
|---|---|
| **Total income** | £ 2,441.16 |
| **Total expenditure** | £ 5,984.00 |
| **Total funds in bank as at 30.6.26.** | £ 6,192.67 |
| **Grants provided to partners** | **6** |
| **Total Value of Grants provided to Partners** | **£ 3,750.00** |

## Full statement of financial activities

**For the year 1st July 2025 - 30th June 2026**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Opening Balance** | **£** | **9,735.51** |
| Charities Aid Foundation Donations | £ | 2,319.90 |
| Cash Donations | £ | 121.26 |
| **Total Income** | **£** | **2,441.16** |
| | | |
| Bank Charges | £ | 10.00 |
| Liability Insurance | £ | 234.99 |
| Website Development & fees | £ | 15.59 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Grants to Partners | £ | 3,750.00 |
| BSL Interpreters for workshops | £ | 279.60 |
| Room hire/refreshments for meetings | £ | 1,179.30 |
| Microsoft 365 charges | £ | 278.12 |
| Volunteer training and expenses | £ | 236.40 |
| **Expenditure** | **£** | **5,984.00** |
| **Closing Balance** | **£** | **6,192.67** |

## Principle Sources of Funding

During the period of this report, our fund raising has been via regular donor monthly donations and ad hoc donations via our website.

## Use of Funds

We have made grants to six of our partners activities via Grant Applications, this has included funding Peterborough Homeless Helpers, Outside Links, Changing Futures and The Light Project for specific items that they need for clients but are not donated to them. We supported funeral costs for a partner's client, although we will no longer support individual grants. Lastly, we made a grant to the YMCA Trinity new Community Hub in Bretton to provide dining and computing furniture to support the YMCA Bretton supported accommodation clients.

We have paid invoices for room hire and refreshments for partnership meetings and learning events, our insurance policy, along with some ad hoc charges such as volunteer expenses and BSL interpreter costs for a specific learning opportunity. Sadly, Microsoft 365 software is no longer free to small charities, so this is now an additional expense for our charity.

# Administrative Details

## Charity Name & Registration

**Charity Name** Safer off the Streets
**Charity Number** 1195680

## Charity's Principle Address

**Registered office** Amplius Housing
Axiom House
Cottesmore Close
Peterborough
PE3 9TP

## Trustees Who Manage the Charity

**Trustees who served for the full year, or part of the year ended 30.6.26.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Kevin Dawson | Part year (Stepped down 31.10.25.) |
| Anna Lee | Full year |
| Joy Nwandu | Full year |
| Hannah Bowers | Full year |
| Emily Moone | Full year |
| Jack Lund | Part year (Appointed 9.12.25.) |
| Ged Dempsey | Part year (Appointed 17.12.25.) |
| Kiran Kaur-Sohi | Part year (Appointed 2.2.26.) |

## Bank

**Bankers** HSBC, Cathedral Square, Peterborough, PE1 1XL