

Annual Report & Accounts for the year to 31st March 2021



Advocacy Alliance

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Registered Charity Number 1163787

Office 28, The Street
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Advocacy Alliance

Charity Number 1163787

REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st March 2021

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Advocacy Alliance

OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Registered charity name	Advocacy Alliance
Charity Number:	1163787
Registered Office:	Office 28 The Street 12 Lower Clark Street Scarborough YO12 7PW
Contact Details	email: office@advocacyallianceyorkshire.org.uk web site: www.advocacyallianceyorkshire.org.uk
Independent Examiner :	Barrie Tuck Marchwood , Back Lane South , Middleton , Pickering , YO18 8NU
Bankers:	NatWest, 3 Westborough, Scarborough, YO11 1UJ CAF Bank Kings Hill West Mallings Kent ME19 4JQ

Advocacy Alliance

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31st March 2021

The Charity was formed on the 1st October 2015 and started trading on the 1st April 2016 by inheriting the assets of the old charity (No:256085). This new charity is registered with the charity commission and was also formerly known as Advocacy Alliance.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY

The objects of Advocacy Alliance are to promote, assist and develop the representation of all people in need of such help by virtue of their age, mental health, physical or learning disability in Scarborough, Whitby, Ryedale, and Filey (hereinafter referred to as the area of benefit); to help them overcome any disadvantage that flows from their personal circumstances, by the provision of a service designed to:-

- i) assist the above people to obtain their rights and privileges as a citizen
- ii) provide friendship and support; and
- iii) provide support on a one to one basis to the above people in the area of benefit, whether living in residential care or residing independently in their own home or with relatives.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees who served during the year were:-

MICHAEL GOODE	Chair
STEVE ARNOTT	Treasurer
CAROL STOCKILL	
HELEN FORTNUM	
BEN SELLERS	
ANGELA McKEOWN	
Dr SAM WOODS-PEEL	(Appointed 20th January 2021)
KAYTEE MILLINGTON	(Resigned 28th February 2021)

The Trustees are not paid but Travel Expenses were claimed.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

By providing a free, independent and confidential advocacy service to vulnerable individuals over the age of 18 living in Scarborough, Whitby, Ryedale and Filey.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Activities

The activities of the charity are summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities (page 5) which shows an overall surplus during the year of £79,795 . However, this includes the net income for amounts to be spent on restricted projects during 2021/22 and would therefore show a true surplus on unrestricted funds of £1,770. The amount of freely available funds for future expenditure of the Charity now stands at £25,978 with a further £109,613 set aside to cover projects already commissioned but not yet completed.

The further £60,000 of designated funds for the provision of any possible future closure costs etc, remains unchanged in the year.

Reserves Policy

The trustees consider that the cash reserves of the charity should be at least equivalent to the total of six months operating expenses and redundancies costs to allow for downturns in the grant and revenue income. The current situation as at 31st March 2021 is in excess of this figure.

Advocacy Alliance

Report of the Trustees (continued)

for the year ending 31st March 2021

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for 2020/21.

The financial year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 has been very different for Advocacy Alliance as it has for the whole of the world - with the impact of the Covid-19 Global Pandemic. We began the year with staff working from home during the first national lockdown. This was a challenging time for all our staff as many had childcare responsibilities on top of their duties as an employee. The Advocacy Alliance Trustee Board made as many adjustments as possible to enable staff to work from home effectively, but finally had to make the decision to furlough some employees as they were unable to work and meet the demands being placed on them by young families. The decision was based on the needs of staff and their wellbeing.

During the year, work was done by the CEO and the trustee board to secure additional funding for the provision of advocacy and we were successful in getting extension funding from the National Lottery for an Extra-time Advocacy project. We were also successful in gaining funding from the Covid Recovery Scheme - this enabled us to recruit additional staff for the months of September 20 to March 21.

During the course of the year 2020 to 2021 Advocacy Alliance continued to provide a quality advocacy service. As we began the year, we were aware that this was the final year of our contract with Cloverleaf Advocacy and North Yorkshire County Council. As the advocacy contract was planned to be going out for tender for a new provision from the 1st April 2021. Work was done by the CEO during the year to clarify Advocacy Alliance's position in relation to the re-tendering process. We were assured by Cloverleaf that Advocacy Alliance would be involved and we would still be sub-contracted to provide the Care Act Advocacy and Non-statutory Advocacy in the Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale areas. However, the Covid pandemic resulted in North Yorkshire County Council making the decision to complete the re-tendering process in the next financial year.

During 2020 to 2021 the Trustees Board continued to meet but only on a virtual basis and during the course of the year. :-

- 1) Explored new ways of working in response to the pandemic.
- 2) Invested in technology to support home working and improve communication for trustees, staff, volunteers and clients.
- 3) Allocated staff to support the NHS during lockdowns.
- 4) Introduced new risk assessments in response to the risk of Covid-19.
- 5) Responded to the needs of the local community to provide advocacy.
- 6) Developed partnership working in relation to local bids.
- 7) Explored ways of recruiting new trustee board members.
- 8) Reviewed the organisations policies in response to the pandemic.
- 9) Invested in the National Advocacy Qualification for a new staff member.
- 10) Invested resources in applying for the National Advocacy Quality Performance Mark.
- 11) Reviewed budgets in response to local need.
- 12) Worked closely with the NHS and local Clinical Commissioning Groups on the development of social prescribing.
- 13) Worked with the DWP to provide Kickstart opportunities to local young people.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011. The trustees 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.

Signed on behalf of the trustees.

M.J. GOODE

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MICHAEL GOODE Chair

Dated : 10/11/21

Advocacy Alliance
Charity Number 1163787

**Receipts & Payments
for the year ending 31st March 2021**

	31st March 2021	31st March 2020
	£	£
TURNOVER	239,323	140,434
Net losses from disposals of fixed assets	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	239,323	140,434
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(159,560)	(156,457)
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIENCY	79,763	(16,023)
OTHER INCOME		
Interest Receivable	32	107
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	£ 79,795	£ (15,916)

Advocacy Alliance
Charity Number 1163787

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2021

	notes	Designated Reserve Fund	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Incoming Receipts						
Statutory Agencies - NYCC & CCG		0	58,000	0	58,000	58,000
Grants	2	0	179,585	0	179,585	81,945
Donations & Collections		0	0	1,738	1,738	489
Fundraising		0	0	0	0	0
Interest	3	0	0	32	32	107
Total Incoming Receipts		0	237,585	1,770	239,355	140,541
Resource Payments						
Cost of Generating Voluntary Income	5	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable Expenditure	6	0	152,960	0	152,960	153,153
Governance Costs	7	0	6,600	0	6,600	3,304
Total Payments		0	159,560	0	159,560	156,457
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		0	78,025	1,770	79,795	(15,916)
Net movement in funds		0	78,025	1,770	79,795	(15,916)
Transfer between funds		0	0	0	0	0
Total funds brought forward		60,000	31,588	24,208	115,796	131,712
Total funds at 31st March 2021	8	60,000	109,613	25,978	195,591	115,796

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

Advocacy Alliance
Charity Number 1163787

Statement of Assets as at 31st March 2021

		2021	2020
	Notes	£	£
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank & in Hand		195,591	115,796
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>195,591</u>	<u>115,796</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	10	25,978	24,208
Restricted funds	10	109,613	31,588
Designated Reserve fund	10	60,000	60,000
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>195,591</u>	<u>115,796</u>

M.J. GOODE

 MICHAEL GOODE
 Chair

Date **10/11/21**

Advocacy Alliance
Charity Number 1163787

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ending 31st March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

Fund accounting

Separate restricted funds are maintained for receipts and payments and also designated funds for specific projects as specified by the source of the funds. The General Fund is maintained to account for all monies received which are not restricted and this fund is used at the discretion of the trustees.

Resources expended

Payments are recognised as they are paid by the charity and the expenditure includes the VAT that cannot be recovered. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of the charitable trading.

All of the Charity's operations are classed as continuing.

There are no recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

Advocacy Alliance
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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ending 31st March 2021

	During 2020/21			During 2019/20		
	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds 2021	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£			£
2. Grants						
Two Ridings	5,000	-	5,000	0	-	0
Extra Time Lottery	79,732	-	79,732	0	-	0
Empowering Choice in Care Lottery	35,000	-	35,000	0	-	0
Awards for All	0	-	0	60,662	-	60,662
Sirius Foundation	9,996	-	9,996	9,950	-	9,950
RTR	14,558	-	14,558	0	-	0
Social Prescribing	0	-	0	5,000	-	5,000
NYCC Staying Safe	35,299	-	35,299	5,333	-	5,333
	0	-	0	1,000	-	1,000
	179,585	0	179,585	81,945	0	81,945
3. Investment income						
Bank interest receivable	0	32	32	0	107	107
4. Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Sales of goods/services as part of direct charitable activities	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Costs of generating voluntary income						
Fundraising	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Costs of charitable activities by fund type						
Support costs	152,960	0	152,960	153,153	0	153,153
	152,960	0	152,960	153,153	0	153,153
7. Governance costs						
Accountancy Examination	475	-	475	475	-	475
General Administration	6,125	-	6,125	2,829	-	2,829
	6,600	0	6,600	3,304	0	3,304

	Year to 31 March 2021	Year to 31 March 2020
	£	£
8. Other resources expended		
Total staff costs were as follows:		
Gross pay after rebate	117,518	109,839
Employers Nat. Ins.	5,907	4,942
Pension	2,236	1,403
	125,661	116,184

The average number of part-time employees during the year, were as follows:-

Number of support staff	7	8
Number of trustees	7	7
	14	15

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ending 31st March 2021

9. Analysis of Funds 2021

Designated funds	Opening balances £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Closing balances £
	* 60,000	-	-	-	60,000

* The Trustees have decided to allocate an amount to be reserved for at least six months running costs and to pay for a managed closure of the operation, should this ever need to happen in the future. It will then cover the costs of disposing of assets, the safe and secure destruction of case documents and any staff redundancy settlements.

	Opening balances	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Closing balances
Restricted funds					
Empowering Choice in Care	-	35,000	(35,000)	-	-
Kickstart	-	-	(1,052)	-	(1,052) #
Two Ridings	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Sirius Foundation	-	14,558	0	-	14,558
Total Advocacy	6,369	58,000	(24,369)	-	40,000
Lottery	19,746	79,732	(60,505)	-	38,973
Awards for All	5,738	9,996	(5,738)	-	9,996
Stronger Communities	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
RTR	1,467	-	(1,467)	-	-
Social Prescribing	(2,732)	35,299	(25,429)	-	7,138
	31,588	237,585	(159,560)	0	109,613

This amount was re-imbursed early in the next financial year

Unrestricted funds	24,208	1,770	0	0	25,978
Total Funds 2021	115,796	239,355	(159,560)	-	195,591

Analysis of Funds 2020

	Opening balances	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Closing balances
Designated funds	60,000	-	-	-	60,000
Restricted funds					
I WILL	7,790	-	(7,720)	(70)	-
Tesco	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Total Advocacy	19,483	48,000	(61,114)	-	6,369
Lottery	28,897	60,662	(69,813)	-	19,746
Awards for All	-	9,950	(4,212)	-	5,738
Stronger Communities	-	1,000	0	-	1,000
RTR	-	5,000	(3,533)	-	1,467
Social Prescribing	-	5,333	(8,065)	-	(2,732) #
	58,170	129,945	(156,457)	- 70	31,588
Unrestricted funds	13,542	10,596	0	70	24,208
Total Funds 2020	131,712	140,541	(156,457)	-	115,796

10. Analysis of cash between funds

	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Fund £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Current Assets	60,000	109,613	25,978	195,591	115,796
	60,000	109,613	25,978	195,591	115,796

Advocacy Alliance

Charity Number 1163787

I report on the accounts of: **Advocacy Alliance**
for the year ending 31st March 2021 which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

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 needed.

It is my 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 independent examiner's report

My 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 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 examiner's 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

Barrie Tuck

Date : 16/11/2021

Barrie Tuck
Marchwood ,
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Middleton ,
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YO18 8NU