



ADVOCACY
ALLIANCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER

1163787

(England & Wales)



CHAMPLEYS

Chartered Certified Accountants

Champleys Mews

Market Place

Pickering

YO18 7AE

Trustees

Michael Goode
Steve Arnott
Angela McKeown
Ben Sellers
Callum Walker
Helen Fortnum
Patricia Ann Kemp
Sam Woods-Peel

Accountants

Champleys Chartered Certified Accountants
Champleys Mews
Market Place
Pickering
YO18 7AE

Bankers

Natwest
3, Westborough
Scarborough
YO11 1UJ

CAF Bank
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Principal Operating Address

Office 28
The Street
12, Lower Clark Street
Scarborough
YO12 7PW

22/23 Annual Report - What we have been doing

Advocacy Alliance has two main funders.

Advocacy for all 2022 - 2024

This project has enabled us to provide advocacy (within our service guidelines) to anyone in the community without any requirement to have a specific disability, need etc

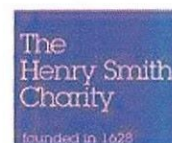


- Face to face support
- Access to services
- Housing issues
- Support to carers
- Complaints & challenging decision/s
- Choices and information around care providers
- Bereavement support
- Liaise with solicitors regarding probate issues
- Research choices, options & processes
- Support with communication
- Attend meetings
- Support to find other organisations
- Upskilling staff, advocacy qualification
- Cost of living issues
- Letter writing
- Support with social care issues

Advocacy for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism 2022-2025

This programme aims to address the funding deficit for non-statutory advocacy that has grown in recent years.

The aim is to build an evidence base for independent advocacy, measure its impact and demonstrate the case for future, sustainable funding.



- Face to face support
- Access to statutory & voluntary services
- Support to carers
- Complaints & challenging LA/health decision/s
- Choices and eligibility in education
- Letter writing & telephone communication
- Issues with utilities and online billing
- Understanding rights, eligibility and choices
- Support communicating
- Accessible housing issues
- Understanding language and acronyms
- Support for parents
- Volunteer recruitment, training & engagement
- Choices and information around care providers

Social Prescribing Contract 2020 -2026

Age UK North Yorkshire Coast and Moors and Advocacy Alliance work together to provide a service in partnership with the NHS, offering social prescribing to NHS patients across Scarborough, Filey and Ryedale. The purpose of the service is to increase people's activity in their local community to create better connections, become more active and boost people's wellbeing.

- Link with community groups
- Face to face support
- Improve social networks
- Identify personal goals
- Work towards a longer term personal plan
- Creative activities
- Wellbeing walk and talks
- Bespoke support
- Signposting & onward referrals
- Ease pressure on NHS services
- Decrease loneliness & associated health risks
- Social hubs
- Access local resources & services
- Engage in nature based interventions

Feedback

Clients have said:

"You were very helpful at a critical time"

"Thank you for just listening"

"Without your help, I wouldn't of known where to go or who to turn to"

"I didn't realise I had these options"

"I wouldn't have my home anymore if it wasn't for all of your help"

"You listen in the way that I process my information"

"I didn't feel judged, and I felt heard for the first time in a very long time"

Other organisations have said:

"The advocate supporting my client was professional, knowledgeable and human"

"The work you do is invaluable"

"Having you in meetings has made such a difference to the person I support"

"I think its fantastic people don't have to tick boxes in order to access your service"

" You have very quickly become my go to organisation"

We say:

You speak, we listen and together we do.

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Background and Structure

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisaion (CIO), and is registered with the Charity Commission (No: 1163787). The Charity was formed on 1st October 2015 and started trading on 1st April 2016 by inheriting the assets of the previous Charity (Advocacy Alliance No: 1014398).

Summary of the purposes and activities of the Charity

The aim of the Charity is 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, and to help them overcome any disadvantage that flows from their personal circumstances by the provision of a service designed to:

- assist the above people to obtain their rights and privileges as a citizen
- provide support; and
- 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.
- representing the needs and views of members to statutory authorities, charitable groups and others who provide services

Public Benefit Statement

Throughout the year the Advocacy Alliance Board of Trustees had regard the guidelines on public benefit as set out by the Charity Commission when exercising powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Trustees

The following persons served as Trustees during the year ended 31st March 2023:

Trustee	Office	Trustee Appointments/Resignations
Michael Goode	Chairman	-
Steve Arnott	Treasurer	-
Angela McKeown		-
Ben Sellers		-
Callum Walker		-
Carol Stockill		Resigned - 23rd June 2022
Helen Fortnum		-
Patricia Ann Kemp		-
Sam Woods-Peel		-

Staff, Management and Selection of Trustees

Trustees are appointed at the annual general meeting and are recruited from people who have an interest in the Charity. The Charity is controlled and directed by the elected members of the board of trustees.

Risk Management

The board of trustees continue to examine the principal areas of the Charity's operations to review the major risks which may arise in each area. In the opinion of the board, this review enables such risks to be identified and allows them to be mitigated to an acceptable level in the Charity's day to day activities.

Review of the Charity's achievements and performance, including the difference the Charity has made to the beneficiaries and to wider society throughout the year

The financial year 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 has been a year where the organisation worked hard to successfully overcome the significant challenges presented by the current funding climate. During the year the Trustee Board continued to meet on a blended basis with both physical and virtual meetings taking place. During the course of the year the Trustee Board:

- 1 Worked closely with Age UK (North Yorkshire Coast and Moors) to significantly develop the provision of a Social Prescribing Service for the Scarborough Core Primary Care Network, North Riding Primary Care Network and Filey and Scarborough Healthier Communities Network
- 2 Continued to invest resources in a Customer Relation Management tool. Ensuring that staff and volunteers are able to keep a clear and concise record of all actions taken on a client's behalf.
- 3 Secured funding from the National Lottery Community fund.
- 4 Explored new ways of working and delivering advocacy support, including the investment in resources that support client engagement within the constraints of the pandemic and societal restrictions.
- 5 Successfully retained the National Advocacy Quality Performance Mark for a further three years to May 2024. This is a real achievement for a small local advocacy organisation as it requires dedicated trustees, staff, and volunteers to enable the organisation to demonstrate that it meets all core advocacy values.
- 6 Ensured that Advocacy Alliance continued to build on its partnership working, with much work being done regarding joint funding bids, joint development of community infrastructure support and joint working to identify local need.
- 7 Worked intensely with the NHS and local Clinical Commissioning Groups on the development and expansion of the social prescribing (Wellbeing Partnership) service. Working closely with commissioners and other major stakeholders on ensuring best practice and a social prescribing service delivery that meets patient need.
- 8 Secured funding from the Henry Smith Charity for the provision of an advocacy service for people with a learning disability and/or autism.
- 9 Reviewed budgets in response to the financial needs of the organisation and in response to the needs of the local community for the provision of quality advocacy support.
- 10 Staff and volunteers worked closely with the local community to identify advocacy needs and submitted funding bids to meet the needs identified.
- 11 Trustees dedicated time to review all policies and procedures, having an away day specifically focussed on these and ensuring they meet the needs of the organisation.
- 12 Invested in development, support and training for all the organisation's staff and volunteers. Including specific development support for the Chief Executive.
- 13 Developed a pilot Advocacy project for the Bridlington area to assess needs of the Bridlington town population in relation to advocacy and to inform future funding bids.
- 14 Secured funding for a project working with the residents and community in Botton Village – enabling the staff to visit regularly and ensure that people living there are aware of Advocacy Alliance and the support we can offer to individuals.

Financial Review

The financial position of the Charity as at 31st March 2023 as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income	209,499	112,584
Expenditure	(184,214)	(184,555)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>25,285</u>	<u>(71,971)</u>
Unrestricted Funds	30,927	39,674
Restricted Funds	42,978	23,946
Designated Funds	75,000	60,000
Total Funds	<u>148,905</u>	<u>123,620</u>

The results for the year show a surplus of £25,285. Total reserves amounted to £148,905 at as at 31st March 2023, of which £30,927 are unrestricted.

The financial performance of the Charity in the 2023 year indicates that the Charity is sustainable. Total funds have increased from the prior year, but this should be viewed in the context that the timing of incoming funds and projects can significantly impact the accounting figures.

There is a decrease in Unrestricted Funds. This underlines the importance of continuing to source funding that is able to maintain day to day operations, and to maintain the reserves necessary to ensure continued operation.

Reserves Policy

The reserves at the end of the financial year were £75,000 (prior year: £60,000). The Trustees are aware of the need to develop a strong financial position for the charity. An objective has been set of building adequate reserves to cover six months forward operating costs and to be able to continue to operate under the following circumstances:

- during periods of lower income
- in the case of unexpected events
- in the case of redundancies or any emergencies (e.g. long term sick leave)

The reserves policy also provides an opportunity to reserve money for future projects.

The Trustees are confident the Charity can continue as a going concern, and the reserve policy is an important part of the Charity's long term survival and ability to adapt to changing circumstances.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that 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 SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statement on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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 prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by Advocacy Alliance trustees on 23rd November 2023 and is signed on their behalf by:


Michael Goode
Chairman

As a practising member firm of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://rulebook.accaglobal.com/>

I report on the accounts of Advocacy Alliance for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 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 the 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the 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; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records; or
 - concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (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.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.



Michael Richmond FCCA
Champleys Chartered Certified Accountants
Champleys Mews
Market Place
Pickering
YO18 7AE

23rd November 2023

ADVOCACY ALLIANCE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 Breakdown By Fund			2023	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Bank Interest		94	-	-	94	12
Donations, Legacies and Grants	3	2,302	203,246	-	205,548	112,572
Fundraising Activities and Services	4	3,857	-	-	3,857	-
Total Receipts		<u>6,253</u>	<u>203,246</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>209,499</u>	<u>112,584</u>
Payments						
Charitable Activities	5	-	164,248	-	164,248	145,308
Support Costs	6	-	18,456	-	18,456	37,776
Governance and Administration	7	-	1,510	-	1,510	1,471
Total Payments		<u>-</u>	<u>184,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>184,214</u>	<u>184,555</u>
Reconciliation of Funds						
	8					
Total Funds Brought Forward	9	39,674	23,946	60,000	123,620	195,591
Transfers Between Funds		(15,000)	-	15,000	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year		<u>6,253</u>	<u>19,032</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,285</u>	<u>(71,971)</u>
Total Funds Carried Forward		<u>30,927</u>	<u>42,978</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>148,905</u>	<u>123,620</u>

ADVOCACY ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023

B1 Cash Funds

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accounts		
Current Account	148,780	52,570
Reserve Account	-	60,605
Deposit Account	-	10,320
Cash	125	125
TOTAL FUNDS	148,905	123,620

Represented by Funds

Unrestricted	30,927	39,674
Restricted	42,978	23,946
Designated	75,000	60,000
TOTAL FUNDS	148,905	123,620

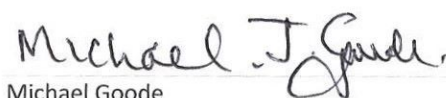
B2 Other Monetary Assets

£Nil	£Nil
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B3 Investment Assets

£Nil	£Nil
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For and on behalf of all the Trustees



Michael Goode

23rd November 2023

1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Donated Goods, Services and Facilities

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

Governance and 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 is not included in the accounts, but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Fixed Assets for use by Charity

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. Assets are shown on the statements of assets and liabilities if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £300.

2 Nature and Purpose of Funds**Unrestricted Funds**

Funds that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Restricted Funds

Funds that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

Designated Funds

A reserve set aside to cover possible closure costs that could arise sometime in the future if there was a need. This figure is the current estimate of such costs. There has been no change in this financial year.

3 Breakdown of Donations, Legacies and Grants

	2023 Breakdown			2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Awards for All	-	9,940	-	9,940	-
Henry Smith	-	54,200	-	54,200	-
Hillards	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Kickstart	-	-	-	-	14,011
Masonic	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
National Lottery	-	77,993	-	77,993	-
Scurrah Wainwright	-	-	-	-	4,800
Social Prescribing	-	56,113	-	56,113	46,461
Other Grants and Donations	1,302	-	-	1,302	47,300
Total	2,302	203,246	-	205,548	112,572

4 Fundraising Activities and Services

	2023 Breakdown			2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Services Provided to NYCC	3,857	-	-	3,857	-
Total	3,857	-	-	3,857	-

5 Breakdown of Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Notes	2023 Breakdown			2023	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Activities and Travel	11	-	6,349	-	6,349	4,433
Promotion		-	386	-	386	5,114
Volunteer Expenses		-	1,330	-	1,330	541
Wages and Salaries	10	-	156,183	-	156,183	135,220
Total		-	164,248	-	164,248	145,308

6 Breakdown of Expenditure on Support Costs

	2023 Breakdown			2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Equipment Expensed	-	1,054	-	1,054	13,213
Insurance	-	1,980	-	1,980	1,475
Legal and Professional	-	281	-	281	248
Printing, Stationery and Postage	-	769	-	769	266
Rent of Premises	-	8,122	-	8,122	16,533
Software Costs	-	972	-	972	1,548
Telephone and Internet	-	4,053	-	4,053	3,134
Training and Welfare	-	728	-	728	1,247
General Expenditure	-	497	-	497	112
Total	-	18,456	-	18,456	37,776

ADVOCACY ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

7 Breakdown of Expenditure on Governance and Administration

	2023 Breakdown			2023	2022
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	Total £	Total £
Accountancy and Independent Exam	-	730	-	730	750
Payroll and Pension Administration	-	780	-	780	720
Total	-	1,510	-	1,510	1,470

8 Breakdown of Fund Movements (2023 - Current Year)

	B/Fwd £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	C/Fwd £
Restricted					
Awards for All	4,325	9,940	(10,096)	-	4,169
Henry Smith	-	54,200	(38,504)	-	15,696
Masonic	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
National Lottery	-	77,993	(57,479)	-	20,514
Scurrah Wainwright	4,800	-	(4,800)	-	-
Social Prescribing	14,821	56,113	(68,335)	-	2,599
	23,946	203,246	(184,214)	-	42,978
Designated Funds					
Managed Closure and Refurbishment	60,000	-	-	15,000	75,000
Unrestricted Funds	39,674	6,253	-	(15,000)	30,927
Total Funds	123,620	209,499	(184,214)	-	148,905

9 Breakdown of Fund Movements (2022 - Prior Year)

	B/Fwd £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	C/Fwd £
Restricted					
Awards for All	9,996	-	(5,671)	-	4,325
Kickstart Scheme	(1,052)	11,711	(10,659)	-	-
National Lottery	38,973	-	(38,973)	-	-
Scurrah Wainwright	-	4,800	-	-	4,800
Sirius Foundation	14,558	-	(14,558)	-	-
Social Prescribing	7,138	41,953	(34,270)	-	14,821
Other Grants and Donations	40,000	44,841	(80,034)	(4,807)	-
	109,613	107,546	(188,406)	(4,807)	23,946
Designated Funds					
Managed Closure	60,000	-	-	-	60,000
Unrestricted Funds	25,978	9,280	(391)	4,807	39,674
Total Funds	195,591	116,826	(188,797)	-	123,620

10 Staff Numbers, Payroll and Pension Costs

There were nine employees in 2023 (2022: 7). All staff are payroll employed.

	2023 Breakdown			2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct Wages	-	146,722	-	146,722	126,169
Employer Pension Contributions	-	2,668	-	2,668	2,465
Employer National Insurance	-	6,793	-	6,793	6,586
Total	-	156,183	-	156,183	135,220

11 Trustee Expenses and Related Party Transactions

No trustee received a remuneration for services rendered. The Trustee's claim for reimbursed expenses - primarily travel expenses. No Trustee, or anyone connected with a Trustee, has a material interest in any of the Charity's transactions.

