

ACCI Annual Report. 2023-24



ACCI ANNUAL REPORT

**Company Registration
Number - 04014153**

African Caribbean Community Initiative

**Accounts
31 March 2024**

**Charity Registration
Number - 1081996**

ACCI ACTIVITY REPORT

African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.)
Report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Chair's Foreword

This has been another excellent year for A.C.C.I. and the Members we support. We set out to achieve some important milestones for A.C.C.I. to ensure that we build on our great past in order to build a sustainable organisation for the benefit of our Members and the wider community.

The period 2023 to March 2024, has seen A.C.C.I. and the wider third sector face ongoing funding challenges, compounded by a cost of living crisis triggered by global conflicts which continue to impact central government and local funding decisions. During this time our communities; who are racialised and marginalised, face the disproportionate impact of the consequent worsening structural inequalities. All the while, we continue to deal with the impact on mental wellbeing in the aftermath of COVID. It is therefore of no surprise to see our referral rates on the increase, a trend that will continue for the medium to long term.

The staff, under the exemplary leadership of Chief Executive, Alicia Spence, have continued to go above and beyond, to ensure the delivery of an excellent mental health service, which puts our Members at the heart of all decisions. The fulfilment of this strategic objective, saw the service commission an independent review, involving insights from stakeholders; commissioners, carers, senior leadership team and of course our Members. This review will form the cornerstone to our forthcoming revised Strategic Plan, which I look forward to launching in 2024/25.

The Board of Trustees has seen a number of changes, with new board Members bringing to each of our three subcommittees, their relevant skills, enthusiasm and diversity of thought. I truly am grateful to have a dedicated Board, who do more than simply show up to meetings. There is a lot of work to be done and A.C.C.I. is blessed to have a Board

willing to put in the time and work, to ensure the organisation's ongoing success. New ideas are being trialled to increase our reach and to grow A.C.C.I.'s network of supporters, partners and funders. This has seen the Community and Marketing sub-committee launch A.C.C.I.'s Sponsor's Event in January 2024, this year hosted by the Grand Theatre. The format was a resounding success and will be repeated as an annual event. I and the Board are acutely aware that to secure A.C.C.I.'s medium to long term future, we must attract diverse funding streams. Not only will this ensure A.C.C.I.'s future and therefore the future of vital support for our Members, but diversification of funding will also help to underpin a key objective to ensure flexibility in fund pots, which can be invested in the delivery of a broader range of services for the benefit of our Members. This will also enable A.C.C.I. to continue to extend its reach beyond Wolverhampton and the immediate surrounding areas.

As we look forward to delivering the new strategy, I am pleased to report that there is ongoing investment in A.C.C.I.'s greatest resource, the staff. By investing in our people, to include the Board, I have every confidence that A.C.C.I. will not only survive the inevitable national and local socio-economic challenges but will thrive and extend our reach and positive impact. As Alicia says; mental illness is not a destination, it is a journey. And I am confident and proud to say as Chair that A.C.C.I. is here to support anyone, no matter their ethnicity, on their journey.



Bridget Tatham
Chair

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African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.)
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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024, which also comprises the Directors' Report required by the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.).

The charity is also known by its operating name, A.C.C.I..

The charity's areas of operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 1081996.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts . The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation.

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation of law, all trustees are directors under the Companies Act 2006 and all directors are trustees under Charities legislation and have responsibilities, as such, under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals.

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

217 Waterloo Terrace
Newhampton Road East,
Wolverhampton
West Midlands, WV1 4BA
Telephone: 01902 571 230

Email Address: support@acci.org.uk

Web address: www.acci.org.uk

The registered office of the charity for Companies Act purposes is the same as the operating address shown above.

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

Canute Earl Gayle
M M White
I A Bandele
M R McCalla
D McIntosh
J Davis **Vice Chair**
B A Tatham **Chair**
J McConnell
V Grant
Carl Elliot Gayle
S Forsyth **(appointed 26 January 2024)**
I M McIntosh **(appointed 12 October 2024)**

The following persons served as Trustees during the year ended 31 March 2024:-

The trustees who served as a trustee in the reporting period, and, if applicable, their dates of appointment or resignation during the year were:-

Name	Appointed	Resigned/Retired
Canute Earl Gayle		
M M White		
I A Bandele		
M H Cummings		04 July 2023
M R McCalla		
D McIntosh		
J Davis, Vice Chair		
B A Tatham, Chair		
S Forsyth	26 January 2024	
J McConnell		
V Grant		
Carl Elliot Gayle		
M El-Nour		20 November 2023

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

The objects for which the Charity was established are:

- To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the public, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, especially persons of African and Caribbean origin, living or working in or around the borough of Wolverhampton and its environs, and in particular but not exclusively those persons who are suffering from, or who have suffered from mental illness of any sort.
- To advance the education of such persons, their relatives and carers, persons working in the fields of mental health and the general public by the provision of advice, counselling and training.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Another year on and A.C.C.I. continues to meet and exceed its goals to meet the needs of as many of its existing Members and new referrals to the service. We have excelled in areas of sustained engagement with those who use the service on a daily basis and occasional or specific event attendees.

The tangible, hard work, dedication and commitment of our staff can be seen by the results in the numbers of Members who have remained well, engaged and involved. We have been able to bring early and timely interventions for a number of Members who have severe and enduring mental health, to reduce the need for them to be detained for lengthy periods of treatment or being placed outside of the borough with restrictions to their family being able to connect and comfort them. The outreach team has worked diligently to ensure that Members they support are achieving levels of independence that continues to improve and are maintaining their daily living skills and life styles.

We have continued to develop the quality of activities, which has seen an increase in interactive and group sessions, the number and range of activities on offer has also increased in consultation with the Members. An integral part of the activities is combined with healthy options with each member choosing their own personal goals and celebrating their achievements.

We are aware that a pandemic situation could reoccur, as we know the virus has not completely left us. However this has not diminished the quality of services, together with health and wellbeing activities put in place during and following that dreadful period.

We have maintained our focus on the programmes that are effective following reviews of our well-established health and wellbeing activities and ensured that appropriate changes or adjustments are made in consultation with our Members, resulting in:

- The safe space enjoyed by Members in the Health and Wellbeing Hub continues to see a growth in the numbers attending to socialise and reduce isolation, obtain a freshly made hot meal and engage in many of the activities provided.
- The food delivery service continues to work well with a growing demand, which has ensured that Members are receiving a hot meal that supplements a balanced diet. This has also provided the opportunity to encourage contact and maintain engagement with Members and carers, as well as prompting safe and well checks when necessary. The opportunity to optimise early wellbeing and mental health interventions have occurred because of this service.
- We continue to support families in receipt of benefits or those who are identified as low income households via the partnership with the City Council's Household Support Fund to provide them with necessary essential household items. Through the Household Support Fund and a number of other agencies also provided appliances, household furniture and house makeovers. This included help with utilities both gas and electric supplies.

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- We also ran a food pantry where items were dispersed within the community from received donations, this was invaluable in cases of emergency. These initiatives were extended to the wider community, which also helped raise the profile of the mental health services provided.
- A.C.C.I., Wolves Foundation and Wolverhampton City Council worked in partnership to launch the Good Night Project, aimed at reducing or eliminating bed poverty, to ensure that those in need of a decent bed and coverings were provided.
- We have seen a consistent number of Members attending the Wellbeing Hub, compared to the period during and immediately following Covid restrictions.
- The organisation remains a vital source of support to the Members, carers and families of those who live with mental ill-health. We are also conscious that without the commitment and dedication of our staff, Members and volunteers, we would not be able to deliver the high quality of services that we do right now.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year.

- Providing holistic services that advise and supports the users of the service to maintain their tenancies, care for themselves and their lived in spaces and seek appropriate assistance when needed.
- Providing volunteering opportunities to the local community as well as manageable and rewarding tasks for users of the service.
- Continue to seek and take opportunities to attract funding to promote the organisation's profile and service delivery, raise awareness about issues of mental health and therapeutic activities provided to those using the service.
- Working in partnership to influence and improve mainstream service provision to African and African Caribbean people including Wolverhampton's diverse communities.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

In addition, during the past year A.C.C.I. has delivered:

- We hosted a very successful Annual Carer's Day of Celebration in June as part of national Carers' Day.
- Partnerships with statutory and other voluntary agencies have been developed and maintained notably, links with the Grand Theatre and Wolves Foundation.
- Hosted another Dementia Awareness Event in conjunction with the Church of God of Prophecy.
- Carers now attend the Grand Theatre's monthly Memory Café.
- An intergenerational carers and young people/families day trip to Weston-Super-Mare was organised and well attended.
- Carers' activities includes wellbeing and exercise sessions, presentations on a range of topics, theatre visits, meals out and weekend coach trips.
- Carers are regularly invited to participate in surveys and consultations.
- We continued to make daily telephone contact calls to Members where appropriate in conjunction with planned and doorstep visits.
- We have seen an increase in levels of anxiety and acute depression, which has highlighted the continued need for Therapeutic Counselling Services to address issues around bereavement, grief, loss and isolation to maintain wellbeing by engaging in talking, listening and offering some human contact.
- We hosted a very well attended World Mental Health Day, in conjunction with Gloucester Street Church and Church of God of Prophecy.

The short term and longer term aims and objectives.

A.C.C.I.'s objectives are to provide:

- A culturally safe/competent and appropriate service to meet the needs of the African/Caribbean and diverse communities;
- Influence local, regional and national mental health policy development, commissioning and service delivery.
- A.C.C.I.'s trustees have prepared and approved this report and the public benefit statement below with due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

The charity's strategies for achieving its aims and objectives in the future.

Many of A.C.C.I.'s Members (service users) present with some conditions often compounded by trauma, racism, drug and alcohol addiction, making them amongst some of the most excluded, isolated and marginalised Members of our local community.

In line with A.C.C.I.'s charitable objectives, the organisation provides public benefit via a range of support and services designed to improve the mental health and wellbeing of African Caribbean's suffering or recovering from mental ill health. This is achieved by developing and delivering specialist services to reduce the number of new and repeat hospital admissions amongst our Members (service users), supporting them to find appropriate accommodation and secure or retain tenancies, improving their life skills, education, employment opportunities and money management, advising on a range of issues including medication, addiction and diet management. These services form the golden thread of A.C.C.I.'s holistic approach to delivering our charitable objectives and helping our Members (service users) remain well for longer.

Although the organisation focuses on providing culturally safe and appropriate services to African Caribbean people and their families, the organisation is continually looking at ways to develop service delivery with the many displaced people entering the UK seeking assistance and refuge from human rights violations compounded by mental ill-health issues. Additional beneficiaries of our services include other ethnic groups and communities, a range of private, public and voluntary sector bodies who work in partnership with A.C.C.I. to promote positive mental health and wellbeing within the local community, raise awareness of the support available and de-stigmatise mental ill-health. We also provide a range of training opportunities, advocacy services to influence mainstream practice and policy development among health and social care professionals.

The main achievements and performance of the charity during the year.

The difference the charity's performance during the year has made to the beneficiaries of the charity and the benefit of the charity's achievements to wider society.

Significant achievements and performance we managed to attain during the year included:

- A.C.C.I.'s performance during 2023-24 continues to meet and exceed its target aims. Referrals to the organisation have remained steady with increased Members participation across its activities and services varying in user uptake. This year we have received 236 referrals to the organisation, some of whom required access to the following services.

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Listed below is a snapshot of the activities of the organisation, with more details provided in the Annual Report of Activities.

- Health and Wellbeing Hub Activities – continues to thrive with Members engagement in activities increasing. Group activities are very well attended.

Some of the activities include: Outdoor and indoor activity e.g. bike riding, walking, football, nature walks, chair exercises and cycle for health. There are weekly health checks, art sessions, sewing/craft groups, women's/men's group meetings, hearing voices group, life coaching skills sessions and ESOL classes. There have been a number of day trips, activity outings and short-haul overseas travel opportunities.

- Carer's Support Group received 110 attendees to the Carer's Day of Celebration held at the local Heritage Centre.
- The Dementia Day held as a faith event, received 160 attendees respectively including those accessing the event by Zoom virtual media.
- Holistic Therapies & Counselling Service: The service continues to receive high numbers of referrals from external agencies, internal casework and self-referrals.
- Housing and Welfare Support received 79 referrals. The current impact on housing needs and especially for those with mental health and other medical difficulties, is quite alarming, due to lack of capacity and attempts to keep ahead of growing needs. This in turn has also increased support to Members to complete benefit claim applications, reviews and producing appeals.

There are concerns that homelessness is still an issue affecting people across the City, not exclusively but there are a number of people with mental health and emotional challenges who have difficulties managing the processes of acquiring accommodation and maintaining tenancies across the housing sectors.

- New and reviewed benefit claims are still being dealt with quite quickly, however, the decisions are still taking some time to be achieved.
- Outreach attended 2201 appointments with and on behalf of our Members. The appointments included team support with referrals received to the Housing and Welfare Support team, Carer's and the Health and Wellbeing Hub.

The number of visits and time allocated to high need Members (service users) are still manageable; however, the numbers of those needing more intense support due to physical and mental health support is increasing. The team continues to make home visits and attend arranged appointments e.g. housing, benefits, health and support at assessments, reviews and tribunals. Members are encouraged to attend events and activities to reduce isolation and support socialising in their peer groups within the community. Telephone calls and maintaining wellbeing contact are an essential part of this service.

Staff undertook the following training:

- Level 1 Medication Awareness,
- First Aid,
- Level 2 Food Handler Certificate,
- Safer Medication Administration,
- Level 2 Medication Awareness,
- Safeguarding Children, Vulnerable Adults & The Prevent Agenda,
- Drug & Alcohol Awareness Session,
- Health & Social Care Diploma Level 3.

Welfare Rights Service training sessions attended:

- Introduction to Benefits,
 - Benefit Disputes and Appeals,
 - New Style Employment & Support Allowance,
 - Personal Independence Payment – Preparing appeals & tribunals,
 - The DWP Social Fund and Local Welfare Assistance,
 - Universal Credit: The Claimant Commitment,
 - Benefits and Older People,
 - Benefits and Young Adults,
 - Introduction to Universal Credit,
 - Work Capability & Limited Capability Assessments.
-
- Wolves Foundation Gala: At the first ever gala hosted by the Wolves Foundation, A.C.C.I. was presented with the Community Contribution Award in recognition of our contribution to partnership working and commitment to the community.
 - West Midland Care Association - Best Support Staff award: Janet Clarke-Lewis, Housing Development Officer/Welfare Support was the winner of the award.
 - Staffordshire University and BCU - Social Work Student: We have successfully supported four level 5 Social Work Students from Staffordshire University and BCU complete their 70 day placement with us. This year we have also seen a substantial increase in the request for work experience hours for young people age 15-18. We have provided placement for three Level 2 students, two Level 3 students and three year 10 work experience students.
 - Telford & Wrekin Wellbeing Support - pilot project: Following on from the successful pilot with Telford and Wrekin to deliver the service, we will be seeking to be commissioned on a long term basis.
 - Severe Mental Illness welfare support project: The Black Country NHS Foundation Trust, has commissioned the organisation to support an initiative to provide Members in the community diagnosed with a severe mental health condition to ensure that they are receiving their correct benefit(s).
 - Business Partnership Events: As part of our growing partnership with the Grand Theatre, we were able to use the venue to host our first sponsorship event where local/national businesses attended to learn about the organisation and how they can support us to deliver the City's mental health and wellbeing programme.
 - Good-night Project: The Foundation, City of Wolverhampton Council and A.C.C.I. continues to be involved in a dedicated service providing beds and bedding to those that need them.
 - Household Support Fund – Wolverhampton City Wide: A.C.C.I. is an approved partner in the delivery of the fund which has been established to alleviate the impact of rising fuel costs and general inflation. Specific areas of support are help with fuel and heating, support with household costs, housing costs, costs of water, food and other essentials. During this period, A.C.C.I. has to date provided support to 270 households.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Given the specialist nature of the organisation, trustees are recruited using a range of approaches specifically targeting individuals and organisations with the appropriate mix of expertise, knowledge and skills to undertake the business of the organisation. Adverts for trustee vacancies are circulated via relevant clinical, social care and third sector publications and networks in line with A.C.C.I.'s marketing strategy and equal opportunity policy.

In line with our Memorandum and Articles of Association, expressions of interest in management committee vacancies are invited, nominated and elected at our Annual General Meeting. Places are reserved on the management committee for service users and carers. The organisation also has a range of alternative mechanisms to promote and encourage service user engagement, input, consultation and feedback. We have made provisions for the co-option of Members in order to meet identified needs or gaps on a short term basis throughout the year.

The policies and procedures for the induction and training of trustees.

A.C.C.I.'s management committee induction pack includes information about meeting dates, roles, responsibilities and useful contacts and is issued to all new trustees with their letter of appointment. A joint Staff and Board Members away day is also organised annually after our AGM and presents an ideal opportunity for new Board Members to meet the staff team, existing trustees and gain a helpful insight into A.C.C.I.'s day to day activity.

The charity's organisational structure.

A.C.C.I. is managed by a Management Board Committee. The Management Board Members are also Members of our Board of Trustees. A.C.C.I. is managed by a 10 Members Board of Trustees. Our organisation employs a Chief Executive who oversees the work of the organisation, supported by a Business Development Manager (post is currently vacant), Operations Manager and a Community Network Development Manager. There are 49 Members of staff (22 full time, 27 part time). The organisation also has registered 53 volunteers.

Members (service users) and carers are an integral part of A.C.C.I.'s decision making process, which ensures that our services are user focussed. A.C.C.I. also works in partnership with a range of public, private and voluntary sector organisations locally, regionally and nationally to influence specialist and mainstream service delivery to service users, carers and Members.

Bankers

National Westminster Bank PLC, Queens Square Branch,
Queens Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TL

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Financial Review

2023-24

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 March 2024

The financial position of the charity at 31 March 2024 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2023	2024
	£	£
Net Income	(12,907)	(36,162)
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	178,994	209,723
Restricted Revenue Funds	377,601	359,779
Total Funds	556,595	569,502

Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 March 2024.

	2023	2024
	£	£
Unrestricted Income	787,825	737,480
Restricted Income	690,027	512,442
Total Income	1,477,852	1,249,922

The total funds on the balance sheet are £556,595 which is a decrease from previous years of 2.3%.

The charity has continued to exercise prudent management of expenditure during the year.

The charity will continue to focus on sustainable income generation and funding in the coming years to ensure its medium/long term viability.

Policies on reserves.

The Management Committee have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the free reserves) held by the charity should be between three and six months of the resources expended, which equates to between £372,690 to £745,380 in general funds. At this level the Management Committee feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. It would obviously be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed. At present the free reserves which equate to £178,994 of unrestricted funds which is 12% of the combined revenue or the equivalent of 6 weeks of total funding, the Board are therefore targeting some renewed energy and resource to secure adequate levels of funding especially in the prevailing and sustained challenging economic climate.

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed and reviews and systems to mitigate them.

A.C.C.I.'s trustees take responsibility for reviewing major risks to which the charity may be exposed and the systems established to identify and monitor all identified risks. In the previous year, the board finalised implementation of a new risk management policy and procedure, which it continues to monitor.

Financial and service delivery risks are managed by an enhanced suite of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. This ensures consistent quality across delivery for all operational aspects of the organisation. The procedures are reviewed regularly to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity, our funders, commissioners and relevant regulating bodies.

Key priorities for the trustees moving forward into 2024/25 will be to:

- Secure contracts to deliver essential elements of A.C.C.I.'s existing service provision subject to competitive tenders,
- To continue building the internal in-frastructure to enable the organisation to develop skills and expertise, thereby achieving sustainability.

Plans For the Future

Summary of plans for the future and the trustees' perspective of the future direction of the charity.

- In the Trustees endeavour to secure the sustainability of A.C.C.I., new initiatives have been introduced to strengthen as well as diversify income generation opportunities for the organisation, in particular:
- The Holistic Therapies and Counselling service that is well used by our Members, and receives referrals from external professional practitioners, agencies and commissioners.
- Offer training packages to allied organisations' to raise mental health awareness.
- Deliver a minimum of two annual open days, inviting other providers, agencies and commissioners' with an opportunity to learn about the work of the organisation.
- Host two Sponsorship events within local and regional businesses to raise awareness of the organisation and its work in the community.
- Secure funding and resources to continue providing a service to its Members.

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- Have full acquisition of the eight flats based at Waterloo Road currently used by the organisation to house Members who have moved on to independent living with day-time support, alongside the floating support service.
- Work towards the ongoing partnership arrangement with Nehemiah Housing to provide joint housing management services for the Omari Housing CIC.
- Proactively, exploring opportunities to engage with potential sponsors, entrepreneurs and philanthropists to support and promote the organisation.
- Continue preparing to secure and retain the tender contract for Omari Supported Housing Scheme.
- Diversify and increase income by tendering for ethical and appropriate opportunities that will meet the needs of diverse communities in Wolverhampton.
- Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with current funders i.e. City of Wolverhampton Council, Black Country NHS Foundation Trust etc.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

The charity receives funds from Omari in respect of the state benefits for individuals which it holds on their behalf and distributes to them. The net movement during the year was an decrease in balances held of £656. A balance of £3,432 was held at the year end.

Details of The Auditor

Stephen Lewis
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
LMH Accountants Ltd T/A Trevor Jones & Co
Old Bank Chambers
582-586 Kingsbury Road
Erdington, Birmingham
B24 9ND

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The trustees state that so far as each of the trustees at the time this report was approved are aware:

- a) There is no relevant audit information (as defined by section 418(3) of the Companies Act 2006) of which the auditors are unaware, and
- b) The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Statement of the Director Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

In particular, the Companies Act 2006 and charity law require the Board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS102);
- 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 business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. 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.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the auditor in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that , the report is consistent with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

The Method of preparation of accounts - Small company provisions

The financial statements are set out on pages 18 to 47.

The financial statements have been prepared implementing the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on12/12/2024.....



Bridget Tatham
Director and Trustee

African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.)

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.) (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.)
Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's Members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's Members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

LMH Accountants Ltd

Dated...13/12/2024

Stephen Lewis (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of LMH Accountants Ltd T/A Trevor Jones & Co

Chartered Accountants Statutory
Auditor

Old Bank Chambers
582-586 Kingsbury Road
Erdington
Birmingham
B24 9ND

LMH Accountants Ltd T/A Trevor Jones & Co is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
- STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2024, as required by the Companies Act 2006)

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	28,200	-	28,200	32,369
Charitable activities	A2	754,768	690,027	1,444,795	1,215,877
Investments	A4	4,857	-	4,857	1,676
Total Income	A	<u>787,825</u>	<u>690,027</u>	<u>1,477,852</u>	<u>1,249,922</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	818,554	672,205	1,490,759	1,286,084
Total expenditure	B	<u>818,554</u>	<u>672,205</u>	<u>1,490,759</u>	<u>1,286,084</u>
Net income for the year		<u>(30,729)</u>	<u>17,822</u>	<u>(12,907)</u>	<u>(36,162)</u>
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	<u>(30,729)</u>	<u>17,822</u>	<u>(12,907)</u>	<u>(36,162)</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(30,729)</u>	<u>17,822</u>	<u>(12,907)</u>	<u>(36,162)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:-	E				
Total funds brought forward		209,723	359,779	569,502	605,664
Total funds carried forward		<u>178,994</u>	<u>377,601</u>	<u>556,595</u>	<u>569,502</u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 25 to 47 form an integral part of these accounts.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
- STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.) - Analysis of prior year total funds, as required by paragraph 4.2 of the SORP

	SORP Ref	Prior year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Income & Endowments from:				
Donations & Legacies	A1	32,369	-	32,369
Charitable activities	A2	703,435	512,442	1,215,877
Other trading activities	A3	-	-	-
Investments	A4	1,676	-	1,676
Total Income	A	737,480	512,442	1,249,922
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	B2	724,832	561,252	1,286,084
Total expenditure	B	724,832	561,252	1,286,084
Net income for the year		12,648	(48,810)	(36,162)
Net income after transfers		12,648	(48,810)	(36,162)
Net movement in funds		12,648	(48,810)	(36,162)
Reconciliation of funds:-	E			
Total funds brought forward		197,075	408,589	605,664
Total funds carried forward		209,723	359,779	569,502

All activities derive from continuing operations

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.

The notes attached on pages 25 to 47 form an integral part of these accounts.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
- STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 March 2024

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Last Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Accumulated funds brought forward	209,723	359,779	569,502	605,664
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	(30,729)	17,822	(12,907)	(36,162)
	178,994	377,301	556,595	569,502
Closing revenue funds	178,994	377,601	556,595	569,502

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Last Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Revenue accumulated funds	178,994	377,601	556,595	569,502

The notes attached on pages 25 to 47 form an integral part of these accounts.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
- STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.) Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2024 as required by the Companies Act 2006

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income		
Income from operation	1,472,995	1,248,246
Investment income and interest		
Interest receivable	4,857	1,676
	1,477,852	1,249,922
Gross income in the year before exceptional items	1,477,852	1,249,922
Gross income in the year including exceptional items	1,477,852	1,249,922
Expenditure		
Charitable expenditure, excluding depreciation and amortisation	1,469,853	1,264,749
Depreciation and amortisation	9,149	10,308
Governance costs	11,719	11,018
Interest payable	38	9
	1,490,759	1,286,084
Total expenditure in the year	1,490,759	1,286,084
Net income before tax in the financial year	(12,907)	(36,162)
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-	-
Net income after tax in the financial year	(12,907)	(36,162)
Retained surplus for the financial year	(12,907)	(36,162)

All activities derive from continuing operations

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the headings and subheadings used in the Income and Expenditure account have been adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

The notes attached on pages 25 to 47 form an integral part of these accounts.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 March 2024

	Note	SORP Ref	2024	2024
			£	£
Fixed assets		A		
Tangible assets	12	A2	27,634	31,057
Current assets		B		
Debtors	13	B2	95,902	70,318
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	484,765	564,072
Total current assets			580,687	634,390
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	C1	(51,706)	(95,945)
Net Current assets			528,961	538,445
The total net assets of the charity			556,595	569,502
The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-				
Restricted funds				
Restricted Revenue Funds	18	D2	377,601	359,779
Unrestricted Funds			377,601	359,779
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	18	D3	178,994	209,723
Designated Funds			178,994	209,723
Total charity funds			556,595	569,502

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA.

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The charity is subject to audit under charity legislation, and the report of the Charities Act auditor is on page 17.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.



Bridget Tatham
Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 12.12.24

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023
		£		£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net cash provided by operating activities as shown below	A	<u>(78,438)</u>		<u>45,310</u>
Cash flows from investing activities				
Interest received		4,857		1,676
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(5,726)		1,249,922
Net cash provided by investing activities	B	<u>(869)</u>		<u>(9,421)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities				
Net cash provided by financing activities	C	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
Overall cash provided by all activities	A+B+C	<u>(79,307)</u>		<u>(35,889)</u>
Cash movements				
Change in cash and cash equivalents from activities in the year ended 31 March		(79,307)		35,889
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>564,072</u>		<u>528,183</u>
Cash at bank and in hand less overdrafts at 31 March		<u>484,765</u>		<u>564,072</u>

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities	(12,907)	(36,162)
Adjustments for :-		
Depreciation charges	9,149	10,308
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(4,857)	(1,676)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(25,584)	55,755
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors, excluding loans	(44,239)	17,085
Net cash provided by operating activities	A (78,438)	45,310

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash in hand at 31 March	484,765	564,072
Total cash and cash equivalents	484,765	564,072

Analysis of change in net debt

	At start of year	Cash Movement	At end of year
	£	£	£
Cash	564,072	(79,307)	484,765
Total	564,072	(79,307)	484,765

1. Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , effective January 2016, and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Risks and future assumptions

African Caribbean Community Initiative (A.C.C.I.) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Policies relating to categories of income and income recognition.

Nature of income

Gross income represents contractual payments received to fund charitable activities, the value of goods and services sold in accordance with the charity's objects, and gifts and donations.

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

The accounts are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

Accounting for deferred income and income received in advance

Where terms and conditions relating to income have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet any terms or conditions otherwise within its control, income is not recognised but is deferred as a liability until it is probable that the terms or conditions imposed can be met.

Any grant that is subject to performance-related conditions received in advance of delivering the goods and services required by that condition, or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside the control of the recipient charity, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met.

When income from a grant or donation has not been recognised due to the conditions applying to the gift not being wholly within the control of the recipient charity, it is disclosed as a contingent asset if receipt of the grant or donation is probable once those conditions are met.

Where time related conditions are imposed or implied by a funder, then the income is apportioned to the time periods concerned and, where applicable, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. When grants are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them, but there are no specific time related conditions, then the income is not deferred.

Any condition that allows for the recovery by the donor of any unexpended part of a grant does not prevent recognition of the income concerned, but a liability to any repayment is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

Income from legacies

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them, that where required, probate has been granted, the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate, that it is probable that the amount will be received by the charity, and the amount to be received can be estimated with sufficient accuracy, and that any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated.

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Policies relating to assets, liabilities and provisions and other matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at their original cost value, or subsequent revaluation, or if donated, as described above. Cost value includes all costs expended in bringing the asset into its intended working condition.

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets to their anticipated residual value over their estimated useful lives.

Plant and machinery	25 % reducing balance
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Accounting for capital grants and fixed asset funds.

Gifts of tangible fixed assets or grants of a capital nature, given for the purposes of acquiring specific assets to be fully utilised in the furtherance of the objects of the charity, are credited to fixed asset funds after the donated asset has been received or sums have been properly expended on the restricted purpose.

Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Cash and bank balances

Cash held by the charity is included at the amount actually held and counted at the year end. Bank balances, whether in credit or overdrawn, are shown at the amounts properly reconciled to the bank statements.

Pensions - defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

There are no designated funds included in the accounts.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

There are no endowment funds.

2. Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

3. Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4. Significance of financial instruments to the charity's position

There are no significant implications of financial instruments to the charity's position.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023
		£		£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net cash provided by operating activities as shown below	A	(78,438)		45,310
Cash flows from investing activities				
Interest received		4,857		1,676
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(5,726)		1,249,922
Net cash provided by investing activities	B	(869)		(9,421)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Net cash provided by financing activities	C	-		-
Overall cash provided by all activities	A+B+C	(79,307)		(35,889)
Cash movements				
Change in cash and cash equivalents from activities in the year ended 31 March		(79,307)		35,889
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		564,072		528,183
Cash at bank and in hand less overdrafts at 31 March		484,765		564,072

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5. Net surplus before tax in the financial year

	2024	2023
	£	£
The net surplus before tax in the financial year is stated after charging:-		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	9,149	10,308
Pension costs	24,452	23,480
Auditors' remuneration	4,280	3,960
	9,149	10,308

6. Interest payable

	2024	2023
	£	£
HMRC interest	-	9
Bank interest payable	38	-
	38	9

7. The contribution of volunteers

The charity depends on the support of its volunteers, which is much appreciated. The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value precisely in monetary terms and have not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

8. Staff costs and emoluments

Salary costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross Salaries excluding trustees and key management personnel	1,016,275	875,564
Employer's National Insurance for all staff	76,082	68,936
Employer's operating costs of defined contribution pension schemes	24,452	23,480
Total salaries, wages and related costs	1,116,809	967,980

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Salary costs	2024	2023
	£	£

The average number of full time staff employed in the year was	48	41
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed in the year was	48	41

The estimated equivalent number of full time staff deployed in different activities in the year was:-

Engaged on charitable activities	45	38
Engaged on management and administration	3	3

The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed as above	48	41
---	----	----

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity, either in the current or prior year.

No employees received emoluments (excluding pension costs) in excess of £60,000 per annum.

9. Defined contribution pension schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The costs are charged in the statement of financial activities as they accrue. The charge for the year was £24,452 (2023: £23,480).

Any liabilities and assets associated with the scheme are shown under debtors and creditors.

10. Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11. Deferred income - Restricted funds

Current Year	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin ICB	41,250	(41,250)	-	-
Total	41,250	(41,250)	-	-

	2024 £	2023 £
These deferrals are included in creditors	-	41,250

Prior Year	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin ICB	27,950	(27,950)	-	-
	-	-	-	41,250
Total	27,950	(27,950)	-	41,250

	2023 £	2022 £
These deferrals are included in creditors	41,250	27,950

The deferrals included in creditors relate to funding specified by the funders as relating to specific periods and represent those parts of restricted funds which relate to periods subsequent to the accounting year end and are treated as grants in advance or, alternatively, where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the restricted funds by the charity.

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT
AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (A.C.C.I.)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12. Tangible fixed assets

Current Year	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicle	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
1 April 2023	-	148,159	-	148,159
Additions	-	5,726	-	5,726
31 March 2024	-	153,885	-	153,885
Depreciation				
1 April 2023	-	117,102	-	117,102
Charge for the year	-	9,149	-	9,149
31 March 2024	-	126,251	-	126,251
Net book value				
At 31 March 2024	-	27,634	-	27,634
At 31 March 2023	-	31,057	-	31,057
Prior Year				
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
31 March 2022	-	137,062	-	137,062
Additions	-	11,097	-	11,097
01 April 2023	-	148,159	-	148,159
Depreciation				
31 March 2022	-	106,794	-	106,794
Charge for the year	-	10,308	-	10,308
01 April 2023	-	117,102	-	117,102
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	-	31,057	-	31,057
At 31 March 2022	-	30,268	-	30,268

An element of the fixed assets were acquired with the aid of grants and there are restrictions upon the manner in which the assets can be dealt with imposed by the grant making authorities.

All assets are used for direct charitable purposes.

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13. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	76,921	67,376
Prepayments and accrued income	18,981	2,942
	95,902	70,318

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	15,066	23,269
Accruals	11,464	7,528
Deferred Income - Restricted funds	-	41,250
PAYE, NIC VAT and other taxes	19,152	17,544
Other creditors	6,024	6,354
	51,706	95,945

15. Income and Expenditure account summary	2024	2023
	£	£
At 1 April 2023	569,502	605,684
Surplus/(Defecit) after tax for the year	(12,907)	(36,162)
At 31 March 2024	556,595	569,502

16. No related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

17. Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 March 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	26,888	-	746	27,634
Current Assets	203,812	-	376,855	580,667
Current Liabilities	(51,706)	-	-	(51,706)
	178,994	-	377,601	556,595
 At 1 April 2023				
	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	30,059	-	998	31,057
Current Assets	275,609	-	358,781	634,390
Current Liabilities	(95,945)	-	-	(95,945)
	209,723	-	359,779	569,502

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18. Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 17, analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2023	Movement in funds in 2024	Transfers between funds in 2024	Funds carried forward to 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-		See Note 19		
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	209,723	(30,729)	-	178,994
Total unrestricted and designated funds	209,723	(30,729)	-	178,994
Restricted funds:-				
Equipment grant	996	(250)	-	746
Wolverhampton City Council	78,243	19,099	-	97,342
Wolverhampton CCG	131,755	9,806	-	141,561
MHLP	15,409	9,441	-	24,850
The Henry Smith Charity	4,961	-	-	4,961
Lloyds Bank Foundation	12,506	-	-	12,506
MiFriendly Cities Project	2,374	-	-	2,374
National Lottery - Awards for All	8,638	(1,030)	-	7,608
FBC Manby Bowdler LLP	-	-	-	-
Telford & Wrekin Council Safer & Stronger Fund	-	543	-	543
Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	-	21,719	-	21,719
Church Urban Fund	3,002	-	-	3,002
Charities Aid Foundation	47	-	-	47
Clothworker's Covid Fund	3,719	-	-	3,719
Independent Age Fund	4,988	(1,048)	-	3,940
Afghanistan Resettlement Scheme	21,070	(1,493)	-	19,577
DHSC Suicide Prevention Fund	62,182	(44,784)	-	17,398
Wolverhampton Voluntary & Community Action	620	(75)	-	545
The National Lottery Community Fund - KYN NHS	13,083	6,939	-	20,022
Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin ICB	(3,814)	(1,309)	-	(5,123)
The National Lottery Community Fund - COL	-	264	-	264
Total restricted funds	359,779	17,822	-	377,601
Total charity funds	569,502	(12,907)	-	556,595

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19. Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 18

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	787,825	(818,554)	-	(30,729)
Restricted funds:-				
Equipment grant	-	(250)	-	(250)
Wolverhampton City Council	222,572	(203,473)	-	19,099
Wolverhampton CCG	98,091	(88,285)	-	9,806
MHLP	60,144	(50,703)	-	9,441
National Lottery - Awards for All	-	(1,030)	-	(1,030)
FBC Manby Bowdler LLP	7,955	(7,955)	-	-
Telford & Wrekin Council Safer & Stronger Fund	3,000	(2,457)	-	543
Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	41,720	(20,001)	-	21,719
Independent Age Fund	-	(1,048)	-	(1,048)
Afghanistan Resettlement Scheme	111,529	(113,022)	-	(1,493)
DHSC Suicide Prevention Fund	-	(44,784)	-	(44,784)
Wolverhampton Voluntary & Community Action	7,800	(7,875)	-	(75)
The National Lottery Community Fund - KYN	22,288	(15,349)	-	6,939
NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin ICB	41,250	(42,559)	-	(1,309)
The National Lottery Community Fund - COL	73,678	(73,414)	-	264
	1,477,852	(1,490,759)	-	(12,907)

20. The purposes for which the funds

Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds:-

These funds are held for meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities and, subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use.

Restricted funds:-

Equipment grant

This was a grant for computer equipment for the Omari IT upgrade project. The balance is reducing as the computers depreciate.

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Wolverhampton City Council	This funding is to support day care, carer support and the outreach programme.
Wolverhampton CCG	This funding is to support mental health and general wellbeing, and to support outreach workers.
MHLP	This funding supports the role of a nurse.
The Henry Smith Charity	This funding is to support the employment of an activities officer.
Lloyds Bank Foundation	This funding is to support mental health and general wellbeing, and to cover the costs of specialised staff and volunteer expenses.
MiFriendly Cities Project	The funding is to assist in the furniture recycling and upcycling for homes to accommodate refugees, asylum seekers, and economic migrants.
National Lottery - Awards for All	This funding is to prepare and deliver meals to the vulnerable during the Covid-19 pandemic.
Church Urban Fund	This funding is to fund volunteer expenses and media production in raising awareness for the 'Windrush' generation.
Charities Aid Foundation	This funding is to assist with providing food, counselling and activities for vulnerable individuals during the Covid-19 pandemic.
Clothworker's Covid Fund	This funding is to fund the purchase of IT equipment to connect staff and service users.
Independent Age Fund	This funding is to assist with the continuation of services to the elderly and vulnerable during the Covid-19 pandemic.
Afghanistan Resettlement Scheme	This funding is to fund renovations to furniture for properties within tight time scales for use by the "Afghan Locally Employed Scheme" and "Wider New Communities Projects".
Telford & Wrekin Council Health Inequalities Fund and NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin ICB	This funding is to improve access to mental health services for black adults in the Telford and Wrekin borough. (This fund is currently overdrawn at the year end due to advanced expenditure. Sufficient funding has been received to cover this expenditure, however the majority of the income has been deferred in line with the terms of the grant. The fund is expected to return to a positive balance next year upon the unwinding of the deferred income provision).

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DHSC Suicide Prevention Fund	This funding is to enhance the provision of services to groups with a higher risk of suicide and provide support to other suicide prevention organisations.
Wolverhampton Voluntary & Community Action	This funding is to provide a short-term counselling facility under the Wolverhampton VCSE Mental Health Winter Pressures 2022/23 Programme.
The National Lottery Community Fund - Know Your Neighbourhood	This funding is to widen social groups through group physical activity, such as walking, running, and cycling.
FBC Manby Bowdler LLP	This funding is to assist with the support day care, carer support and the outreach programme.
Telford & Wrekin Council Safer & Stronger Fund	This funding is to provide cycling sessions in green spaces within Telford.
Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	This funding is to facilitate engagement with SMI individuals within Wolverhampton and assist with access to benefits and other support available to them.
The National Lottery Community Fund - Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund	This funding is to cover costs of additional staff and volunteers to deliver expanded services for individuals who have encountered challenges during the cost of living crisis.

21. Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its trustees.

Every member of the charity is obliged to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

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22. Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts from individuals				
Small donations individually less than £1000	10,870	-	10,870	8,379
Wolverhampton Mayoral Office	3,859	-	3,859	-
Moreland Trust	4,961	-	4,961	17,000
The Co-operative Group	12,506	-	12,506	1,761
Lloyds Bank Foundation	2,374	-	2,374	1,500
Lisa Wood (Wolverhampton Pool)	8,638	-	8,638	1,730
William A. Cadbury	-	-	-	1,000
Late Aldina Lewis Legacy	-	-	-	1,000
The Neighbourly Foundation	1,500	-	1,500	-
Total donations and gifts from individuals	16,229	-	16,229	32,369
	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising income				
Gala fundraising	11,971	-	11,971	-
Total Fundraising income	11,971	-	11,971	-
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	28,200	-	28,200	32,369

23. Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

Current year	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Primary purpose and ancillary trading				
Sale of goods and services in accordance with the charity's objects	62,420	-	62,420	46,604
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	62,420	-	62,420	46,604

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24. Charitable income from funders

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Contractual payments from public bodies to fund charitable activities				
Wolverhampton City Council Mainline Funding	-	56,440	56,440	56,440
Wolverhampton City Council (WCC)	426,973	277,661	704,634	630,449
Wolverhampton CCG	49,220	152,955	202,175	241,376
MHLP	-	5,280	5,280	3,960
Dudley CCG	57,100	-	57,100	-
Wolverhampton Homes	9,400	-	9,400	20,000
FBC Manby Bowdler LLP	-	7,955	7,955	-
NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin ICB	-	41,250	41,250	3,750
Wolverhampton Voluntary & Community Action	-	7,800	7,800	7,800
Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	-	41,720	41,720	-
Telford & Wrekin Council Health Inequalities Fund	-	-	-	27,950
Telford & Wrekin Council Safer & Stronger	-	3,000	3,000	-
Total contractual payments from public bodies	542,693	594,061	1,136,754	991,725

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Contractual payments from public bodies to fund charitable activities - Prior Year analysis

	Prior year Unrestricted Funds	Prior year Restricted Funds	Prior year Total Funds	
	2023	2023	2023	
	£	£	£	
Prior Year	505,066	486,659	991,725	
	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
Contractual payments from non public bodies to fund charitable activities	£	£	£	£
Staffordshire University	2,800	-	2,800	4,400
Birmingham City University	1,400	-	1,400	3,000
Big Lottery Awards for All	-	-	-	10,000
National Lottery Community Fund - Cost of Living Support	-	73,678	73,678	-
National Lottery Community Fund - Know Your Neighbourhood	-	22,288	22,288	15,283
Independent Age	0	0	0	500
Total Fundraising income	4,200	95,966	100,166	33,383

All the income in the prior year was unrestricted.

Contractual payments from non public bodies to fund charitable activities

- Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Prior Year	7,600	25,783	33,383

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	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
Performance related grants from non public bodies to fund charitable activities	£	£	£	£
The Tudor Trust	33,000	-	33,000	30,000
Big Lottery Continuation Project	112,455	-	112,455	114,165
Total performance related grants from non public bodies	145,455	-	145,455	144,165
	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Total Charitable income from funders:- Current year - income from funders	692,348	690,027	1,382,375	1,169,273
Prior year	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023	Prior Year Total Funds 2023	
	£	£	£	
Prior Year - Income from funders	656,831	512,442	1,169,273	

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Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

25. Total Income from charitable activities

Current year	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Total income from charitable trading	62,420	-	62,420	46,604
Income from funders	692,348	690,027	1,382,375	1,169,273
Total from charitable activities A2	754,768	690,027	1,444,795	1,215,877
Prior year	Prior year Unrestricted Funds 2023	Prior year Restricted Funds 2023	Prior year Total Funds 2023	
	£	£	£	
Total income from charitable trading	46,604	-	46,604	
Income from funders	656,831	512,442	1,169,273	
	703,435	512,442	1,215,877	

26. Investment income

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest Receivable	4,857	-	4,857	1,676
Total investment income A4	4,857	-	4,857	1,676

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Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

27. Expenditure on charitable activities - Direct spending

Current year	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	504,743	460,490	965,233	836,317
Employers' NI - Charitable activities	35,282	36,782	72,064	66,312
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	14,383	10,069	24,452	23,480
General costs	35,619	11,795	47,414	37,418
Member activities	12,677	7,966	20,643	13,988
Total direct spending B2a	602,704	527,102	1,129,806	977,515
Prior year	Prior year Unrestricted Funds 2023	Prior year Restricted Funds 2023	Prior year Total Funds 2023	
	£	£	£	
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	456,106	380,211	836,317	
Employers' NI - Charitable activities	33,033	33,279	66,312	
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	13,342	10,138	23,480	
General costs	25,887	11,531	37,418	
Member activities	4,842	9,146	13,988	
Total direct spending B2a	533,210	444,305	977,515	

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28. Support costs for charitable activities

Current year	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Employee costs not included in direct costs				
Other salaries	28,752	22,290	51,042	39,247
Employer's NI - Other salaries	2,263	1,755	4,018	2,624
Training and welfare - staff	18,183	20,974	39,157	51,483
Travel and subsistence - staff	7,231	17,090	24,321	18,768
Recruitment expenses	-	-	-	143
Premises Expenses				
Service charges payable	9,701	-	9,701	9,701
Rates and water charges	109	-	109	123
Light heat and power	1,700	6,131	7,831	10,274
Cleaning and waste management	10,344	283	10,627	10,993
Premises repairs, renewals and maintenance	6,041	-	6,041	7,699
Rent and insurance	28,729	27,828	56,557	44,599
Administrative overheads				
Telephone, fax and internet	7,506	1,500	9,006	8,629
Postage	44	3	47	726
Stationery and printing	10,711	87	10,798	9,057
Subscriptions to periodicals	1,397	-	1,397	982
Software licences and expenses	1,146	-	1,146	281
Advertising and marketing	11,676	66	11,742	13,105
Sundry expenses	8,726	6,222	14,948	14,356
Equipment,repairs,expenses and maintenance	6,490	33,135	39,625	14,968
Professional fees paid to advisors other than the auditor or examiner				
Accountancy fees other than examination or audit fees	8,744	-	8,744	7,980
Consultancy fees	15,750	-	15,750	14,400
Other legal and professional	10,900	4,421	15,321	5,260
Financial costs				
Bank charges	2,059	60	2,119	1,836
HMRC interest	-	-	-	9
Depreciation & Amortisation in total for the period	9,149	-	9,149	10,308
Bank interest payable	38	-	38	-
Total donations and gifts from individuals	207,389	141,845	349,234	297,551
Total donations and gifts from individuals	207,389	141,845	349,234	297,551

The basis of allocation of costs between activities is described under accounting policies

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Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

Prior year	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Employee costs not included in direct costs			
Other salaries	21,405	17,842	39,247
Employer's NI - Other salaries	1,431	1,193	2,624
Training and welfare - staff	6,979	44,504	51,483
Travel and subsistence - staff	4,571	14,197	18,768
Recruitment expenses	-	143	143
Premises Expenses			
Service charges payable	9,701	-	9,701
Rates and water charges	123	-	123
Light heat and power	10,274	-	10,274
Cleaning and waste management	10,993	-	10,993
Premises repairs, renewals and maintenance	7,699	-	7,699
Rent and insurance	34,157	10,442	44,599
Administrative overheads			
Telephone, fax and internet	7,319	1,310	8,629
Postage	726	-	726
Stationery and printing	9,009	48	9,057
Subscriptions to periodicals	982	-	982
Software licences and expenses	281	-	281
Advertising and marketing	11,957	1,148	13,105
Sundry expenses	5,684	8,672	14,356
Equipment, repairs, expenses and maintenance	5,989	8,979	14,968
Professional fees paid to advisors other than the auditor or examiner			
Accountancy fees other than examination or audit fees	7,980	-	7,980
Consultancy fees	14,400	-	14,400
Other legal and professional	-	5,260	5,260
Financial costs			
Bank charges	1,836	-	1,836
HMRC interest	9	-	9
Depreciation & Amortisation in total for the period	10,308	-	10,308
Bank interest payable	-	-	-
Support costs before reallocation	183,813	113,738	297,551
Total support costs - Prior Year	183,813	113,738	297,551

The basis of allocation of costs between activities is described under accounting policies

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Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

29. Other Expenditure - Governance costs

Current year	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Auditor's fees	4,260	-	4,260	3,960
Wages and salaries	3,847	2,983	6,830	6,453
Employer's NI	354	275	629	605
Total Governance costs	8,461	3,258	11,719	11,018
Prior year	Prior year Unrestricted Funds 2023	Prior year Restricted Funds 2023	Prior year Total Funds 2023	
	£	£	£	
Auditor's fees	3,960	-	3,290	
Wages and salaries	3,519	2,934	6,453	
Employer's NI	330	275	605	
Total Governance costs	7,809	3,209	11,018	

30. Total Charitable expenditure

Current year		Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024	Current year Restricted Funds 2024	Current year Total Funds 2024	Prior Year Total Funds 2023
		£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	602,704	527,102	1,129,806	977,515
Total support costs	B2d	207,389	141,845	349,234	297,551
Total Governance costs	B2e	8,461	3,258	11,719	11,018
Losses on disposals of fixed assets		-	-	-	-
Total Governance costs	B2	818,554	672,205	1,490,759	1,286,084
Prior year		Prior year Unrestricted Funds 2023	Prior year Restricted Funds 2023	Prior year Total Funds 2023	
		£	£	£	
Total direct spending	B2a	533,210	444,305	977,515	
Total support costs	B2d	183,813	113,738	297,551	
Total Governance costs	B2e	7,809	3,209	11,018	
Losses on disposals of fixed assets		-	-	-	
Total Governance costs	B2	724,832	561,252	1,286,084	

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Activity analysis of Income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024

This analysis is classified by activity and not by conventional nominal descriptions.

31 Analysis of income by activity

	2024	2023
	£	£
Activity		
Income from charitable activities		
Primary purpose and ancillary trading	1,382,375	1,169,273
Other charitable activities	62,420	46,604
Total Income from charitable activities	1,444,795	1,215,877
Summary of Total Income, including the items above		
Charitable activities A2	1,444,795	1,215,877
Donations & Legacies A1	28,200	32,369
Investment income A4	4,857	1,676
Total income as shown in the SOFA	1,477,852	1,249,922
Activity		
Categories of income		
Income from non exchange transactions	33,057	34,045
Income from exchange transactions	1,444,795	1,215,877
	1,477,852	1,249,922

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Activity analysis of Income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024

32. Analysis of charitable expenditure by activity

Current year	Direct Costs	Support Costs	Grant funding of activities	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Other charitable activities					
Direct costs	1,129,806	-	-	1,129,806	977,515
Employee costs not included in direct costs	0	118,538	-	118,538	112,265
Premises expenses	-	90,866	-	90,866	83,389
Administrative overheads	-	88,709	-	88,709	62,104
Professional fees	-	39,815	-	39,815	27,640
Financial costs	-	11,306	-	11,306	12,153
Losses on disposals of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other charitable activities	1,129,806	349,234	-	1,479,040	1,275,066

Summary of charitable costs by activity

	Direct Costs	Support Costs	Grant funding of activities	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Total Other charitable activities	1,129,806	349,234	-	1,479,040	1,275,066
Total Governance costs as detailed in Note 29	0	11,719	-	11,719	11,018
Total charitable expenditure	1,129,806	360,853	-	1,490,759	1,286,084

The basis of allocation of costs between activities is described under accounting policies

The breakdown of this expenditure by type of spending (ie nominal classification) is detailed in note 30

Analysis of support and governance costs by charitable activities

Activity	Governance	Finance	Human Resources	Other Overheads	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Other charitable activities	11,719	11,306	116,538	219,390	360,953

ACCI ANNUAL REPORT

Activity analysis of Income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024

33. Analysis of non charitable expenditure by activity

Governance costs	Governance costs 2024 £	Governance costs 2023 £
Other Expenditure - Governance costs as detailed in Note 29	11,719	11,018

The breakdown of this expenditure by type of spending (ie by nominal classification and by fund) is detailed in note 29

ACCI Activity Report

2023-24

“

**Where
there is
no vision,
there is
no hope.**

”

—— **George
Washington
Carver**

Message from CEO Alicia Spence

As we continue to grapple with crisis after crisis, new wave of Covid 19, multiple physical and mental health concerns, the impact of these challenges on the community and voluntary sector cannot be overstated. Against this backdrop we are challenged to address the declining financial catastrophic situation facing many of us in the sector.

The unprecedented rise in mental health statistics, particularly amongst young people, gives cause for concern.

One of the most effective response is that we are here and continue to respond and give a "Safe" space for Members to access support and share experiences of coping strategies.

I AM BECAUSE WE ARE, BECAUSE WE ARE THEREFORE I AM

At ACCI not only do we provide practical/emotional support but above all else we give "Hope" in a climate where inequalities, social injustice, racism persist and "HOPELESSNESS" penetrates every sector of our lives.

ACCI prides itself on having a cohort of staff who go above and beyond their statutory and contracted duties, staff who do not walk away at stated closing times, but will respond to the needs of Members ensuring they are treated with love, compassion, kindness and humanity.

Our Members are loyal to the service as their journey tells a story and within that, there is a sense of belonging, knowing that we acknowledge their journey and hear their stories of pain, recovery and restoration.

As always, I want to thank Staff, Board Members, Stakeholders, Carers and Volunteers for your continued support.

Most importantly, I want to show appreciation for our Members who have given so much and ask for so little in return, their simple ask is to be treated with respect, kindness and an acknowledgement that mental-illness is a part of their journey not a destination.

January 2025



Alicia Spence
CEO

Our Health & Well-being Hub Report



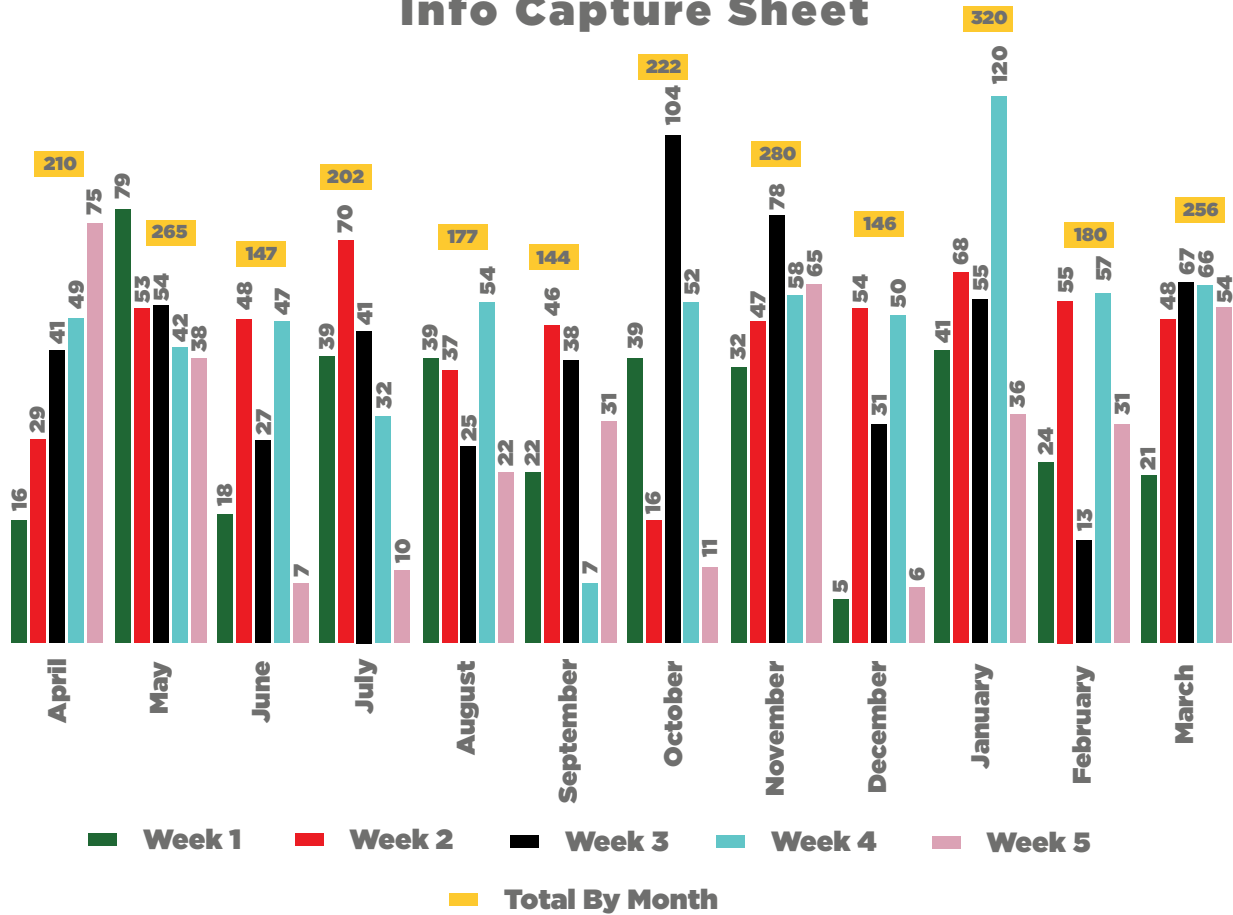
At the heart of the ACCI building lies our health and well-being hub. A safe space for our Members and a place of welcome for those who enter our doors. Staff in the well-being hub aim to create an environment where everyone feels welcomed and part of the family. In this space, we aim to give help and provide support and guidance to reduce levels of stress and anxiety in a nurturing and empowering environment.

Our ethos is to ensure that Members are given physical emotional and mental psychological help to improve and maintain good mental health. Members engage in activities on a daily basis.. This helps to create a nurturing environment they need whilst helping new Members feel more safe and secure.

For some Members the health and well-being hub is a place for them to come and “rest their mind”, a place where they can “chill-out”, a place they feel safe, a place they are not judged or seen as another person with a label, a place where staff will just sit and have a talk, a place where they feel human. It is important that those who enter the health and well-being hub feel welcomed and safe as for many this will be the first steps of their journey of recovery.

The sounds of voices and laughter of the Members brings life into the hub, whether this be a meaningful discussion or Members sharing a joke, it is always encouraging to hear. Members know this space belongs to them they truly appreciate this space and as such treat it with the greatest respect.

Info Capture Sheet



The figures show our record of attendance on our weekly activity sheet from March 2023 to April 2024. These figures were recorded when Members signed our activity sheets taking part in one of the planned activity. Some Members use the hub as a social engagement opportunity so will come in to “chill and relax” whilst others enjoy engaging a range of activities. At ACCI we promote the importance of being with each other and the positive impact of our holistic service..

Warm Hub

During the long dark cold winter nights our health and well-being hub became a designated warm hub. From October to March we were able to offer the Members an extended service two evenings per week. Staff and Members spent time together socially and keeping them safe and warm.

Members were provided with a hot evening meal and refreshments. They spent time playing games such as bingo, cards, chess dominoes, pool etc. Such was the success of this that the Members asked for the Bingo nights to continue.

Through this funding we received for the late nights from the lottery we were also able to purchase 3 new desk top computers for Members in the well-being hub. These computer are used by the Members for social, economic and educational purposes allowing them to have fun and learn at the same time. The new computers also gave the well-being hub a truly welcoming feel.





ACCI was fortunate to be one of the recipients of this government initiative. Through this we were able to distribute food items, blankets and bedding, small household goods and more importantly shopping vouchers to Members and those in the community in need. During this period we were able to donate and distribute items to 242 households including families with children.

Household Support Fund & Community Donations



In December 2023, a prominent member of the community, Dr Joshua Johnson along with Callum McConnell made a significant food donation to us. These food items were used to create food parcels which were distributed in the community. Its acts such as these that enable us to do so much more for the community and support those affected by the cost of living crisis.

“

**We may
encounter
many
defeats but
we must
not be
defeated.**

”

— **Maya Angelou**

Mental Health Liaison Report



Mental illness is like a beast which does not have any boundaries. Everyone at some point in life will question yourself, 'Am I alright mentally?' Hence no one is qualified to look down or disrespect any one who is presenting with mental illness. More so in people of our African Caribbean and Asian backgrounds where we have an over representation of mental illness in this country. This alone calls for establishing ways of reducing numbers of this client group in our mental health system. Thus the reason the ACCI was founded and from its birth it continues to grow and touch the hearts of so many people. For the service to succeed in its endeavour, it has to work with other services and professionals to offer seamless support to people struggling with mental illness.

This called for the need for the role of a Mental Health Liaison Practitioner who is based at ACCI. The Mental Health Liaison Practitioner forms closer links between the statutory services such as the Inpatient Hospitals, Community Mental Health Teams and the prisons/probation services, Black Country Women Aid Services, Migrant and Refugee Centre and Social Services. ACCI would not offer effective support to clients/Members if it was working in isolation from other service providers. The Members who use this service have been referred from different services and some are referred by their family Members and some are self-referred. ACCI treats all Members alike no matter their background. This current year we received some referrals from the above mentioned organisations. Some of the self-referrals came as far afield as Bristol and Lancaster and unfortunately we had to turn them down because they were out of area. On a weekly basis the MHLP attends MDT, Ward Review Meetings, hospital visits and at times communicating via telephone and emails to doctors, community psychiatric nurses, and family Members.



Only clients of concern will be discussed though as this serves to share relevant information about the clients who are presenting with signs of relapse in their mental state and needing imminent help to avoid hospital admission. In MDT, an action plan is drawn up as a team. This serves to ensure that all professionals working with a client are aware of the risks they pose and their treatment plan so as to deliver an un-fragmented care. Sometimes a member may be missing his outpatient review appointments and the MHLP will pick up this from MDT meeting and starts encouraging them to attend their appointments or even offer to take them for their next appointment. If this is done timely, it will avert an imminent relapse in mental state due to non-compliance with the treatment regime and medication. At times in the Well-Being Hub staff may notice a member showing signs of relapse or mere change of behaviour such as being loud, argumentative and aggressive or being withdrawn and isolative. The MHLP will assess and advise where to signpost the individual either to Primary Care or Secondary Care or to refer them to different services offered within the ACCI organisation.

Here at ACCI the 2023-2024 year was not really different from the previous year apart from the fact that it was a post COVID 19 period and all Members and staff alike had a breath of relief. Most of the Members enjoyed long periods of mental stability and remained in their homes and enjoyed their wellbeing. A good number of them maintained their attendance to the wellbeing hub and participated in different activities which in turn uplifted their spirits and they remained settled in their mental state. Yes, our Members needed constant reminders to comply with their medication and keep up with their outpatient review appointments.



We continuously advised our Members to abstain from using illicit substances as they always trigger psychosis or trigger treatment resistance on their diagnosis. As staff, we maintained a tight knitt team and when necessary, we do in house referrals i.e. counselling, housing and welfare services and daily activities so that our Members receive holistic support to ensure sustained mental wellness. This also includes in-house training on the part of our staff Members, as some do not have previous knowledge of mental illness and the different diagnosis.

The MHLP held some training sessions covering the most common mental illness such as Anxiety and Depression, Personality Disorder and Psychosis and their common remedies and side effects. Staff Members also undertake administration of medication training. This will come in very useful especially with outreach staff who go out visiting and supporting some of our Members who cannot access the day hub due to different challenges they face in their lives. They will be able to check on compliance of their medication and also can observe signs of relapse or even side effects of medication and alert the MHLP, CPN or the medics or the Social Services depending on the needs. This information will be shared in our Weekly Care Planning Meeting and in turn the MHLP will also share it in the weekly MDT meeting to ensure that every one is on board with what is happening with their patients in the community and make an action plan timely. In addition to this, MHLP carried some medication auditing around the Omari Housing Project to make sure that our Members are getting their appropriate care.

Apart from the usual referrals this year, we received a fair share of some international students, mainly coming from Africa on student visa and they ended up getting into financial crisis given their visa restrictions to work for only limited hours per week.



These students ended up having mental break down and had to be admitted into our local psychiatric hospital. When discharged they found their way to ACCI doors for help and support. Some were referred from Penn Hospital and some heard from the community and they presented themselves in dire need of food and accommodation and moral support. We are proud to say that we supported 3 such students and they are now settled and they managed to secure jobs and they continued with their university studies. Unfortunately one female student could not continue with her studies and her visa was revoked as she had a baby within three months of her arrival into this country. The husband became unwell due to stress of not being able to cope with financial hardships. We referred them to RMC to claim asylum.

On the whole we had a lesser number of our Members relapsing and getting into inpatient care. A good number of them remained well in the community longer than they did in the past 2-3 years. This means we have had a successful year on the whole. However we also had some cases where the outcome was the opposite. This includes some of our Members who ended up in prison due to crimes committed under the influence of drugs/or mental illness despite the effort we make to educate them about the dangers of using drugs and also the effort we make to refer them to Recovery Near You. Most of them do not engage with Recovery Near You because they prefer to carry on using the illicit substances. They are always in denial and they end up facing recurrent hospital admissions.



Outreach report

During 2023-2024 our outreach staff made 2721 visits. These visits included accompanying Members to medical appointments, support with shopping, socialising, benefits awareness session, housing issues and help within the home etc.

Members are assigned to key workers who are responsible to ensure that the level of contact is maintained on a regular basis as determined by the support plan.

The outreach team provides a link to those aiming to live independently in the community, creating a home and maintaining their mental health and physical well-being. The regular contacts become part of their support system and it is through these visits that staff can continually assess their health and well-being. As the outreach team goes into the community, they are able to forge links with the Members and their families. This service often acts as “an extra eye” on behalf of the families as they are able to identify areas of concern and when appropriate contact the relevant support services.

For some Members, the outreach team acts as a bridge between them and their immediate families as the relationship could be strained or they have an elderly carer who is struggling to provide the level of support required. For the carers, knowing that the ACCI outreach team is supporting their loved one, gives them security in knowing that their vulnerable family member is being cared for. The outreach team is made up of dedicated, hardworking, focussed individuals who understand the need for respecting the individuals in their homes and supporting them to maintain their health and well-being..



“

**Each
person
must live
their life
as a model
for others.**

”

— **Rosa Parks**

Health & Wellbeing Practitioner Report

Talent Lounge

ACCI's Talent lounge happens once a month. This is a safe place for our Members to showcase their talents, it's a great opportunity for all Members to build confidence and develop their skills and talents. Members will perform in poetry,

singing, dancing, drumming and storytelling. Each month they perform in a new confidence and boldness. These afternoons are enjoyed by everybody.

Bowling

Every month, our Members enjoy an exciting outing to the bowling alley. This gathering not only allows them to socialise and have a great time but also serves as a thrilling event to anticipate. Some Members embrace a friendly competitive spirit, which adds a fun

dynamic to the experience. The frequent bowling sessions not only foster camaraderie but also provide an opportunity for skill improvement with each visit. Following the games, the group head out for a meal. Members look forward to this every month.

Women's Group / Men's Group

This is a safe space for our women and men to connect who have and share similar experiences. It's a safe place where they can openly discuss their challenges and share coping strategies with each other and staff.

It's a nice social time where they get involved with numerous activities, art, baking, sewing, playing dominos, soap making men talks women talks and much more.





Walks, Bike Rides, Farm, Football, Gym

Activities that incorporate fitness is powerful. A good practice of Health and Fitness is a medicine for many common mental health and physical challenges. Through delivering our walking, cycle programme, farm and the gym weekly, we have seen a positive impact on depression, anxiety and confidence and much more.

Football

Football takes place every week where Members can compete against mental health charities across the West Midlands in various football tournaments. Matches are held at well-known football grounds, such as Aston Villa Football Club, Coventry City Football Club and West Bromwich Albion Football Club.

One to one Rehabilitation sessions

Members facing mobility issues and those experiencing aches and pains have the opportunity for personalised sessions in our rehabilitation clinic. This initiative has proven to be incredibly beneficial. We have witnessed Members who underwent surgery gaining strength, stamina, and flexibility through these sessions. The positive physical transformations have not only been amazing for their bodies but have also led to improved mental well-being, lightening their burdens. This rehabilitation programme has truly made a significant impact.

Weekly Sewing / Art classes

Every week, our Members engage in enriching art and sewing classes that nurture their creativity, skills and techniques. These classes serve as a canvas for their imaginations to flourish, allowing them to express themselves freely.



May 2023 Mental Health Week

Mental Health Week we hosted an activity that made a real impact, we had a nutritionist share valuable insights on how nutrition affects our health. Members had the chance to open up about their own health journeys, expressing their feelings and highlighting areas where they may be lacking due to poor nutrition. In the week, we also ran courses on overcoming anxiety, it was a day filled with meaningful discussions and learnings. The Members left feeling motivated and committed to integrating these lessons into their daily lives. It was a truly productive day that resonated with everyone who participated.

After the enlightening workshops, Members came together to appreciate one another, expressing heartfelt gratitude for the community and for themselves. The Members shared their thanks and celebrated life in a joyous party. It was a beautiful moment of connection and celebration, highlighting the importance of cherishing each other and the gift of life itself. The event truly embodied the spirit of togetherness and gratitude, leaving everyone with a sense of warmth and joy.



June 2023

Members from ACCI completed 6 week-long sign language workshop where they developed basic skills of sign language. As a culmination of their learning, they beautifully interpreted the song “One Love” through sign language.

Wind Rush Performance

ACCI Members performance/presentation at the Wind Rush event was met with admiration and praise from the audience, making both themselves, the community and ACCI proud. Their outstanding performance highlighted their dedication, effort, commitment, confidence and talents.





Father's Day: Mens Health

On Father's Day, we put together a remarkable day to celebrate fathers and the men in our community and those from ACCI. It was an enriching experience for all. The day included a bike ride, Boxing sessions, nutrition workshops, and health assessments.

The men also enjoyed some pampering and grooming by one of the best barbers in Wolverhampton, Markie's Barbers. It was a well-rounded event that catered to the well-being and enjoyment of everyone who participated.

The Members at ACCI ventured on a life-changing trip to the Lake District, a well-being escape granting them a weekend filled with freedom, lightness and wellness. This retreat became a haven, allowing them to break free from their challenges, pain and frustrations, immersing them in a new setting where they could breathe deeply and feel tranquillity. It became a time of unwinding, letting go and pure joy as they bonded and relished the change in scenery.

They enjoyed a variety of activities such as boat rides around the lakes and soaked up the beautiful scenery.

Flower Arranging

In the month of July, Members were introduced to the art of flower arranging, an activity that has brought therapeutic benefits.

Members have experienced a blend of creativity and mindfulness, fostering a serene environment that promotes well-being and relaxation. The vibrant colours and fragrances of the flowers uplift spirits creating a soothing atmosphere, allowing individuals to unwind and find solace in the beauty of nature.

Taking the flowers and plants home from the sessions has allowed Members to nurture and care for something ,providing them with a sense of fulfilment and reward.

Portugal

The holiday in Portugal has been an amazing adventure for all Members. They have immersed themselves in various activities, exploring the beautiful landscapes and engaging in different cultural experiences. From thrilling bike rides through the Algarve to relaxing boat rides along the stunning coastline. Members have embraced the local culture, new flavours, traditions and sights, making the holiday to Portugal a truly unforgettable experience.



October

In October, we celebrated Mental Health Day and Black History Month. Members had a great opportunity on Mental Health Day to undertake a group coaching session aimed at overcoming challenges. Through this, we wanted Members to step out in boldness, not allowing obstacles to hinder progress and purpose and to help them believe that despite facing mental health issues, they can still achieve greatness.

Members took part in some art and therapy sessions. This was in partnership with the Grand Theatre. Their work will be admired by other people in the community at the Grand Theatre.

During Mental Health Week some of the women from ACCI gathered for lunch where they engaged in empowering conversations, sharing ambitions and strategies. The women thoroughly enjoyed this experience.

Throughout Mental Health Day, Members enjoyed walks and were treated to therapy sessions of their choice, including massage, stretching, cupping, facials and foot spas. It is essential to remind our Members that self-love can have a positive impact on their mental health.

November

Members Pool Competition

Every year, we gather for our traditional pool competition, this is an event that has been a staple for over 25 years. It's a favourite among our Members, offering a platform to display their pool expertise and fostering a strong sense of camaraderie, allowing them to bond as a family, creating joyful memories and sharing laughter.

This year, sixteen ACCI Members enthusiastically joined the knockout pool tournament. Each participant received trophies and awards, ensuring that every member felt appreciated and valued for their participation.





December

December is a period where we aim to boost our Members' spirits, especially since Christmas can be challenging for some. We make it a priority to engage in fun activities to usher in the festive season. This year, our Members visited the theatre to watch a captivating performance of Snow White. The show brought joy and excitement to the group adding that touch of magic entering the festive season. Members also visited the Bullring for some Christmas shopping and relished a few German markets. They also had a blast at our incredible Christmas party at the Hub, dancing, laughing and enjoying their very own cocktail bar. To top it off, one of our talented Members took the stage as a DJ for the first time, adding a bold touch to the evening. As a token of appreciation, each member received a little something from ACCI, recognising their fantastic dedication and expressing our gratitude for their presence in our family.

January

We were honoured to be part of the “What Makes You Happy?” event at The Mander Centre. Our involvement showcased ACCI’s impactful work. We shared Members’ testimonials on happiness, emphasizing our organisation’s core values. Additionally, we presented our detailed programme and timetable, conducting health assessments for individuals. This event led to valuable referrals, introducing more individuals to ACCI. The day was a success.

Challenge

Commencing in January under the banner of “New Year, New Me,” we initiated a comprehensive wellness challenge programme. This initiative encompassed both our Members and dedicated staff, featuring a series of challenges structured over the weeks. Ranging from a rigorous no-sugar challenge, walking challenges, gym workouts to the systematic tracking of measurements each week, we curated an engaging platform for Members to actively enhance their health and well-being.

February

Self-Love Day truly left our Members feeling cherished and rejuvenated. The pampering sessions, included nails, hair, foot spa massages, facials, flower arranging and poetry; this created an atmosphere of relaxation and self-care. The joy and gratitude expressed by our Members reflected how much they appreciated the care and attention they received. It was a day where they felt valued and pampered, fostering a sense of self-love and well-being among all who participated.

March

Members were invited to Lloyds Bank Wednesfield branch, for a Digital Day, where they received support and tools to become more confident in using the internet, mobile banking and other banking methods. This event was a fantastic opportunity for the Members, as it provided clarity and helped to break down the barriers they initially faced. The staff were exceptional in explaining the processes to them.

During the day, some Members set up their online banking, while others created email addresses and a few took advantage of great promotions to switch bank accounts. This experience empowered the Members, allowing them to take charge of their finances and make informed decisions, which instilled a sense of power and confidence in them.



“

**I really loved
the culture in
Portugal.
The trip was
a dream come
true it was a
whole new world
that I explored
with my ACCI
family.**

”

— **Member
Thoughts**

“

I never thought I could manage my finances online, but now I feel so much more confident. The staff were really patient and helped me set up my online banking and email. Now I can keep track of my money and some great offers. It feels good to be in control.

”

— **Member Thoughts**

The Falomi Counselling & Therapeutic Service Report



The Falomi Counselling and Therapeutic Service offer's a practical and emotional support service to the population of Wolverhampton (and beyond) who are experiencing a range of complex issues. A range of therapies include Person Centred Counselling, Integrated Psychology, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) and Bereavement Therapy. All staff Members are registered with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) and have more than three years of experience in various settings such as schools, educational environments, social and community environments, mental health, and the voluntary sector. The holistic approach

involves using a combination of different therapeutic interventions to address a person's physical, emotional and mental well-being. This may include One-to-one, group, or family counselling, as well as alternative therapies such as homoeopathy, aromatherapy and Indian head massage.

Lottery funding has enabled us to work with some challenging individuals who otherwise would not be able to access the local (IAPT) Improving Access to Psychological Therapies that applies a (CBT) Cognitive Behavioural Therapy course.

Counselling Offers include

- **Tele-therapy** or the use of technology to conduct therapy sessions remotely, has become the main stay however and preferred method for talking therapy since the covid 19 lock down. This has allowed many clients to access therapy from the comfort and safety of their own homes or workplace. Many clients find that tele-therapy is preferable to in-person sessions, as it eliminates the need for travel and can be more convenient for those with busy schedules or care-giving responsibilities.
- **Face to face** talking therapy is still offered and a small number of clients still prefer this method.
- **Walk and Talk** sessions where a therapist and patient conduct a therapy session while walking outside in the open is becoming increasingly popular. These sessions can take place in parks or other natural settings and are especially popular during the summer months.

Service Growth

Continues to grow and is popular due to the effectiveness of its holistic therapeutic approach and un-pressured timeline with regard to future sessions. The service was able to deliver approximately 890 sessions throughout 2023/24 as well as attracting a further 150 new referrals over the year.

- **Winter Overspill Programme** - ACCI also successfully participated in the Winter Pressure (GP Overspill) Contract. We deliver 360 counselling sessions with noticeable and positive outcomes.

These sessions were successfully completed and discharged, resulting in positive outcomes for the clients. This

participation in the Winter Programme highlights ACCI's commitment to expanding their reach and providing much-needed support to individuals in the community.

The organisation's dedication to delivering quality counselling services is evident in the satisfactory completion of these sessions and the positive impact it had on the clients involved.

Staffing Make-Up

Currently, we have two part time staff as well as utilising three qualified sessional counselling staff who now, have been with ACCI for a number of years.

We were able to offer counselling hours to two university students who are currently studying to be accredited counsellors.



Sources of Referrals

Our main sources of referrals tend to be from the following Organisations

- Wolverhampton Healthy Minds
- Penn Hospital
- Black Country Women's Aid
- GP Practices
- Refugee and Migrant Centre
- Telford & Wrekin Council
- Wolverhampton Homes
- Wolverhampton Social Services
- The Bingley Centre
- Probation and West Midlands Police

We also continue to receive a significant number of self-referrals and referrals from family members.

Reflections

It is clear that the demand for this service continues to grow year on year. Those who have engaged with this area of the service have given positive feedback. In some cases, some have gone on to use other areas of the service thus endorsing the holistic offer we provide.

The impact of the cost of living is evident as these hardships can lead to health problems such as depression, distress and substance misuse. Support and therapy can help/assist individuals to address these issues.

The ability to refer in-house to an array of ACCI services is immensely beneficial and important for ensuring comprehensive support for clients. This integrated approach not only enhances efficiency but also minimises potential delays that may arise from external referral processes, ultimately optimising the overall client experience.



Omari Housing Report

Atiba House

Provides accommodation and support to eight male Members.

Omari Flats, Waterloo Road

Provides accommodation and support to nine Members, male and female.

A Shared House

Provides accommodation for two males.

Yahimba House

Provides accommodation and support to five female Members.





Omari Floating Support

Our Floating support service is not linked to accommodation. It is not normally provided by a person's landlord. Irrespective of his or her housing situation a person might need support with issues such as budgeting, life skills, drug or alcohol misuse, avoiding offending or issues of isolation and vulnerability. We offer this as a stand-alone service without providing or arranging accommodation linked to the support.



Omari Housing continues to provide supported housing services to vulnerable adults experiencing mental-health related issues, enabling individuals to live as independently as possible in the community.

Our aim is to improve the quality of life for our Members so they can live more independently and maintain consistent tenancies. We endeavour to ensure we provide housing support services to prevent problems that can often lead to hospitalisation, institutional care or homelessness.

We aim to help every individual to have a smooth transition from supported or semi-supported housing on to independent living, especially for those leaving an institutionalised environment. We continue to make a difference through our person-centred approach, allowing Members to direct their own purposes, aims and visions, while

embracing culture, diversity and individuality.

The support from our staff team is underpinned by the key features of humanity, empathy, hope, respect, and personal growth. Every individual's journey is unique to them. We use person-centred planning tools to help identify the best progression routes for each person.

Our combination of housing and complementary services consisting of things like counselling, Well-being Hub, activities Members groups like, (Womens' Group, Mens' Group and Hearing Voices Group) are intended to help our Members live a more stable and productive life. Also, our Members are encouraged to be actively involved in designing their support packages as well as helping shape the future of Omari and ACCI as a whole.



Partnership Working

We work very closely with our many partners. Our involvement with The Registered Managers Network, Skills For Care and The Healthwatch Wolverhampton Panel – all of whom closely work with the CQC (Care Quality Commission) – directly impacts on our daily service delivery.

This in addition to our other partnerships with:

- Wolverhampton Local Authority
- Wolverhampton Health Authority
- CMHT (Community Mental Health Team)
- BCMH (Black Country Mental Health) Stakeholders Group
- ICB (Integrated Care Board)
- Green-Square Accord (Housing)
- Midland Heart (Housing)
- CPNs
- Consultants, GPs
- Funders

Meeting Regulatory Standards



Compliance monitoring is a continuous process for us. We ensure that Omari adhere to internal policies, procedures and regulatory requirements, practices and guidance, through our rigorous auditing process. Staying on top of regulatory changes and implementing effective systems, enables Omari to comply with all required regulations, while safeguarding sensitive data, to reduce legal and financial risks.

We currently have a CQC Good Rating.



As some of you may be aware the CQC has recently been internally restructured. They have also replaced the K.L.O.E.s (Key Lines of Enquiry) with the new assessment process called the Single Assessment Framework (SAF).

The new assessment framework is made up of 5 key questions and under each key question is a set of quality statements. The 5 key questions are the things they ask of all health and social care services. They ask if you are:



I am proud to report we are considered all of the above. Moving forward technology will also be playing a pivotal role in our process, offering automation capabilities, real-time data and generating reports that will aid in our decision-making.

Residents' Activities

Apart from a fantastic catalogue of activities which are run centrally by our Health & Well-being Practitioner, we in Omari complement these programmes with our own internal and sometimes external activities designed to facilitate the personal interests and aspirations of our Members. These include practical and recreational events of all kinds: everything from boxing, pamper sessions, domino matches and trips.



Staff Development

All staff Members continue to attend training on a regular basis, where the core health and social care mandatory subjects are still covered. Staff Members access benefits training from the Welfare Rights Training team at Wolverhampton City Council and some staff are still undertaking formal qualifications like NVQs through our partnership with Dudley College.

Omari continues to support staff with training that concentrates on enhancing specific job-related competencies. Our training and personal development plans are designed to take a more expansive, long-term approach to foster employees overall growth and potential.

Our values

Our values underpin everything that we do to deliver our purpose and priorities, and drive the culture that we want to work in:

- We are professional and collaborative, showing respect and courtesy to colleagues and stakeholders
- We embrace diversity and seek to be an inclusive and supportive organisation
- We are confident in our ability to deliver effective and efficient services
- We act with integrity to reach evidence-based decisions
- We are agile and react positively to change

These initiatives involve one to ones, group work, workshops, courses, on the job learning, mentoring which encompass various methods.

I am pleased to announce that Omari Housing now has a part time Administration Officer Kayla Baptiste. Who has come through our A.C.C.I. Volunteers programme. Kayla has been in post for seven months now and has been instrumental in supporting management with a varied array of administration duties.



Carers Group Report



This year was again an eventful period with the Carers group. Members continue to meet on a monthly basis with occasional activity sessions in between. In general, carers often focus on the needs of their cared for, side-lining their own physical, emotional and psychological needs. To address, this the main aim of the group's activities is to focus on promoting and supporting the well-being of Members. Activities have included days out, theatre visits, exercise sessions, healthy living advice and presentations on issues such as benefit advice, wills and probate.

There are instances of some long-time Members experiencing difficulties in attending meetings due to their caring roles or their physical situations, in such cases Outreach Support is offered and peer support encouraged.

With the increased incidence of dementia, ACCI continues its representation on the City Council's Dementia Action Alliance Working Group. Members of the group are encouraged to give particular focus on the issue during National Dementia Action Week. In an effort to raise wider community awareness and address the stigma associated with dementia, the Church of God of Prophecy agreed to host a dementia themed service; this was followed by lunch and a memorabilia display. Feedback suggested that this initiative was positively received and highlighted the need for community leaders to inform themselves about services and resources to enable support and sign posting to advice and support systems.



In June, ACCI paid homage to our Carers by having a Carers day event as part of National Carers Week. Part of the keynote presentation focused on the importance of Carers having resources to aid their own needs. The day was attended by individual community Members, statutory and voluntary organisations including a delegation from Birmingham Carers Group. ACCI's carers were in turn invited and attended the Birmingham Carers' Appreciation Day.

The partnership developed with the Grand Theatre has resulted in their resident artists performing at a Carers' meeting and at Carers Day; free or reduced priced tickets to a number of theatre productions, space at the theatre to host a group meeting and the hosting of a well-attended theatre tour which included a spontaneous rendition on the stage by carers.

Members have participated in wider ACCI activities such as World Mental Health Day, AGM the Gala, some have accessed counselling and at times, the monthly activity programme. An intergenerational visit was arranged in conjunction with the Saturday school to the Safari Park. Carers have been involved in consultations on ACCI's development programme and feedback on some the City Council's provisions.

The Carers group continues to an important clog in ACCI's overall aim of providing a holistic model of care and support to its Members



Volunteers Report

Volunteering at ACCI has provided so many individuals with the skills and opportunities they require to enter the world of work. As a volunteer, not only are they able to gain new skills, but also explore personal attributes that many did not even realise they possessed. The skills volunteers bring are an extension of support for staff and Members alike by helping to supplement a deficit of staff and skills at ACCI. At a senior level, ACCI is led by a skilled team of Board Members, all of whom are volunteers giving their time and expertise to drive the organisation forward to support and sustain high levels of achievement and development. During this year we were able to attract 17 new volunteers, increasing our volunteer pool.

Some of the key roles done by volunteers include:

- Leading group sessions
- Providing admin support
- Running the Tuck Shop in the Well-being hub
- Admin duties
- Supporting group activities
- Supporting ACCI at key events
- Fundraising initiatives
- Supported Housing support
- Allotment support
- Food distribution

Volunteers Week 2023

In June 2023, we attended the event at Wolverhampton Civic Centre to acknowledge and celebrate the work of our volunteers during Volunteer Week.

This was the first public event we had attended since the pandemic, which allowed our volunteers to publicise the work of ACCI.

Our volunteers gained first-hand experience of representing us to the public whilst sharing the information regarding the service we provide to the community.





Career Opportunities at ACCI

During this year, ACCI has begun to see the requests for volunteering and work experience from the local colleges and schools. From volunteering this year we have been able to offer four members of staff part-time work, 3 in admin and 1 in Housing Support. All these volunteers have proved to be an asset to ACCI and are now in a position to gain even more experience in the world of work, preparing them for their chosen careers.

Recognising our Volunteers 2023

In October 2023, we showed our acknowledgement of the commitment of our volunteers during our Annual gala attended by over 400 guests showing our gratitude to our young volunteers.

Our volunteers provide the underlying support for ACCI. We are grateful for their time and commitment to the organisation.



Telford Report



Introduction

ACCI was commissioned by Telford and Wrekin, to pilot a service working in collaboration with Telford Mind, addressing the needs of the Community. This initiative entailed participating in three-weekly cafes in Oakengates, Meeting Point and Telford.

Additionally, we have also offered a wide range of services including advice, hands-on support and a diverse range of activities that have had a significant positive impact, focusing on promoting community engagement and well-being.

We have co-ordinated various activities such as workshops, seminars, and cultural events which have helped to mobilise and foster a sense of belonging and unity within the community. These activities have not only provided individuals with an opportunity to learn new skills and gain knowledge, but have also helped to reduce social isolation, promoting mental well-being and strengthen community bonds.

Workshops

Despite the limitations of resources, we have managed to successfully deliver regular workshops at various locations throughout the past year including Park Lane, Community Hub, Hadley Community Centre, TACT in Wellington, Brookside Community Centre and, Arlestone Community Centre.

These workshops have enabled various forms of artistic expressions and meaningful activities such as poetry, music and digital art/art therapy and table games. We firmly believe that engaging in creative activities can be incredibly therapeutic for individuals, providing them with the opportunity to express themselves and explore their emotions and challenges. Participation in these workshops enables personal growth and emotional well-being.



Outdoor Activities

During the summer, we made it a priority to incorporate nature into our activities. This entailed organising gentle walks to local beauty spots such as The Wrekin, Silkin Way and Apley Woods. These walks enhanced physical health and mental relaxation, they were enjoyed by all participants.

In addition to the above, we completed a successful summer weekly cycling programme. This programme spanned over an eight-week period and used bicycles from the Telford Bike Hub in Telford Park. One of the highlights of this programme was the opportunity to ride along the picturesque Silkin Way. For many participants, this was their first time experiencing this beautiful trail, and it provided them with a unique perspective on the local nature. Throughout the cycling programme, we had an average of 10 participants per ride. This indicated a strong interest in physical activities that incorporates nature and promotes a healthy lifestyle. The combination of cycling and experiencing the beauty of nature has proven to be a winning formula.

Home Visits and Outreach Services:

ACCI implemented a comprehensive home and outreach programme which has

proven to be highly effective in addressing the needs of the African and African Caribbean communities. These visits have played a crucial role in bridging the cultural and linguistic barriers that often exist, ensuring that individuals receive the support they require. By visiting individuals in their homes, we are able to create a comfortable and familiar environment where they feel safe to discuss their physical and emotional matters.

Often the community faces unique challenges in accessing healthcare and support services. Language and cultural barriers can make it difficult for individuals to seek help, resulting in their physical and emotional concerns not being addressed. Our home visits have been instrumental in breaking down these barriers, as our team members are able to communicate effectively with individuals and understand their cultural beliefs and values.

Home visits provides not only practical assistance but also emotional support. Many individuals in these communities suffer from a wide range of physical and emotional matters, including chronic illnesses, mental health issues and social isolation. Our team members are trained to provide compassionate and humane support, ensuring that individuals feel heard and understood. ACCI also provides counselling service in Wolverhampton that Members in Telford are able to access via our referral programme.

Additional Support

Further to our core services, we also offer emergency clothing and food donations, where possible. We understand that unexpected circumstances can leave individuals and families without basic necessities and we strive to provide immediate assistance in these situations. Our donation programme ensures that those facing hardship have access to clothing and food to meet their immediate needs.

Additionally, we recognise the importance of timely medical care and support and assist individuals to hospital appointments and emergency visits in the Telford and Shrewsbury areas etc.

Housing Matters: We assist where possible, with donations of furniture, furnishings, and homeware. To date, we have been able to assist six families in areas such as Dawley, Woodside, Radlay, Newport, Apley and Hadley.

Finally, we are committed to supporting refugees and asylum seekers in our community. The organisation provides food, clothes, therapeutic activities and Talking Therapies primarily at Arleston and Wellington. We strive to provide a non-stigmatised and welcoming environment

for this group in order to help rebuild their traumatised lives.

Black History Event

ACCI is recognised for its expertise in mental health and Black History education, consequently, we were invited to deliver workshops and talks at Telford College in October 2023. This collaboration aims to raise awareness about mental-health issues and promote understanding of Black history. In October ACCI hosted a BHM/Mental Health Day event at the Hadley Community Centre. This event was pivotal in galvanising a wide range of individuals from diverse backgrounds to celebrate Black History and prioritise mental well-being through various activities, workshops and discussions.

In conclusion, the workshops, outreach and extra support activities that we have organised in Telford, have had a profound impact on the community. These initiatives have not only provided life-saving support to individuals in need, but have also offered them a range of therapeutic and creative outlets. Through activities such as poetry, music, digital art and reasoning groups, we have aimed to engage participants both intellectually and emotionally, fostering a sense of fulfilment and personal growth.



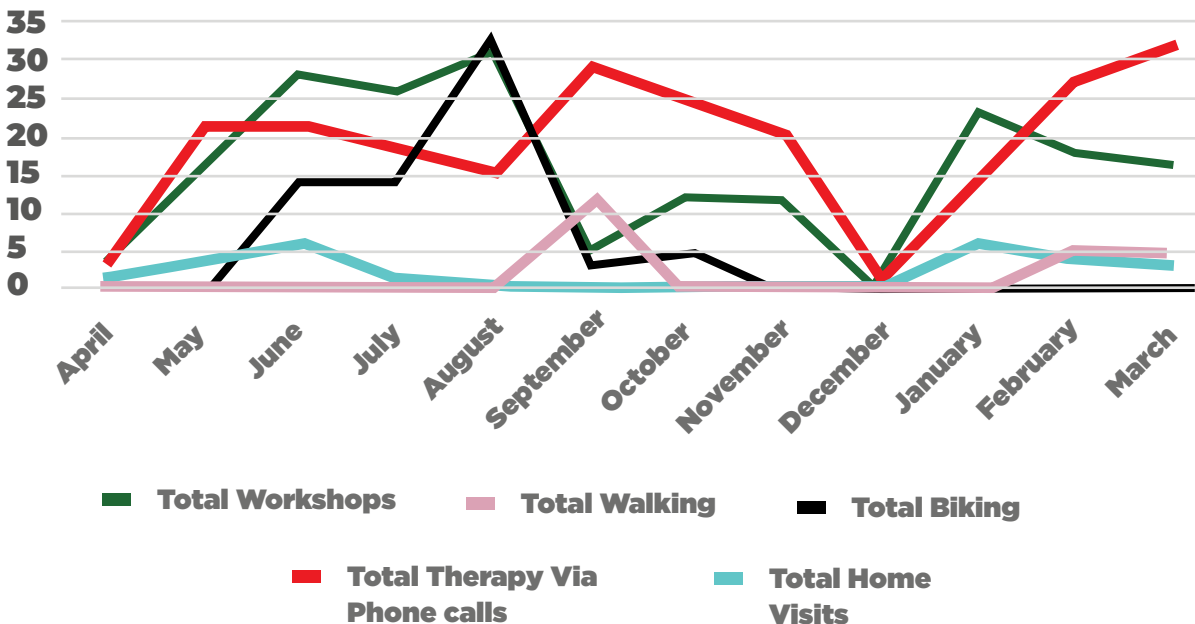
One of the key objectives of our programmes has been to promote overall well-being among the community members. To achieve this, we have incorporated holistic exercises that focus on physical, mental and emotional health. By participating in these exercises, individuals have gained valuable skills for maintaining well-being in their daily lives. This holistic approach has proved to be effective in empowering participants and equipping them with the tools they need to lead healthier and happier lives.

Overall, our workshops, outreach visits and extra support activities have provided the community in Telford with a lifeline of support and opportunities for personal growth.

History Many thanks to

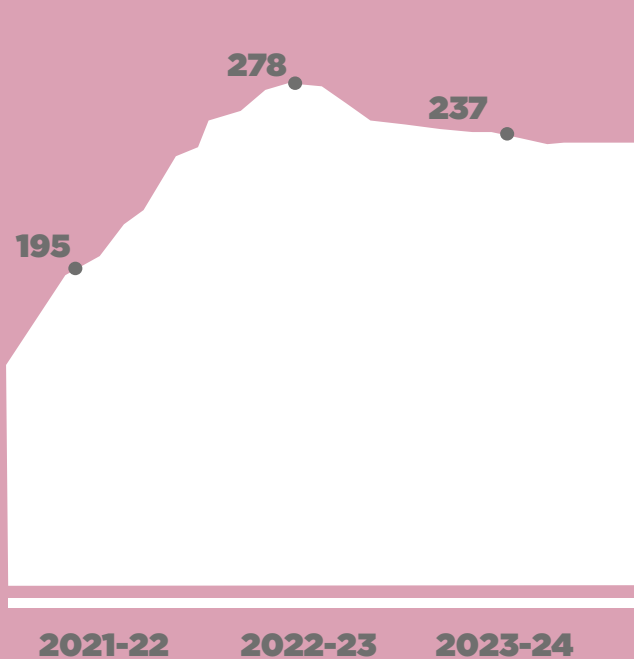
- Telford & Wrekin Council
- Green Spaces Telford, (for providing the grant for the Cycling activity)
- The Bike Hub, Telford
- Telford Mind
- Citizen Advice, Wellington
- Telford Nigerian Association
- Shropshire Wildlife Trust
- Safer & Stronger Communities, Hadley
- One Voice
- TACT
- Park Lane Community Centre
- Hadley & Legomery Community Centre
- Brookside Community Centre
- City of Sanctuary, UK
- YMCA/WMCA Telford

Activities

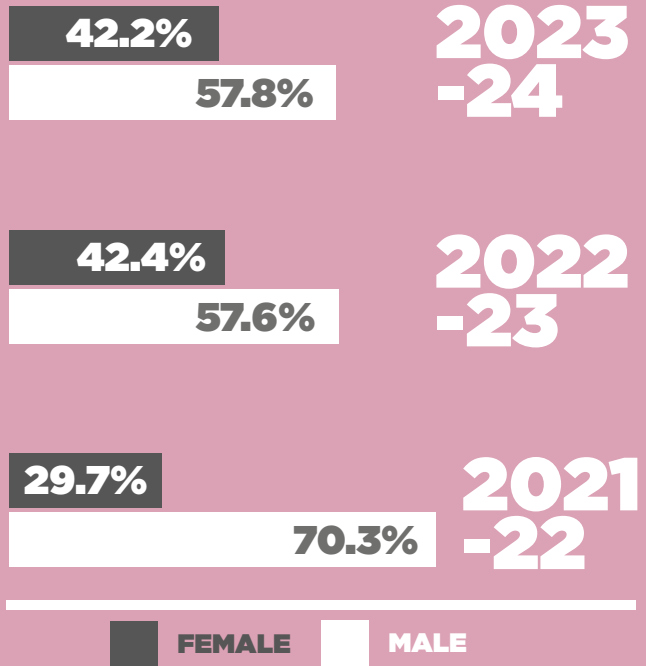


Referral Trends (2021-2024)

Total Referrals



Referrals By Gender

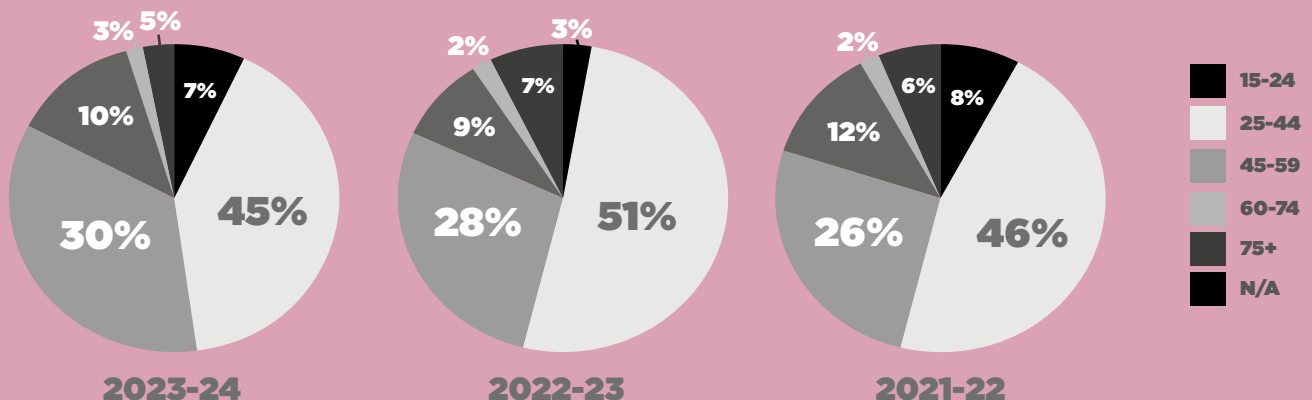


The organisation received just under 15% fewer referrals in the 2023-24 operational year than in the year before, bucking the trend for linear annual increases from 2020 onwards, but still a noticeably high figure.

The male:female split this year is virtually unchanged from that of last year, with men being close to 60% of all referrals.

Referrals By Age

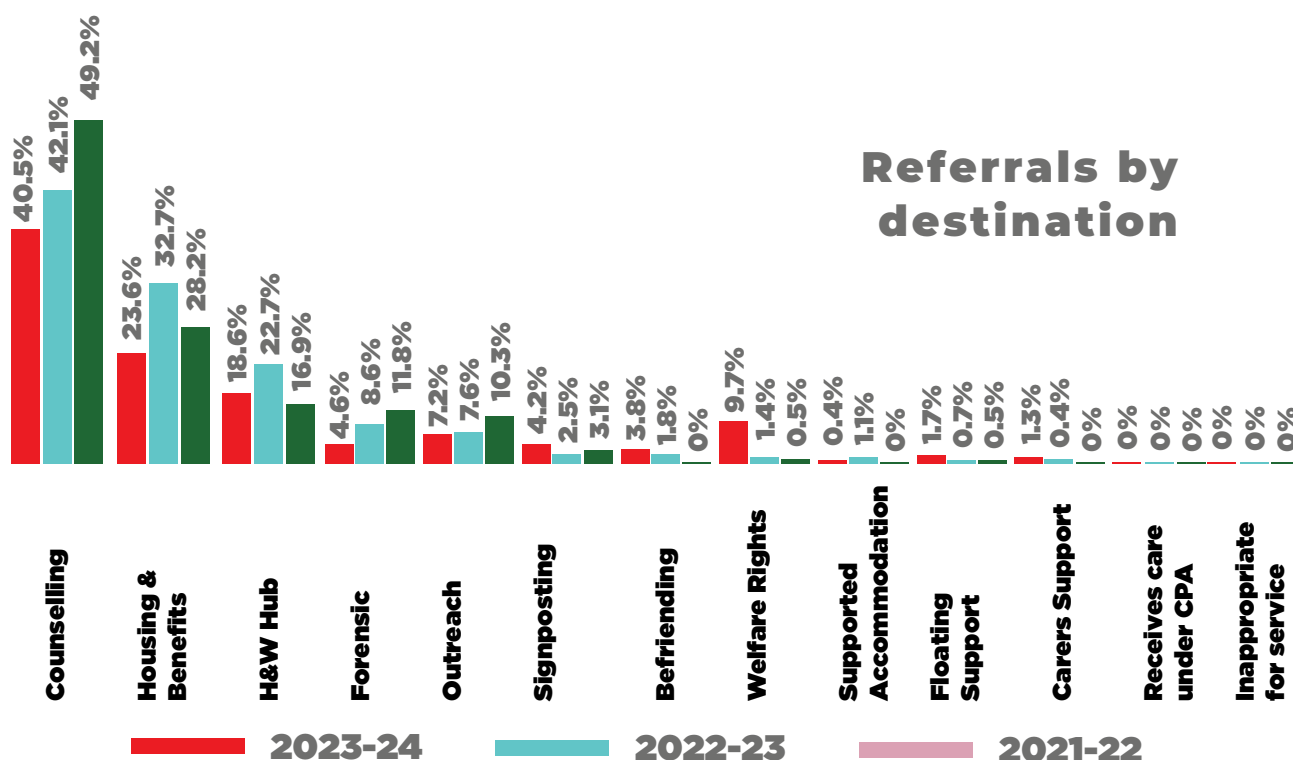
The distribution of the ages of the people referred in the last year is quite similar to that of the previous 2 years: 75% of referrals fell into the 25-44 and 45-59 age groups (compared to 79% and 72% in the previous years). The most notable change is perhaps the increase in the proportion of young people (aged 15-24) referred to the organisation, increasing from 3 to 7%.



Referral destinations

Counselling, Housing & Benefits support and Health & Wellbeing Hub activities were again the 3 most used services provided by ACCI, with an increase in the use of Welfare Rights support (linked to Housing & Benefits).

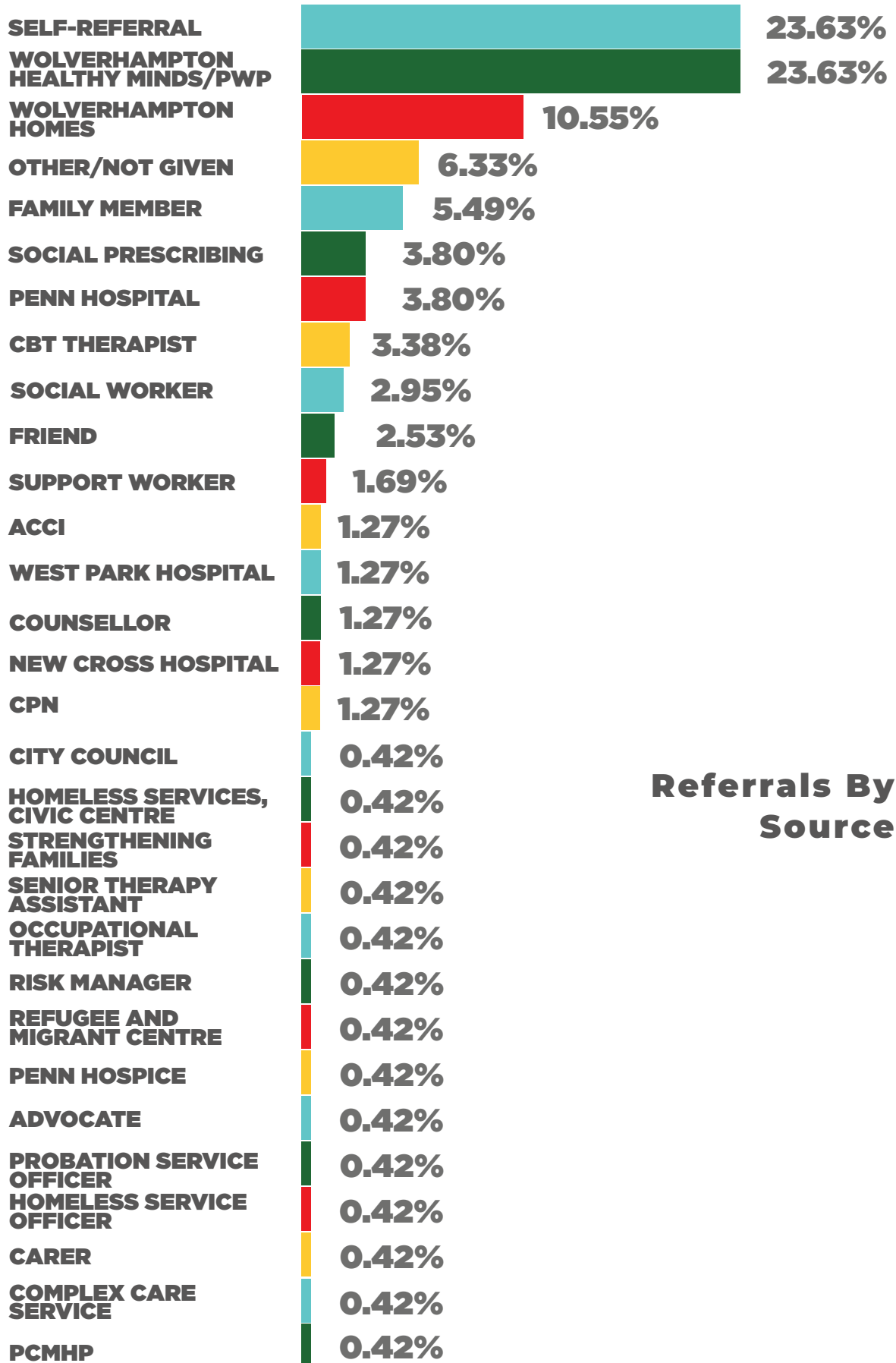
There was a slight increment in the percentage of people signposted to other (external) services.



Referral by source

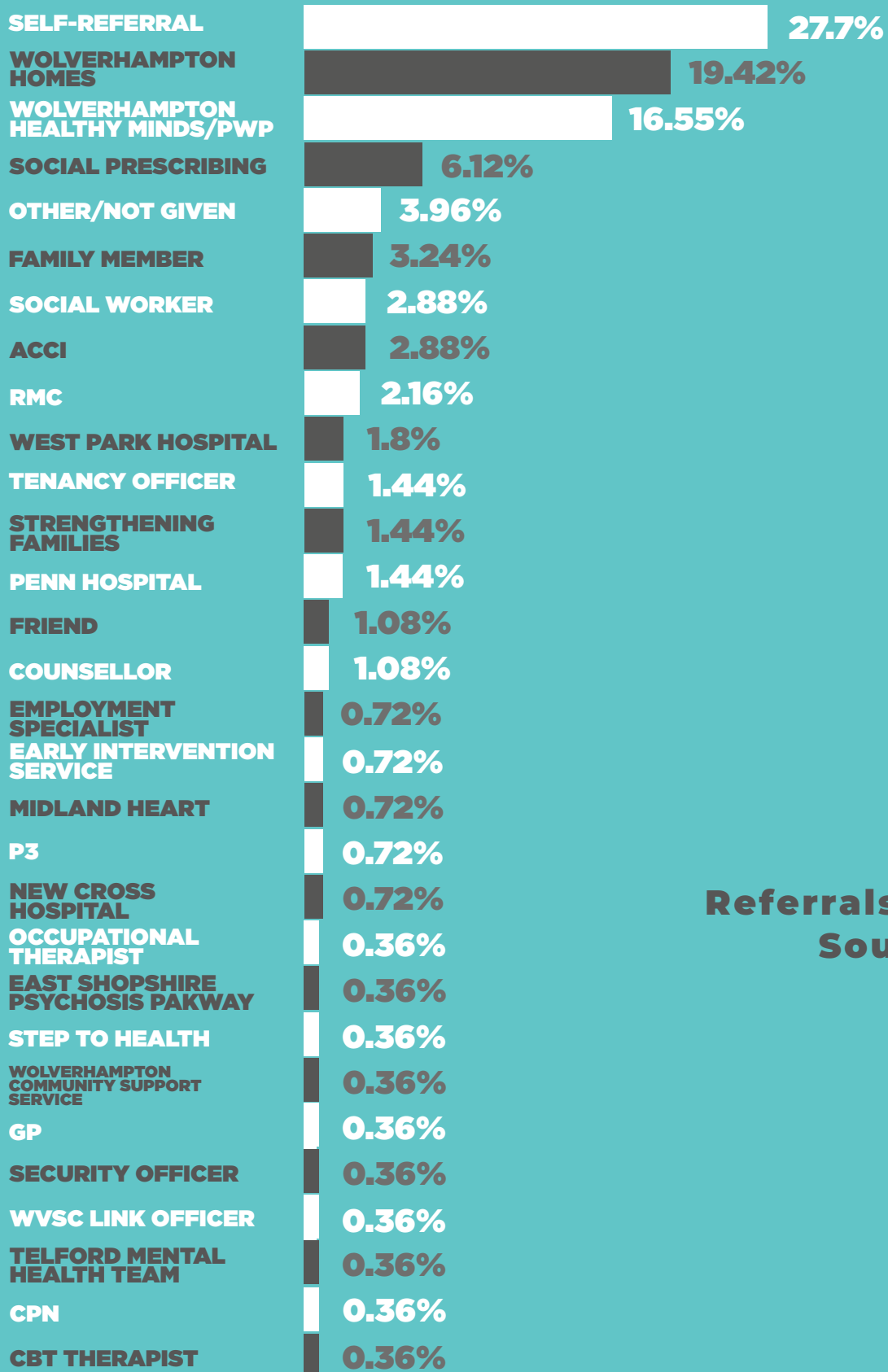
Referrals this year were most likely to be self-referrals or come from Wolverhampton Talking Therapies (previously/otherwise known as Healthy Minds) or Wolverhampton Homes. The chart shows just some of the many disparate places from which referrals were received – even more such as other charities are included within ‘Other/Not given’.

Referrals Sources (2023-24)



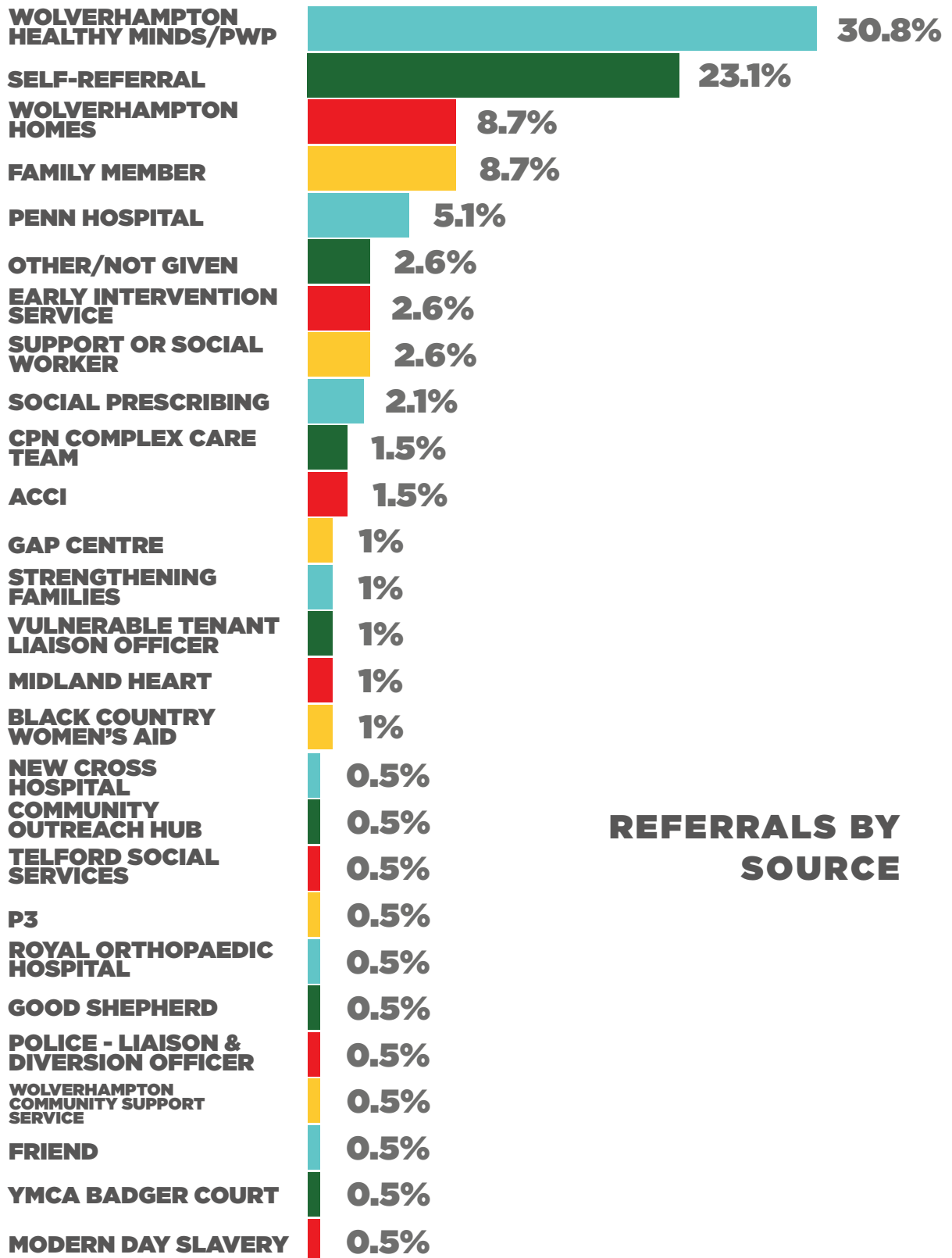
Referrals By Source

Referrals Sources (2022-23)



Referrals by Source

Referrals Sources (2021-22)

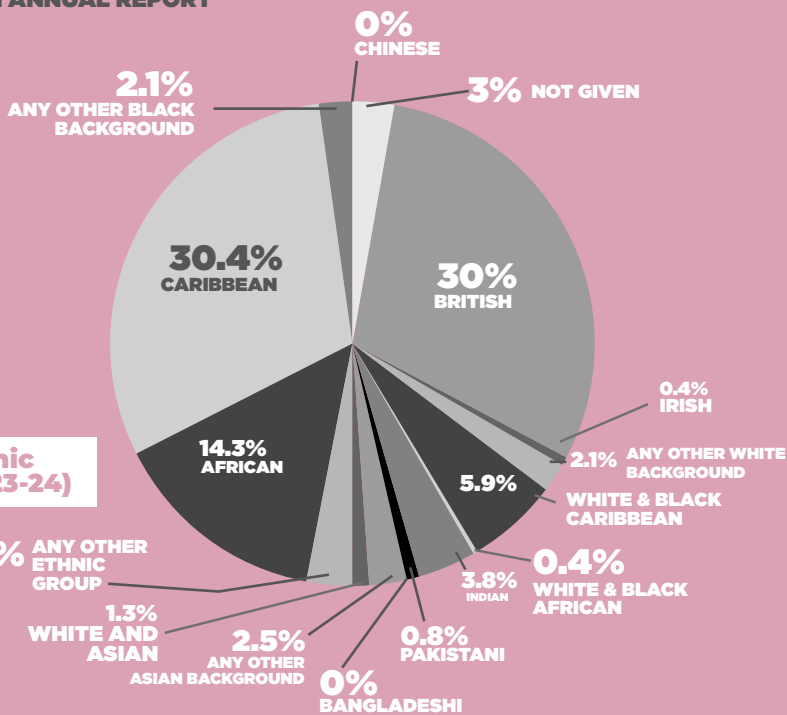


REFERRALS BY SOURCE

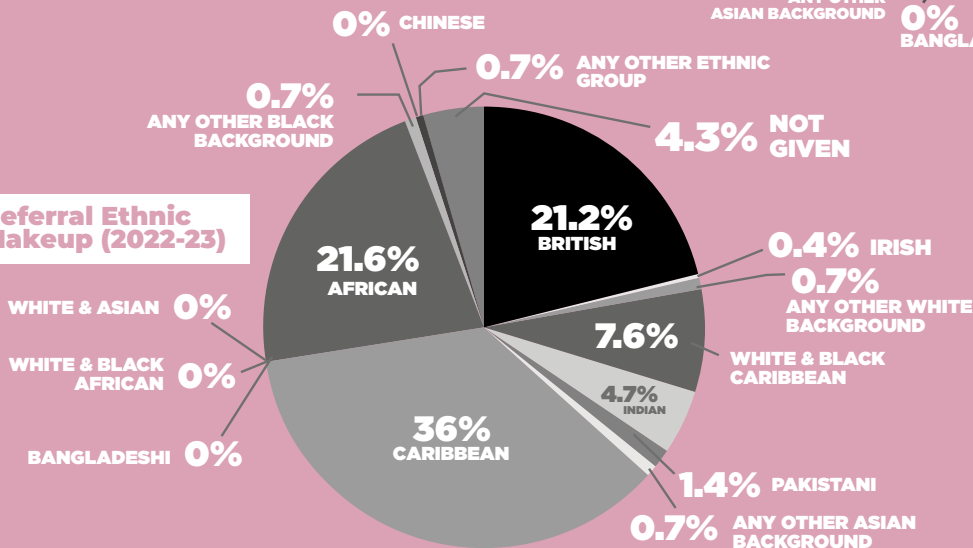
Referrals By Ethnicity

The ethnic makeup of the people referred to ACCI is as varied as can be expected. The percentage of those identifying as British increased from 21.6% to 30%, with an even larger decrease in the total proportion of Caribbean and African referrals.

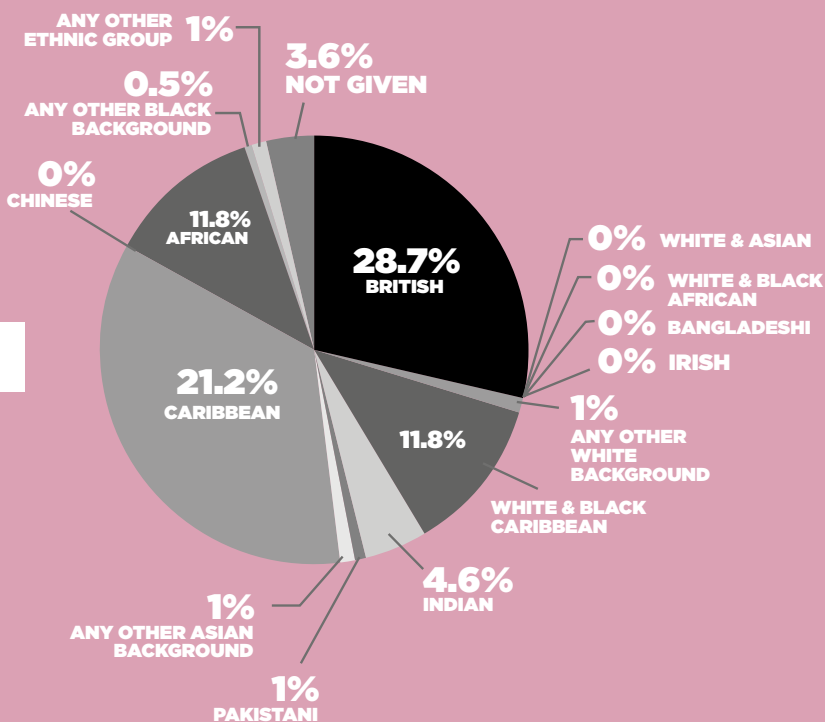
Referral Ethnic Makeup (2023-24)



Referral Ethnic Makeup (2022-23)



Referral Ethnic Makeup (2021-22)



ACCI Annual Report. 2023-24

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