Company number: 06744055 Charity number: 1128857



Room to Heal

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

Reference and administration information

STATUTORY INFORMATION

The Directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

Trustees

Emily Haisley - Chair Rim Rahimtulla- Treasurer Susannah Fairweather Michelle Knorr Rosanna Thomasoo Emeka Forbes-Hastings Areej Osman, joined in March 2022

Registered Office

Mildmay Community Centre, Woodville Road, London N16 8NA

Company Number

06744055

Charity Number

1128857

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, 62-64 Southampton Row, London WC1B 4AR

Triodos Bank, Deanery Road, Bristol BS1 5AS

Solicitors

Freshfields, Bruckhaus and Derringer

Independent Examiner

Patrick Morrello ACA

Third Sector Accountancy Limited, Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester, M60 0AS

Status

The company, number 06744055, is limited by guarantee and has charitable status. The charity registration number is 1128857. It has a Memorandum and Articles of Association as its governing document.

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2022. Included within the trustees' report is the directors' report as required by company law.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

The statutory information is shown on page 1.

Charitable Objects

The objects for which the Charity is established are:

- 1) To promote human rights (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations Conventions and Declarations) throughout the world by all or any of the following means:
 - (a) Relieving need among the victims of human rights abuse;
 - (b) Obtaining redress for the victims of human rights abuse;
 - (c) Research into human rights issues;
 - (d) Raising awareness of human rights issues;
 - (e) Promoting respect for human rights among individuals and organisations;
 - (f) Providing technical advice to government and others on human rights matters;
 - (g) Contributing to the sound administration of human rights law;
 - (h) Commenting on proposed human rights legislation;
 - (i) Promoting public support for human rights;
 - (j) International advocacy of human rights; and
 - (k) Eliminating infringements of human rights.
- 2) To promote social inclusion for the benefit of the public by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.

Public Benefit

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing their aims and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives of the charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

Room to Heal's trustees meet at least quarterly and regularly review progress against adopted priorities. As part of these discussions, opportunities and risks facing the organisation are also reviewed. The Chair and Director, as well as the Treasurer and Director, also meet regularly between meetings. Trustees delegate the day-to-day management of the charity to the Director.

Trustee positions are advertised and new trustees are nominated and appointed by the existing trustees. The trustees would invite prospective new trustees to attend meetings informally to gain an

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

understanding of the role and responsibilities of trustees. Formal training would also be provided, as necessary, to gain further understanding of the role and responsibilities of trustees.

Staff

Roro Ratih Ambarwati, Group Therapist
Cat Baker, Caseworker
Imogen Butler, Finance Manager
Elli Free, Director
Kahina Ghit, Caseworker, until April 2022
Suzie Grayburn, Group Counsellor
Fartun Guled, Group Counsellor
Veronica Haag, Caseworker, from Jan 2022
Mary Hannity, Clinical Administrator, from April 2022
Jane Matthews, Fundraising Manager
Anna Giulia Perego, Caseworker, until April 2022
Camilla Smargiassi, Clinical Administrator, until April 2022
Emily White, Community Manager, from April 2022
Bert-Jan Zuiderduin, Group Therapist

Sessional Staff

Mary Raphaely, Clinical Supervisor
Diana Birkett, Clinical Supervisor, until Sept 2022
Maide Showell, Clinical Supervisor
Marc Sutton, IT Support
Mark Fish, Trainer and Consultant, until June 2022

Clinical and Non-Clinical Supervision

Regular clinical supervision was provided by Maide Showell, Diana Birkett and Mary Raphaely during 2022. Diana was a therapist and supervisor at Freedom from Torture for 25 years and previously Head of Counselling at Sutton Counselling Services. Mary is a group psychotherapist with over 30 years' experience, previously worked at Freedom from Torture, and co-ordinated Room to Heal's women's programme. Maide Showell also provided non-clinical supervision to caseworkers and volunteers during 2021. Maide has worked as a therapist at Freedom from Torture for over 20 years and is also an experienced training clinician and clinical supervisor.

Volunteers and Pro Bono Support

Room to Heal's volunteers and pro bono professional support is vital to the running of the charity and we'd like to record our appreciation for their enormous contribution to our work. During 2022, our staff team was joined by a number of volunteers and professionals working pro bono in a range of capacities including, but not limited to, website design and management, supporting our members with casework guidance, and gardening and cooking delicious, healthy meals for our members. Volunteers in 2022 were:

Kathy Barber (Website Consultant)
Mary Hannity (Community and Casework)
Fatima Alalaiwat, Garden and Community
Analiviia Brouwer, Casework and Community

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Anna Isaacs, Community

Thank You

We'd like to record our great thanks to the trustee board, staff, volunteers, members and supporters for all their hard work and support throughout the year to ensure our community members continued to receive vital support in an increasingly hostile external environment.

ROOM TO HEAL'S AIMS AND APPROACH

Our Mission and Aims

Our Mission

To support people who have survived torture and human rights abuse to rebuild their lives in exile through an integrated, community-based programme of therapeutic and casework assistance

Aims	Activities	Outcomes
To enable people to heal from their traumatic experiences and restore meaning to their lives	 Assessments and time-limited individual therapies Therapeutic groups and intensive therapeutic retreats Nature therapies and social gardening sessions Creative activities Member forums and increased opportunity to engage in debates around the treatment and care of refugees and people seeking asylum and raising public awareness 	 Reduced anxiety, depression and related post-traumatic symptoms Increased ability to articulate traumatic history and withstand the challenges of the asylum process Reduced isolation and marginalisation Increased sense of belonging and integration Increased sense of wellbeing/ meaning/ purpose in life

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

2. To assist people in dealing with material challenges, navigating the asylum process and integrating into the UK	 Casework sessions to address health, legal, education, housing and welfare issues Interventions in support of asylum (e.g. therapeutic input to Medico Legal Reports) and material needs Support to help people into education, training and employment 	a better quality and standard of life and will integrate into society due to having greater ability to navigate asylum processes and: secured one or more of the following - better access to advisory services (legal, welfare, health), legal representation, improved housing, improved medical care and or welfare and grants accessed education, voluntary work and / or employment-related training
3. To enable local communities, policy makers, service providers and the general public to respond more appropriately to the needs of refugees and people seeking asylum	This will be delivered through training (see Aim 5 below), communications and policy work in collaboration with other organisations. Activities will include: • Articles, media materials and best practice guidelines • Training sessions • Public events and exhibitions • Policy meetings and workshops Our policy focus is premised on working in partnership with other organisations and currently has 3 aims: • Ending immigration detention • Challenging hostile environment government policies • Giving people seeking asylum the right to work	 Local communities, policy makers, mainstream service providers and the general public demonstrate greater understanding of the needs of survivors of torture and organised violence Policy and practice are better suited to meeting the needs of survivors of torture and organised violence

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4. To ensure meaningful community engagement for, and decision making by, members within Room to Heal

- Regular community forums involve members in planning Room to Heal activities, community and strategic development
- Members co-lead on community activities
- Members participate in recruitment of staff
- Members participate in Aim 3 on policy and campaigns work
- Having people with lived experience on the board of trustees and the staff team

- Room to Heal provides a service that is appropriate and sensitive to members and meets with the challenges they are facing
- Room to Heal and its members prioritise the most damaging government policies, and campaign against these to limit the negative impact on our members and more generally for all people seeking asylum and refugees in the UK
- Members are empowered to advocate on issues that are important to them
- People with lived experience are part of the board of trustees and the staff team

- 5. To develop partnerships across London, the UK and internationally to increase access to group and community support to people seeking asylum and refugees
- Increase the number of relational therapy groups in community settings
- Train partner refugee organisations in relational group therapy and community work
- Knowledge is shared and there is a greater understanding of the benefits of relational group therapy in community settings
- Services for people seeking asylum and refugees are improved collaboratively

Introduction to Our Work

Room to Heal is a grassroots community charity supporting survivors of torture and human rights violations who are refugees and people seeking asylum. We provide a programme of therapy, casework and broader community activities to assist people in overcoming the legacy of their traumatic experiences whilst navigating the practical challenges of life in exile.

Experience of Members

"I remember when I started I was broken in pieces but Room to Heal has give me confidence I can do something to stand to solves issue I am not afraid, I don't feel shame myself to learn things intimacy with others and have joyful in my heart and my mind thinking positive every day."

The Room to Heal community is made up of over 100 members from over 35 different countries, all of whom have survived torture or other human rights abuses. We refer to survivors in the Room to

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Heal community as 'members', conferring a sense of agency and belonging.

Typically, the people we support have lost their homes, their families and their place of belonging in the world. The common legacy of these experiences includes depression and suicidality, extreme isolation and loneliness, traumatic symptoms including flashbacks and sleeplessness, feelings of shame, a lack of trust and self worth, and a range of other enduring physical and mental health problems.

The day-to-day struggles of living in exile and experiencing hostile environment policies first-hand only exacerbates members' poor mental health. Some members describe their experience of living in the UK as a 'second torture'. The increase in far-right ideology has exacerbated members' experiences of racism, exclusion and fear and now the inhumane Nationality and Borders Act 2022 (implemented from April 2022) is further increasing torture survivors' fears for a safe future in the UK. The Home Office states that the Nationality and Borders Act "puts into law that those who arrive illegally in the UK – who could have claimed asylum in another safe country – can be considered as 'inadmissible' to the UK asylum system", and so can be removed to Rwanda to be processed there. This is currently being challenged in court. The UNHCR described the Rwanda proposal as a two tier system that undermines the UN's 1951 Refugee Convention <a href="https://www.ein.org.uk/news/unhcr-consultation-response-finds-many-aspects-new-plan-immigration-do-not-respect-fundamental#:~:text=UNHCR%20says%20that%20at%20the,by%20crossing%20the%20Channel%20by.

The backlog of asylum claims to be processed has quadrupled in the last five years (Refugee Council, 2022). Longer waiting times on asylum decisions puts pressure on an already failing asylum support system. People are being housed in squalid and overcrowded camps in the middle of nowhere, similar to detention centres, or people are placed in hotels often in deprived, unprepared areas where racist and far-right abuse is increasing.

The protracted asylum legal process means people living in limbo for years in poverty and destitution. People seeking asylum are excluded from living a normal life and expected to live in long-term isolation in a hostile environment, not able to work or financially support themselves.

The Nationality and Borders Act is one of many regressive government policies brought in during 2022 and runs alongside a deeply disturbing anti-immigrant narrative in the mainstream media that exaggerates the numbers of people arriving in the UK and commonly misrepresents people seeking asylum as 'illegal migrants' and whips up a sense of a migrant 'crisis'. Political parties (in government and in opposition) at worst fan these flames and at best remain silent and allow these false narratives to pervade.

In addition, at the time of writing this report in 2023, the Illegal Migration Bill, the second immigration bill within a year, currently going through the parliamentary legislative process, will end the right to claim asylum, apart from for a tiny fraction of people, with the aim to increase detention and remove people to third countries to claim asylum. This will undoubtedly be challenged in the courts on a range of points including that it breaches the UK's international obligations under the Refugee Convention, just as the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 does. If the proposals in the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 and the so-called Illegal Migration Bill go through, the likelihood is that people who have experienced torture and extreme human rights abuses will still come to the UK, but will

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remain even more hidden and unable to access the services that they so clearly require. As the Refugee Council state:

"There is little to no evidence to suggest this new plan will be an effective deterrent to people crossing the Channel in small boats. The Home Office's own research shows that measures such as this new Bill do not remove the reasons why people undertake dangerous and difficult journeys to the UK and other places."

(www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/information/what-is-the-illegal-migration-bill, May 2023)

Our members are experiencing further pressures exacerbated by the pandemic, e.g. longer waiting periods for Home Office and tribunal decisions, a struggling National Health Service including mental health services, plus cost of living increases and increased levels of destitution. For torture survivors experiencing serious mental health difficulties, the ability to navigate this diminishing support in multiple areas is hugely challenging.

Our Response

In response, we're continuing to provide intensive support to survivors of torture to ensure they are supported throughout this retraumatising, inhumane asylum system. We're also increasing our advocacy work in partnership with larger organisations that have more policy and campaigns capacity and a bigger communications platform. We're working with and for survivors to challenge the eradication of basic human rights and systemic racism within institutions e.g. Home Office immigration policies and processes, calling for better access to safe routes for refugees, highlighting the lack of mental health support for refugees, and campaigning with partner organisations to end indefinite immigration detention in the UK, and allow people the right to work in the UK whilst they wait for a decision on their asylum claim.

Room to Heal will continue to adapt our services to ensure we meet the needs of our community members and new beneficiaries in this increasingly challenging external environment.

Currently, when someone joins the Room to Heal community, they initially participate in individual therapy leading to joining one of our weekly relational therapeutic groups. Community members can also attend therapeutic retreats, and weekly social activities and many join other community members for a freshly cooked meal and social connection every Friday afternoon at a local Community Garden.

We recognise that it is futile to offer therapeutic support to a person who has no food, no money, and no place to sleep at night. Our casework team therefore works closely with a range of partners to help members resolve their practical challenges, for example in accessing suitable legal representation, housing, medical care and welfare support. The casework team also supports members to develop their potential and prepare for employment through education and training.

We believe that offering a collective resilience model of group therapy, casework and community is a powerful, long-term and dignified response to our members' ongoing experiences and trauma. Group and community-based therapeutic support reduces survivors' isolation, provides a positive experience of belonging to an alternative family, fosters bonds of friendship and solidarity, and instils

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renewed meaning in life. People realise they are not alone: a powerful part of the recovery process. Survivors' participation helps to create trust, commitment, a sense of belonging and empowerment. Members are able to give as well as receive support, which enables feelings of self worth to emerge and a realisation that a more positive future is possible.

Our approach takes into account nuanced and subjective individual needs. We take a holistic, person-centred approach that recognises the external context in which each person is living and does not react to each problem separately; there is an interplay between the psychological, practical and community aspect of each individual's situation. There's also a recognition that sometimes there is no 'solution', but that having a community of people who understand, support and empathise, with the authenticity of lived experience, can often be enough for the individual to get through it and build strength through collective resilience.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT IN 2022

"It has opened my eyes and is exciting to know the human potential. Problems don't go away but find it easier to cope with them and feel happy."

(Community member, 2022 Annual Survey)

In 2022 the therapy groups returned to being face-to-face, rather than online, post pandemic. Group members were delighted to have human contact with each other and the staff team again. We also re-started our therapeutic retreats in autumn 2022. Our weekly garden, cooking and social gatherings returned to face-to-face in 2021 (as we could hold these outside in a covid-safe manner). Following the successful online pilot of the 12-month therapy group in 2021, we set up another 12-month therapy group, this time face-to-face (running July 2022 - July 2023) to support more survivors.

Internally, we created a new Community Manager role to manage frontline work and enable the Director to become more strategically focused and ensure the overall direction and sustainability of Room to Heal.

The majority of our Board members now have direct lived experience relating to our work including immigration, mental health and racial discrimination and we will continue to recruit new staff to reflect the same in our staff team. In May 2023, at the time of writing this report we have recruited a new Director with lived experience of the asylum system.

Snapshot in Numbers

- 131 people supported
- 61 people were provided with 298 one-to-one therapy sessions, on average 5 sessions per person
- 117 people supported with casework or referral matters including 81 community members (34% more than in 2021 following the pandemic)
- 2,505 casework sessions and actions to prevent food poverty, destitution, homelessness, improve access to education and training, and help for our members to navigate the asylum process and find good quality legal advice

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Expected Outcomes

The expected outcomes we wanted to see for members of our community included:

- Reduction in anxiety, depression and related post-traumatic symptoms
- Increased ability to articulate traumatic history and withstand the challenges of the asylum process
- Reduced isolation and marginalisation
- Increased sense of belonging and integration
- Increased sense of wellbeing/ meaning/ purpose in life.

Outcomes Achieved

"Room to Heal is my second life after my first life was end and get darker they give me future and show me the bright side."

(Community member, 2022 Annual Survey)

It is clear that the results of our work in 2022 have been overwhelmingly positive. In our community members' anonymous annual survey, respondents said about our work in 2022:

- 97% felt their mental health has improved as a result of being part of Room to Heal
- 94% felt more positive about the future
- 94% felt more listened to
- 100% felt more able to deal with the effects of trauma including depression and anxiety
- 76% felt more able to access advice, information and support on housing, education, benefits, etc.
- 96% of respondents who had an urgent crisis or challenge in 2022 said Room to Heal was able to support with this.

PROGRAMME OF WORK IN DETAIL

Therapeutic Programme

The overarching aim of our therapeutic work is to enable survivors of torture to heal from their traumatic experiences and help restore meaning to their lives. Our therapeutic expertise is in relational group therapy - where the primary focus is on relationships within the group, rather than between the therapist and the individual - in a community setting that promotes group resilience and long term, peer-led healing.

Our group resilience model is respectful of different cultural approaches to mental health. Our model challenges the patient-expert model, putting survivors at the heart of decision-making. We believe that long-term recovery doesn't just come from a clinical professional's intervention - it comes from within the person themselves when they are ready and able to begin this process in a safe place.

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Referrals and Assessments

We continue to have a good network of referral agencies, including the NHS, specialist solicitors and many NGOs in this sector.

In 2022, Room to Heal received 53 referrals. These referrals are taken to a clinical meeting where they are reviewed by our team of therapists and a decision is made on whether to meet the person for an assessment, find out more information, or advise a more appropriate service to refer them to.

On referral to Room to Heal a therapist will, usually over multiple sessions, assess a potential member in order to understand whether they are likely to be able to both benefit from, and contribute to, our therapeutic group work. Our therapists met 33 people for assessments in 2022. Following the assessment, members have a series of one-to-one therapy before joining the group and sometimes occasional sessions during a member's participation in the group work. It is at the assessment stage that we start to identify welfare, housing and/or legal protection needs, which are then followed up by our caseworkers.

We have a good network of referral agencies, including homeless projects, organisations tackling modern slavery and domestic abuse, organisations including the NHS (mental health teams and GPs), non governmental mental health organisations, highly-experienced immigration solicitors, and many other NGOs in this sector and beyond (see Partnership Work for a full list of referral and other partners). We also have a good network of organisations that we refer to, including social enterprises such as Luminary Bakery, non-statutory health support through Doctors of the World and NHS Community Mental Health Teams to ensure that specialist medical care is available for our members. We also work with advice centres, hosting schemes, food banks, emergency shelters, and local funders offering small grants and other support to individual members.

One-to-One Therapy

In 2022 we provided individual psychotherapy for 61 people with 298 one-to-one therapy sessions, on average 5 sessions per person. These included some individual therapy in preparation to join group therapy.

Group Therapy

"Room to heal helped me to open up about my thoughts, feelings and circumstances in a confidential environment. Also within the safety of this wonderful, nonjudgmental and secure environment, I can confidently say that I am happy and comfortable to explore areas of myself and my life that I have been struggling with which shows that it's incredibly effective in helping me to manage my mental health conditions"

(Community member, 2022 Annual Survey)

Our weekly therapy groups lie at the heart of the community. In 2022, we ran three mixed-gender groups. In total we ran 136 group therapy sessions for 43 people (48% more people than in 2021) (16 women, 13 men). In July 2022 the groups moved from being online back to face-to-face. Two groups are slow, open ended therapy groups and the other one is a one-year, time-limited group. They are all co-facilitated by two therapists / counsellors. We decided to move back to face-to-face

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therapeutic groups after consulting with members and considering everyone's safety relating to covid.

Our therapeutic support groups are the cornerstone of our therapeutic programme, animating and deepening our community. After torture and forced exile, people often become profoundly isolated and feel as if no-one else can ever understand what they have been through. Through engaging in a therapeutic group, alongside people from all over the world who have this common experience, people come to understand at the deepest level that they are not in fact alone. This in itself is profoundly healing and very often is the beginning of a process of rediscovering the humanity in themselves and others.

Alongside our two slow, open-ended therapy groups, in 2022 we ran our second time-limited (one year) therapy group, this time face-to-face, rather than online. We have seen benefits of having a time-limited group, in that members start and end the group and build relationships together at the same time. At the end of the group, members can remain part of the community and its activities for as long as they choose.

Members' views on therapeutic support have been overridingly positive on all aspects of our work. The respondents to our 2022 annual survey said:

- 97% felt that being part of Room to Heal had improved their mental health
- 100% felt more able to deal with the effects of trauma including depression and anxiety
- 97% felt the therapeutic support had helped manage flashbacks, sleeplessness, panic attacks
- 84% felt life is more meaningful
- 100% who participated in group therapy found it to be helpful or very helpful
- 96% of respondents who participated in individual therapy in 2022 said it was helpful or very helpful

"Prior to joining Room To Heal, my mental health and well-being was erratic and volatile, due to anxiety, ptsd, stress, depression, and other mental health related issues; which was all over the place and unstable."

(Community members, 2022 Annual Survey)

Community Activities and Gardening

Following the pandemic, we were able to run a full programme of community activities during 2022, which was a great relief to many members:

"It's extremely positive to have the gatherings back after the pandemic pause!"

"I have been in isolation for quite some time, meeting new people with different ideas has been an advantage to me."

(Community members, 2022 Annual Survey)

In our 2022 annual survey the respondents said:

- 88% felt less isolated and lonely
- 97% felt supported
- 94% felt listened to

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- 94% felt improved confidence
- 94% felt more positive about the future

63 members were involved in social and community activities including:

- Weekly garden sessions at Culpeper
- Theatre workshops in the summer and during the winter months with PsycheDelight Theatre Company
- Weekly online movement class for women providing safe, gentle, supervised exercise for female members whilst shielding, kindly provided by The Movement charity
- Walk in Clissold Park
- Two trips to Organiclea (a workers cooperative growing food in East London) to help with growing food and meeting their community
- Community day at Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew
- Seaside trip to Frinton-on-Sea
- 4-day intensive therapeutic retreat in the countryside near Totnes at Eden Rise which involved 9 members and 4 staff

We also continued a regular community newsletter to which members contributed, and which is sent out to approximately 100 members).

Participating in community activities, sharing skills and knowledge, through cooking, gardening and creative activities, is an important part of what we do. We offer a safe and supportive space for members to explore different skills and interests and connect with others outside of the group.

We give our members a space where they are not labelled as a homogenous group of passive 'asylum seekers' who have little agency in their lives. Members decide on who is cooking and what dishes to make for our communal meals and go to the shops and buy the ingredients themselves, and they help decide what plants to grow in our community garden, sharing knowledge on growing techniques from around the world. These activities all contribute to our holistic approach to improving mental health.

"I remember when I started I was broken in pieces but Room to Heal has give me confidence I can do something to stand to solves issue I am not afraid, I don't feel shame myself to learn things intimacy with others and have joyful in my heart and my mind thinking positive every day."

(Community members, 2022 Annual Survey)

Casework Programme

"All my case workers are very helpful and they are always willing to help me with anything, about my case about housing, college courses, food travel expenses money for some expenses they are great."

(Community member, 2022 Annual Survey)

In our 2022 annual survey, 76% of respondents felt that because of Room to Heal casework support they felt more able to access advice, information and support on a range of areas including immigration advice.

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The practical support we offered to our members continued to be a vital part of our holistic programme, preventing destitution and homelessness and ensuring our members were able to access the crucial welfare and support services they are entitled to.

Our casework team also supported members in shaping educational and employment opportunities, ensuring they can integrate meaningfully when they have the right to work, once they are successful in securing leave to remain in the UK.

Our casework team provided 2,505 individual casework sessions/actions to our members in 2022 related to resolving practical issues (such as housing, welfare, health, education, training and employment) and securing legal protection for our members.

- Overall, 117 people were supported with casework and referral matters
- 30 people supported with food, clothing and essentials
- 25 laptops provided to community members and 19 people supported with regular internet data
- 34 people helped to access suitable and safe accommodation: 8 members helped to secure housing/prevent homelessness 12 times and an additional 26 members advised on housing issues
- 42 people were helped to access healthcare
- 41 people were helped to access welfare/benefits
- 30 people were helped to access education, training or employment
- 41 destitution & educational grants secured for 20 people with a value of £5,924
- 30 members were supported with 50 emergency / basic needs, including food, phone data, taxis to health appointments, and emergency accommodation

Destitution, Welfare and Homelessness

"Any urgent crises Room To Heal always provide and support me (food, transport money)"

(Community member, 2022 Annual Survey)

Many of our members are destitute, with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), or have been surviving on c. £40/week asylum support in 2022. In response we secured funding to provide members with ongoing food vouchers, food deliveries, clothing, phone top-ups, taxis to health appointments and emergency accommodation. We also secured white goods and other furniture for members who were moving from temporary asylum accommodation to more long-term, secure housing. This was provided to 30 of our members 50 times.

In addition, in 2022 our caseworkers obtained 41 individual grants for 20 members to the value of £5,924, primarily to help with destitution and education.

We also continued to provide 25 refurbished laptops to members and 19 sim cards to provide ongoing internet data to those who do not have wifi, along with dongles so they can access wifi in asylum support accommodation where this is not available.

Our casework team also assisted members with accessing asylum support and provided evidence of destitution for asylum support applications, wrote supporting letters, and followed up when support was cut off or payments were delayed/ inexplicably stopped.

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For members with refugee status or leave to remain, we have supported them to access welfare services for long-term sustainable support, by helping members apply for mainstream benefits, and putting together and providing medical evidence for homelessness applications to local councils. This continues to get more challenging for members as local authorities' housing stock is seriously depleted and many people are put in inadequate temporary accommodation for very long periods.

Room to Heal caseworkers supported our members to advocate for more appropriate accommodation and on a number of occasions, where it was not safe to stay where they had been placed, or where they became homeless, we provided funds to accommodate them on an emergency / temporary basis until the issues were resolved.

We worked with a range of organisations to provide financial support, including applying for grants from the following: Ruth Hayman Trust, Fund for Human Need, Positive Action in Housing, Hackney Parochial Charities, The Heinz, Anna and Carol Kroch Foundation and the National Benevolent Charity.

On a systemic level we are a member of the Destitution Forum and also the Housing Immigration Group, both networks of NGOs that meet to share information and to challenge together some of the inhumane government policies that cause destitution for our members. We also attend some Home Office convened meetings where we keep up to date with government policy changes and where concerns around housing and financial support for asylum seekers are raised.

We worked very closely with a number of hosting organisations (Housing Justice, Positive Action in Housing, Refugees at Home and Jesuit Refugee Service), regularly liaising to find housing hosts for a significant number of our members. We also work in partnership with solicitors and homeless charities such as No Second Night Out and Crisis, when our members are at risk of becoming street homeless.

"I was about to be homeless when ... Room to Heal .. step in and quickly find a solicitor that help me find an emergency accommodation"

(Community member, 2022 Annual Survey)

Legal Support and Protection

- 38 people were helped through the asylum process
- 12 medico-legal letters/reports written, supporting asylum and housing actions
- 9 people secured status

The casework team and therapists supported 38 people through the asylum process in 2022. This involved assistance in accessing appropriate and high-quality legal support, providing expert medico-legal evidence, and facilitating communication with solicitors. Where relevant, we also signposted members to legal advice centres and drop-ins.

The therapists, together with a psychiatrist we regularly work in close partnership with, have written 12 medico legal reports / letters of support for members in the last year, primarily for immigration and asylum cases and sometimes to support inadequate housing. These reports are crucial for

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

submitting comprehensive evidence in asylum claims and, through offering these services at Room to Heal, our members are able to avoid the long waiting lists they would usually face in obtaining such reports. These reports also help ensure our members get social housing when they obtain leave to remain in the difficult context of a social housing crisis in the UK and particularly in London.

Nine members were successful in their asylum and immigration claims over the year and many applications remain pending. There are massive delays in decision making at the Home Office and court hearings over the year and the government has acknowledged there is a huge backlog.

Our therapists continue to attend (either in person or online) members' tribunal hearings either to give evidence or in a supporting capacity. Our caseworkers have also been supporting members to meet with their solicitors and help them understand what is happening at each stage of the asylum process.

The long-term external context of legal aid cuts, limited good quality legal representation and a long and flawed asylum process makes it very difficult for our members. We continue to get pro-bono support from a lawyer who has worked in the refugee sector for many years and who reviews letters and reports that will be used as evidence in court written by our therapists. We also have the expertise of Michelle Knorr, a high profile immigration barrister at Doughty Street Chambers and Room to Heal trustee, who is available to provide advice as and when required.

Members' Involvement in Decision-Making and Agency

"Usually we receive invitation to attend forum and decision making i attend some times and it was great to be part of it it make me feel like really part of the community not just a client or case number"

(Community member, 2022 Annual Survey)

In our 2022 survey:

- 72% of respondents said they were given the opportunity to participate in decision making
- 79% of respondents felt more confident to share their experiences as an asylum seeker or refugee with wider society because of their involvement with Room to Heal

A key part of user involvement in Room to Heal's work is the role that members play in the group and community. In group therapy, our members received support but were also able to give support, empathise, and relate to other group and community members. During this process, participants are reminded of their own self worth and value. We witnessed group members grow in confidence as they started to recognise that they themselves were valuable contributors to the group and larger community. Members' shared experience of survival has a profound impact: seeing other people get past seemingly insurmountable shame, loss and barriers promotes intercultural, group resilience and peer-led healing.

We involve community members in decision making within the organisation using a range of approaches including regular community forums, joining interviews in staff recruitment, etc.

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

"I wasn't confident enough to share my experiences before I joined Room to Heal but when I joined I was able to share my experiences, seeing that we all have the same problems."

Thirty two members engaged in opportunities to speak out and influence.

Internally this included:

- attending our community forums to influence day-to-day & strategic activities at Room to Heal, and one of our forums this year focused on members sharing the campaigning work they are involved in and encouraging other members to get involved;
- being part of the recruitment process and interviewing frontline staff members;
- retreat planning meetings with members;
- focus groups with members to help plan a new parents' group.

Externally this included:

- campaigning against the Nationality and Borders Bill with Together with Refugees members designed orange hearts at Culpeper garden
- we carried out a bespoke survey for our members to complete to directly influence a new high income donor who wanted to set up work for refugees and migrants
- Imix came to video our community for Refugee Week which was all about healing;
- we contributed to a Routledge book chapter about therapeutic group work with refugees in different parts of the world, published in September 2022;
- theatre workshops leading to a performance in September 2022 about the experience of some members waiting for Home Office decisions;
- participating in external PhD research projects on matters relating to asylum seekers and refugees; and
- meeting with a local MP where members were able to directly advocate about their specific personal circumstances.

PARTNERSHIP WORK

Strategic Partners

Referral partners

We continued to have good two-way referrals processes with many NGOs that support torture survivors, such as British Red Cross, Hackney Migrant Centre, Migrants Organise, Waterloo Community Counselling, Sutton Counselling, Freedom from Torture, Positive Action in Housing and Refugees at Home. We also regularly received referrals from London-wide GPs and NHS mental health teams who recognise the value of our work. We worked with c.100 different organisations to ensure our members get the specialist support they need.

Direct service delivery partners for our members

We worked with an increasing number of partners this year to support our community activities including: the Movement Charity for our weekly exercise class for women; PsycheDelight, a trauma informed theatre company for workshops and member performances; and OrganicLea, a food growing cooperative where we visit. We also partnered with Migrants Organise in setting up our

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

second time-limited therapy group and agreed to take 50% of our referrals from them and to share the casework.

Model sharing and learning

We have created more partnership opportunities to be able to demonstrate the impact of the relational group work with torture survivors. This has resulted in:

- a published article in the European Journal of Psychotherapy and Counselling see abstract https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13642537.2022.2072926?journalCode=rejp2
 o on therapists' experiences of "witnessing" with survivors of torture
- a completed Psychologist's doctorate thesis on how people find new communities and how communities help or support people, soon to be published
- we wrote a chapter of a book on 'Groupwork with Refugees and Survivors of Human Rights
 Abuses: The Power of Togetherness' published by Routledge in September 2022 https://www.routledge.com/Groupwork-with-Refugees-and-Survivors-of-Human-Rights-Abuses-The-Power/Boyles-Ewart-Biggs-Horn-Lamb/p/book/9781032043883.
- Internally we are carrying out an in depth evaluation of our first time-limited group, with academic rigour and a plan to publish in an academic journal in 2023.

We are also providing a team at Groundwork (www.groundwork.org.uk) with bi-monthly "Self-Care and Resilience Group" sessions for volunteers and staff working with people seeking asylum, learning from the group work we deliver at Room to Heal and understanding the challenges for direct workers and the risk of burnout and vicarious trauma.

Imix, a team of professional communication experts, came to video members of our community for Refugee Week, on the theme of healing.

We also co-designed a guide to using human rights as a tool for advocacy with the British Institute of Human Rights - this was published in 7 languages and has been disseminated across the refugee sector to use in casework

Campaigns, Networks and Policy and Advocacy work and partnerships

We have remained focused on challenging the increasingly regressive government policies that have been implemented in 2022 and we were involved in 22 different campaign initiatives in collaboration with partner organisations including Imix, Together with Refugees, Asylum Matters, Migrants Rights, Survivors Speak Out.

This included: direct meetings with influencers on better accommodation needed for people seeking asylum; joint letters published in national media on a range of issues including the Human Rights Act Reform: A Modern Bill of Rights, the UN Convention on Refugees, Nationality and Borders Bill, safe routes from Afghanistan to the UK, government Rwanda removal plans and the divisive rhetoric of the government on refugees and migrants. We also worked directly with a journalist on a published piece in the Guardian newspaper around access to mental health services for refugees and people seeking asylum in the UK. In addition, we participated in 25 external meetings/events with partner agencies, including a series of local, national and international stakeholders, e.g. the Mental Health Forum and Strategic Engagement Group (with the Home Office) and IRCT on global standards working with torture survivors.

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A list of our partners can be found on our website at www.roomtoheal.org/community/partners/

International Rehabiliation Council for Torture Survivors

Room to Heal continued to be an active member of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Survivors (IRCT) and signed up to, and supported the implementation of, their Global Rehabilitation Standards - a global commitment to survivors of torture to provide quality support. For more information, see https://www.roomtoheal.org/about/our-standards/

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & STRATEGY

In 2022 the therapy groups returned to being face-to-face, rather than online, post pandemic. Group members were delighted to have human contact with each other and the staff team again. We also re-started our therapeutic retreats in autumn 2022. Our weekly garden, cooking and social gatherings returned to face-to-face in 2021 (as we could hold these outside in a covid-safe manner). Following the successful online pilot of the 12-month therapy group in 2021, we set up another 12-month therapy group, this time face-to-face (running July 2022 - July 2023) to support more survivors.

Internally, we created a new Community Manager role to manage frontline work and enable the Director to become more strategically focused and ensure the overall direction and sustainability of Room to Heal.

Race and Diversity

We continue to shift the power balance in our organisation to people with lived experience and have all staff bi-monthly training sessions on the intersectional experiences and identities of our members with a focus on race, gender, and sexual orientation and the intersectionalities of these and other identities. We will continue to develop a community approach that recognises and supports each member's multiple identities beyond being a person living in exile.

The majority of our Board members now have direct lived experience relating to our work including immigration, mental health and racial discrimination and we are working hard to reflect the same in our staff team with half of our therapists having relevant lived experience of our members. In May 2023 we recruited a new Director with lived experience of going through the asylum process herself.

Our Director and trustees continue to work on diversifying the board and team. We are fully committed to shifting the power balance and we want to do this in a sustainable and supportive way that does not adversely impact on our community. We also involve our community members in many decisions within the organisation, however, we recognise the limitations of this participatory approach and we are determined to shift the power balance towards people with lived experience.

Ongoing Strategic Plan

Through our ongoing work to shift the power balance in our organisation to people with lived experience, we made the decision to recruit a Director with lived experience of our members in the

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

autumn of 2022. The Board of Trustees decided that before reviewing our existing strategy (2020-2025) in light of the post pandemic and ever hostile external environment that our community members face, we would recruit the new Director and then review the existing strategy.

Currently the strategy includes replicating our services in partnership with other NGOs to make group and community support more widely available to refugees and people seeking asylum across the UK; plus increased advocacy and campaigning work on matters such as ending immigration detention, lifting the ban on working for people seeking asylum, and more generally highlighting and challenging the increasingly hostile environment endured by people seeking asylum. We've kept a focus on our strategic development at Room to Heal during the year - see Strategic Partners on page 17 for more information.

Monitoring and Evaluation

We continue to carry out an annual anonymous survey accessible to all members of the community. This enables us to get feedback on all aspects of our work in the community. Overall, the annual survey showed a significant improvement in the majority of respondents' mental health.

The results of the 2022 survey are included in this annual report and the overriding positive responses are testament to the success of the interconnectedness of our casework, therapy and community activities and the relational group and community approach to our work.

During 2022 we re-installed the full set of psychological questionnaires, post pandemic, which all participants of the three groups completed at six monthly intervals. It is difficult to compare data sets and attempt to assess the impact of our group work using this method because of the gap in carrying out all the surveys during the pandemic (during which we used streamlined, online evaluation tools). The results however do demonstrate a non-linear recovery process. Unsurprisingly there continues to be a very clear correlation between external factors and group members' mental health. For example when a member receives a refusal from the Home Office on their immigration application, or when someone is at imminent risk of homelessness, there is a significant deterioration in that member's mental health. To help us understand this more fully we have carried out a detailed evaluation of the first time-limited group, the results of which will be finalised in 2023 and will be used to continue to improve our services and our evaluation methods.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The majority of income raised in 2022 was from Trusts and Foundations (c. 85%), as in previous years. We also raised income from individual supporters, training and report writing (c.15%).

Our total income for 2022 was £359,066 and expenditure was £343,441, which compares with an income in 2021 of £311,889 and expenditure of £358,113. We received a number of restricted grants in 2022 for projects that continued into 2023, so £66,453 of restricted reserves were carried over into 2023.

A designated fund was set up during the uncertainty of the pandemic to cover planned expenditure in 2022-2023 aimed at improving organisational resilience focusing on strategic objectives including communications, income diversification and structural sustainability. With sufficient funds raised in

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

2022, we were able to carry the majority of this (£25,000) over into 2023 for future organisational resilience needs.

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT) grant for direct assistance (Project P-829-DA-22) has been spent in the period examined in these accounts (1st January 2022 - 31st December 2022) and in accordance with the terms of the offer letter. The grant was spent as follows: therapeutic staff salaries £37,672, director salary costs £4,000 and contribution to rent costs £5,418.

The UNVFVT grant for the international training project (P-829-TS-21) was granted a no-cost 4-month extension due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on travel restrictions. The amount of £11,140 which was carried forward to 2022 was spent inline with the grant agreement and extension. In addition £1,254 was also spent as agreed from the carried forward 2020 grant (P-829-TS-20). We agreed that this training project would run independently of Room to Heal and instead would be better managed independently by Mark Fish (Room to Heal's founder) as an independent consultant, so Room to Heal no longer manages nor fundraises for this project.

Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to every supporter who donated to Room to Heal in 2022 and made our work possible.

We'd like to thank the following funders for their generous unrestricted grants and donations:

A B Charitable Trust
Arnold Clark Community Fund
Bromley Trust
City Bridge Trust
Fearless Futures
Garfield Weston Foundation
Lloyds Bank Foundation for England & Wales
Roddick Foundation

We'd also like to thank all of the funders who generously provided restricted grants, who are listed in the Financial Statements on page 38.

Thank you also to each and every one of our individual supporters, who have contributed monthly and/or who have provided ad hoc donations.

Thank you too to all of our donors who wish to remain anonymous.

We hugely appreciate every contribution to our work and would like to thank all of our supporters for standing by our community members during the year.

Fundraising Practices Statement

The trustees reviewed the Charity Commission guidance *Charity fundraising: a guide to trustee duties* (CC20) and are confident that obligations are being met.

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

Room to Heal is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and abides by their Codes of Fundraising Practice and Fundraising Promise.

In 2022 we had a part-time salaried Fundraiser who carried out our fundraising with Trusts and Foundations and individual supporters. The Fundraiser is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising.

In 2021 we invested in a new part-time salaried Digital Fundraiser post to focus on developing fundraising and communications with individual supporters. This temporary post was responsible for setting up a GDPR-compliant supporter database for individual supporters and developing communications with individual supporters. This post ended in December 2021 and we were unsuccessful in recruiting for a replacement member of staff in 2022, but hope to successfully recruit in 2023.

We did not use third party fundraisers or commercial participators during the year.

We have a fundraising complaints process, which the trustees reviewed and agreed, and which is published on our website. We didn't receive any fundraising complaints in 2022.

We are aware of our responsibilities to protect vulnerable people and other members of the public from undue pressure in relation to fundraising. Steps taken include full understanding of, and compliance with, the Fundraising Regulator's Fundraising Promise and Codes of Fundraising Practice. We also have a Vulnerable Supporter Policy approved by trustees, which staff/trustees involved in fundraising adhere to, and which is reviewed annually. During the year, we are not aware of any occasions when we had reason to believe that a donor lacked capacity to make an informed decision in relation to fundraising.

Financial oversight of income generation and expenditure is provided by the Director and Finance Manager, who report to the trustees at quarterly Board meetings and at interim Finance Sub-Committee meetings.

Reports are filed in accordance with the regulations set out by Companies House and the Charity Commission.

Reserves Policy

The trustees reviewed the reserves policy and have concluded to continue holding free reserves equivalent to between three and six months of the current working budget where free reserves are the unrestricted reserves less fixed assets and designated funds. This is currently between £113,400 and £226,800 for the 2023 working budget. This will allow the charity to continue normal activities in the event of a significant drop in funding or increased overheads and run efficiently to meet the needs of its members and staff. In addition, the reserves may also be used for innovation and development opportunities that are in line with the charity's objects. The reserves level continues to be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the board of trustees. The unrestricted funds available to the charity as at 31 December 2022 were £198,525 and the free reserves were £173,077.

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

RISK MANAGEMENT

Room to Heal trustees regularly review the major strategic, business and operational risks faced by the charity and systems have been developed to mitigate the significant risks. Our Risk Register analyses these risks in terms of probability, potential impact and actions necessary to mitigate these risks.

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Room to Heal for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- · Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Independent Examiner

Patrick Morello of Third Sector Accountancy Ltd was appointed as Independent Examiner to the charity in March 2019.

This report was approved by the board on .12./.07./.2023..... and signed on their behalf.

Emily Haisley - Chair

Emily Haisley

Rim Rahimtulla - Treasurer

Rim Rahimtulla

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 26 to 43.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

Morrelle

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Patrick Morrello ACA Third Sector Accountancy Limited Holyoake House Hanover Street

Manchester

M60 0AS

Room To Heal

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure account) for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	131,276	223,217	354,493	88,414	213,957	302,371
Charitable activities	4	4,367	-	4,367	9,446	-	9,446
Investment income	5	206	-	206	72	-	72
Total income		135,849	223,217	359,066	97,932	213,957	311,889
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	32,661	-	32,661	34,899	-	34,899
Charitable activities	7	79,430	231,350	310,780	33,131	290,083	323,214
Total expenditure		112,091	231,350	343,441	68,030	290,083	358,113
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	9	23,758	(8,133)	15,625	29,902	(76,126)	(46,224)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-			-
Net movement in funds for the year Reconciliation of funds		23,758	(8,133)	15,625	29,902	(76,126)	(46,224)
Total funds brought forward		174,767	74,586	249,353	144,865	150,712	295,577
Total funds carried forward		198,525	66,453	264,978	174,767	74,586	249,353

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Room To Heal Company number 6744055

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022

	Note	:	2022	20	021
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets Tangible assets	14		448		1,249
rangible assets	14				
Total fixed assets			448		1,249
Current assets					
Debtors	15	6,928		6,423	
Cash at bank and in hand		264,293		263,770	
Total current assets	_	271,221		270,193	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling					
due in less than one year	16	(6,691)		(22,089)	
Net current assets	_		264,530		248,104
Total assets less current liabilities			264,978		249,353
Net assets			264,978		249,353
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds	17		66,453		74,586
Unrestricted income funds	18		198,525		174,767
Total charity funds			264,978		249,353

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 28 to 43 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emily Haisley

Emily Haisley (Chair)

Rim Rahimtulla (Treasurer)

12 / 07 / 2023

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 - (Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Room To Heal meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

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

b Judgments and estimates

The trustees have made no key judgments which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

d Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

e Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

g Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

h Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on cost of raising funds includes the costs of fundraising wages and associated costs and support costs
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

j Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Leasehold improvements 3 years Equipment 3 years

k Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

I Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m 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.

n Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

o Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity's contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 10. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within support and governance costs and allocated to the funds of the charity using the methodology set out in note 8.

2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

Room To Heal

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

Income from donations and legacies 3

		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
	Grants and donations Donated services	127,326 3,950	223,217 -	350,543 3,950	80,774 7,640	213,957 -	294,731 7,640
	Total	131,276	223,217	354,493	88,414	213,957	302,371
4	Income from charitable activities						
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
	Outreach and model sharing Invoiced services	1,991 2,376	-	1,991 2,376	1,040 8,406	-	1,040 8,406
		4,367	-	4,367	9,446	-	9,446

Room To Heal Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

5	Investment income						
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
	Income from bank deposits	206	-	206	72	-	72
		206	-	206	72		72
6	Cost of raising funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Staff costs	26,133	-	26,133	29,067	-	29,067
	Fundraising expenses	2,272	-	2,272	835		835
	Support costs (see note 8)	3,822	-	3,822	4,439	-	4,439
	Governance costs (see note 8)	434	-	434	558	-	558
		22.661		22.661	24,000		24.000
		32,661		32,661	34,899		34,899

Room To Heal

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

7 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

£	£
Staff costs 196,0	30 186,744
Supervision, training and other staff costs 8,9	22 10,023
Recruitment and CRB checks	79 404
Other project costs 1,7	60 1,437
Events 2,3	- 67
Consultancy 3,7	50 6,388
Member travel 7,8	46 1,128
Community meal expenses 3,4	09 815
Project equipment (gardening materials etc) 3,7	55 175
Therapeutic retreats and trips 4,2	66 666
Psychiatric report costs 3,7	92 3,240
International training project: consultant fees 5,6	99 18,958
International training project: other expenses 2,6	44 3,319
International training project: evaluation and finance costs 1,9	95 3,900
Covid-19 Emergency fund expenditure for members	- 17,240
Covid-19 Emergency fund expenditure additional tech costs	- 6,758
Access and emergency costs for members 3,4	49 -
Database 2,4	,
'	73 597
'	25 2,937
Therapy rooms and office rent 24,5	•
Support costs (see note 8) 28,6	68 28,518
Governance costs (see note 8) 3,2	55 3,588 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
310,7	80 323,214
Restricted expenditure 231,3	50 <i>290,083</i>
Unrestricted expenditure 79,4	30 33,131
310,7	80 323,214

Room To Heal

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

	Support	Governance	Total 2022	Support	Governance	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	22,828	2,013	24,841	27,991	2,060	30,051
Insurance (ELI)	3,383		3,383	2,287	-	2,287
IT consumables and IT support	3,840		3,840	756	-	<i>756</i>
Telephone and internet	1,284		1,284	70	-	70
Office admin and expenses	1,155		1,155	1,853	-	1,853
Governance admin and expenses		116	116	-	766	766
Independent examiner's fees		1,560	1,560	-	1,320	1,320
	32,490	3,689	36,179	32,957	4,146	37,103
Allocated as follows:						
Cost of raising funds	3,822	434	4,256	4,439	558	4,997
Charitable activities	28,668	3,255	31,923	28,518	3,588	32,106
	32,490	3,689	36,179	32,957	4,146	37,103

Support and governance costs are allocated in proportion to staff costs.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

9 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2022 £	2021 £
	Depreciation Licence agreement:	625	2,937
	Property	24,576	24,099
	Independent examiner's fee	1,560	1,320
10	Staff costs		
	Staff costs during the year were as follo	WS:	
		2022	2021
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	226,426	228,213
	Social security costs	13,752	12,073
	Pension costs	6,826	4,138
	Freelance staff	-	1,438
		247,004	245,862
	Allocated as follows:		
	Cost of raising funds	26,133	29,067
	Charitable activities	196,030	186,744
	Support costs	22,828	27,991
	Governance costs	2,013	2,060
		247,004	245,862

No employees has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 11 (2021: 14). The average full time equivalent number of staff employed during the period was 6.5 (2021: 7.3).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees and the Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £41,194 (2021: £37,999).

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

11 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the Trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year. £27 of expenses were reimbursed during the year.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year.

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business. Aggregate restricted donations from related parties were £14,000 and aggregate unrestricted donations were £990 (2021: £1,010)

12 Government grants

Room to Heal does not receive any direct government funding. The two funders in this category are: the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, managed by the UN's Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and funded by voluntary contributions mostly from UN member states; and The Barrow Cadbury Trust/National Lottery Community Fund, a statutory corporation established by the National Lottery Act 2006, which distributes money raised for good causes through the National Lottery.

The government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
The Barrow Cadbury Trust/National Lottery		
Community Fund	-	200
UNVFVT International Training Programme	-	22,592
UNVFVT Direct Assistance Programme	47,090	26,122
	47,090	48,914

There were no unfulfilled conditions at the end of the accounting period.

13 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

14 Fixed assets: tangible assets

14	Fixed assets: tangible assets			
		Leasehold		
		improvements	Equipment	Total
		£	£	£
	Cost			
	At 1 January 2022	6,800	1,874	8,674
	Additions	-	-	-
	Disposals	-	(176)	(176)
	At 31 December 2022	6,800	1,698	8,498
	Depreciation			
	At 1 January 2022	6,800	625	7,425
	Charge for the year		625	625
	At 31 December 2022	6,800	1,250	8,050
	Net book value			
	At 31 December 2022	-	448	448
	At 31 December 2021	_	1,249	1,249
	716 ST Bedember 2021			
45	Dilton			
15	Debtors	2022	2021	
		2022 £	2021 £	
		L	L	
	Trade debtors	-	4,408	
	Accrued income	6,458	1,824	
	Prepayments	308	191	
	Other debtors	162	-	
	other deptors			
		6.020	6.400	
		6,928	6,423	
16	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
		2022	2021	
		£	£	
	Accruals and deferred income	6,691	17,606	
	Grants owed to beneficiaries	-	685	
	Taxation and social security costs	-	3,012	
	Pensions	-	786	
		6,691	22,089	

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
2023 Mental Health Fund Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust /	-	11,537		-	11,537
Ann Rylands programme The Austin and Hope Pilkington	-	1,250	(1,250)	-	-
Trust	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Black Rock Gives	5,734	-	(5,734)	-	-
The Blue Moon Trust	8,000	-	(8,000)	-	-
City Bridge Trust Fishmongers' Company's	762	36,850	(35,674)	-	1,938
Charitable Trust	-	15,000	(7,478)	-	7,522
Garfield Weston Foundation	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	-
The Henry Smith Charity	5,092	36,800	(32,117)	-	9,775
London Community Foundation / Citi	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation for England & Wales	8,638	-	(8,638)	-	_
London Catalyst Project grant	3,000	750	(3,750)	-	-
Matrix Causes Fund	-	3,000	(375)	-	2,625
Merchant Taylors' Foundation	5,800	-	(5,800)	-	-
Morris Charitable Trust Mrs Smith & Mount Trust /	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Mount Fund	5,000	5,000	(5,000)	-	5,000
Nationwide Community Grants	-	21,425	(17,134)	-	4,291
People's Postcode Lottery	-	24,915	(5,000)	-	19,915
London Churches Refugee Fund	1,030	1,850	(2,030)	-	850
G&H Roberts Community Trust Tesco's Bags of Help Community	-	750	(750)	-	-
grant	850	-	(850)	-	-
London Catalyst Samaritan grant	1,286	-	(1,286)	-	-
Cost of living winter support fund UNVFVT International Training	-	4,000	(4,000)		-
Programme	12,394	-	(12,394)	-	-
UNVFVT Direct Assistance Programme	-	47,090	(47,090)	-	-
-	74,586	223,217	(231,350)	-	66,453
=					

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

Comparative period

, ,	Balance at 1 January				Balance at 31 December
	2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
The Austin and Hope Pilkington					
Trust	-	3,000	(1,000)	-	2,000
The Barrow Cadbury					
Trust/National Lottery					
Community Fund	33,293	200	(33,493)	-	-
Black Rock Gives	-	5,734	-	-	5,734
The Blue Moon Trust	-	10,000	(2,000)	-	8,000
CAF Resilience Fund	-	11,515	(11,515)	-	-
City Bridge Trust	1,233	36,300	(36,771)	-	762
Evan Cornish Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Freedom from Torture	468	-	(468)	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	30,000	-	(15,000)	-	15,000
The Henry Smith Charity	5,366	36,000	(36,274)	-	5,092
The International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims	5,965	-	(5,965)	-	-
The London Community Foundation/London Community Response Fund (Wave 3)	307	-	(307)	-	-
The London Community Foundation/London Community Response Fund (Wave 5)	-	9,964	(9,964)	-	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation for England & Wales	931	24,930	(17,223)	-	8,638
London Catalyst Project grant	_	3,000	_	-	3,000
Merchant Taylors' Foundation	3,138	5,800	(3,138)	-	5,800
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
The National Lottery Community					
Fund	24,424	-	(24,424)	-	-
People's Postcode Lottery	19,284	_	(19,284)	-	-
The Roddick Foundation	5,636	_	(5,636)	_	_
London Churches Refugee Fund	631	1,500	(1,101)	-	1,030
Tesco's Bags of Help Community grant	-	1,000	(150)	-	850
London Catalyst Samaritan grant	1,233	1,300	(1,247)	-	1,286
UNVFVT International Training Programme	18,803	22,592	(29,001)	-	12,394
UNVFVT Direct Assistance Programme	-	26,122	(26,122)	-	-
Total	150,712	213,957	(290,083)	-	74,586

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

Name of restricted fund	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
2023 Mental Health	Individual donations towards 2023 Therapeutic Programme
Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust (Ann Rylands programme)	This grant contributes to our Therapeutic Programme
The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust	This grant contributed to the salary cost of a therapist.
The Barrow Cadbury Trust / National Lottery Community Fund	COVID-19 Support Fund - this grant contributed to salary costs of therapists, caseworkers and operations staff as well as direct assistance costs of food and essentials, phone top ups and additional technology to support members through the impacts of the pandemic.
Black Rock Gives	This grant contributed to the casework programme including casework salaries and associated overheads.
The Blue Moon Trust	The 2021 grant contributed to holistic support for women.
CAF Resilience Fund	This grant contributed to the salary costs of therapists and clinical administrator as well as running costs such as rent.
City Bridge Trust	This grant covers the salary of a caseworker and contributes to the salary of a therapist as well as associated running costs.
Evan Cornish Foundation	This grant funded therapy and casework salaries, database, management and overhead costs.
Fishmongers' Company's Charitable Trust	This grant helped fund a therapy group.
Freedom From Torture	This grant covered direct assistance costs of food and essentials to support members through the impacts of the pandemic.
G&H Roberts Community Trust	This grant helped fund evaluation of remote group therapy during Covid- 19, helping to inform and develop future services; and helped fund assessments of newly referred survivors.
Garfield Weston Foundation	Funding for core costs to be spread over 3 years (2020-2022)
The Henry Smith Charity	This grant contributed to the salary costs of the director, with a contribution to overheads.
The International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)	This grant contributed to the salary costs of a therapist and the programme lead as well as additional technology costs for members to support activities that addressed Covid-19 related obstacles.
Lloyds Bank Foundation for England & Wales	This grant contributed to salaries of part-time caseworker, clinical administrator and finance manager, as well as database and IT expenses and rent costs.
London Catalyst Project grant	This grant helped fund evaluation of remote group therapy during Covid- 19, helping to inform and develop future services; and helped fund assessments of newly referred survivors.
London Catalyst Samaritan grant	This grant contributed towards emergency and hardship costs for community members in need.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

London Churches Refugee Fund	This grant contributed to community member travel and data top-up costs.
London Community Foundation / Citi	This grant contributed to therapist and caseworker salary costs plus running costs.
The London Community Foundation / London Community Response Fund (Wave 3)	London Community Response Fund – Coronavirus Appeal (Wave 3) - This grant covered direct assistance costs of food and essentials, phone top ups and additional technology to support members through the impacts of the pandemic.
The London Community Foundation / London Community Response Fund (Wave 5)	This fund was for meeting urgent and basic day-to-day needs of members during the Covid-19 pandemic, including food & essentials, phone/data top-ups, taxi/travel fares and emergency costs.
Matrix Causes Fund	This grant funded staff training to ensure RTH is anti-racist $\&$ culturally appropriate.
Merchant Taylors' Foundation	This grant contributed to therapist salaries and overheads to help continue our therapeutic support programme.
Morris Charitable Trust	This grant contributed to our gardening project, including piloting a new Garden Co-ordinator post.
Mrs Smith & Mount Trust / Mount Fund Nationwide Community Grants	This grant contributed towards salary costs for Caseworker and Clinical Administrator to support members with housing & homelessness This grant contributed towards salary costs for Caseworker and Clinical Administrator to support members with housing & homelessness
The National Lottery Community Fund	Coronavirus Community Support Fund - This grant provided funding for the initial set up of a third digital therapy group, covering associated therapy, casework and operations staff costs as well as direct assistance of food, phone top ups and additional technology needed.
People's Postcode Lottery	This grant contributed to our mental health programme, including therapist staff costs and therapy project costs.
The Roddick Foundation	This grant contributed to therapist, caseworker, supervision and operational costs to help ensure we could deliver our services through the pandemic.
Tesco's Bags of Help community grant	This grant contributed to a gardening project for members, including gardening materials, furniture and equipment.
UNVFVT - International Training Programme UNVFVT Direct Assistance Programme	(P-829-TS-21) This project was granted a no-cost 4-month extension due to the impact of the Covid19 pandemic on travel restrictions, the amount of £11,140 which was carried forward to 2022 was spent inline with the grant agreement and extension. In addition £1,254 was spent on creating a groupwork training toolkit as agreed in the carry forward of the 2020 grant (P-829-TS-20). (Project P-829-DA-22) This grant has been spent in the period examined in these accounts (1 January 2022 - 31 December 2022) and in
	accordance with the terms of the offer letter. The grant was spent as follows: therapeutic staff salaries £37,672, director salary costs £4,000 and contribution to rent costs £5,418.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

18 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 December 2022 £
General fund Designated fund	144,767 30,000	135,849	(112,091)	5,000 (5,000)	173,525 25,000
	174,767	135,849	(112,091)	-	198,525
Comparative period General fund Designated fund	Balance at 1 January 2021 £ 144,865	Income £ 97,932 97,932	Expenditure £ (68,030) (68,030)	Transfers £ (30,000) 30,000	As at 31 December 2021 £ 144,767 30,000
Name of unrestricted fund	Description,	nature and pu	irposes of the fun	d	
General fund	The free reserves after allowing for all designated funds				
Designated fund	£25,000 for planned expenditure to help ensure organisational resilience in 2023 focused on strategic objectives including communications, income diversification and structural sustainability.				

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund <u>£</u>	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets Net current assets/(liabilities)	448 173,077	- 25,000	66,453	448 264,530
Total	173,525	25,000	66,453	264,978
Comparative period Tangible fixed assets Net current assets/(liabilities)	General fund £ 1,249 143,518	Designated funds £ - 30,000	Restricted funds £ - 74,586	Total 2021 £ 1,249 248,104
Total	144,767	30,000	74,586	249,353