

Trustees Annual Report including
Annual Receipts & Payments Accounts

for

Survivors Unite SCIO
for the period

to 31st March 2022

Scottish Charity No: SC048563

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Reference & Administrative Information

Charity Name: Survivors Unite SCIO

Scottish Charity No: SC048563

The Charities Principal Address:
Unit 3a Tweedmill Business Park
SELKIRK
TD7 5DZ

Charities Trustees on date of approval including office held:

Chairperson	Marilyn Aitkenhead
Vice Chairperson	Allyson McCollam
Treasurer	John Craig (from Dec 21)
Trustee	Catherine Elliot-Walker
Trustee	Maureen Roper
Trustee	Barbara Caldicott
Trustee	Amanda Erskine (from Dec 21)
Trustee	Marina Arnot (from Feb 22)

Names of other trustees during the period:

Heather Johnstone	Dec 21
Leslie Newington	Dec 21
Marina Arnot	Feb 22 - resigned June 22

Independent Examiner: Sue Bennett ACIE
21 Dounehill
JEDBURGH
TD8 6LJ

Bankers: Bank of Scotland plc
PO Box 1000
BX2 1LB

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing Document:

Survivors Unite was recognised as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) on the 23rd July 2018

Trustee Recruitment & Appointment:

At each AGM, the members may elect any member (unless he/she is debarred from membership under clause 56) to be a charity trustee. The board may at any time appoint any member (unless he/she is debarred from membership under clause 56) to be a charity trustee.

At each AGM, all of the charity trustees elected/appointed under clauses 58 and 59 (and, in the case of the first AGM, those deemed to have been appointed under clause 57) shall retire from office – but shall then be eligible for re-election under clause 58.

A charity trustee retiring at an AGM will be deemed to have been reelected unless:

- he/she advises the board prior to the conclusion of the AGM that he/she does not wish to be re-appointed as a charity trustee; or
- an election process was held at the AGM and he/she was not among those elected/re-elected through that process; or
- a resolution for the re-election of that charity trustee was put to the AGM and was not carried.

In addition to their powers under clause 59, the board may at any time appoint any non-member of the organisation to be a charity trustee (subject to clause 53, and providing he/she is not debarred from membership under clause 56) either on the basis that he/she has been nominated by a body with which the organisation has close contact in the course of its activities or on the basis that he/she has specialist experience and/or skills which could be of assistance to the board.

Objectives & Activities

The Charities Charitable Purpose:

As set out in the 'Constitution' and 'The Charities and Trustee Investments(Scotland) Act 2005' the purpose(s) of Survivors Unite SCIO are the following:-

- The organisation's purposes are the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage through:

Any other purpose that may reasonably be regarded as analogous to any of the preceding purposes.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives:

- Providing safe, confidential, person-centred support for adults who have experienced childhood sexual abuse, to their families and significant others in the Scottish Borders
- To be a credible and trusted peer support organisation with established referral pathways that those working with survivors can signpost to, and those using the service can be signposted from.
- Raising awareness , support prevention and reduce stigma around issues affecting survivors of childhood sexual abuse in the Scottish Borders

Achievement & Performance for 2022

Like so many other organizations last year Survivors Unite faced many changes, particularly changes in key personnel. However, we continued to provide our services without disruption, and to make improvements in our operational functioning. Feedback is showing that our services are greatly valued and provide support which people are unable to access elsewhere. The key features are that the service is survivor designed and provides free and confidential 1:1 counseling, a weekly ongoing facilitated peer support group and individual peer support for people aged 16 years or older, living in the Scottish Borders, who experienced sexual abuse as children and who are seeking help to build more fulfilling lives following this abuse. Especially valued is the fact the counselling or peer support we provide is not time-limited. This means that survivors can take the time they need to build more flourishing lives. It also reflects our commitment to being survivor-centred in how we plan and deliver services.

During 21/22 we have been able to use the funding we had previously secured. We also successfully applied for further funding which enables us to continue providing our services for two more years, recruit to a much-needed new administrative role, and gives us time to source additional funding. Stability means so much to survivors. Our counsellors and peer support workers have remained in post and have been very busy. We are delighted with the commitment and professionalism of their work.

Our trustees have formed an excellent team and have continued to provide a stable decision-making body despite changes in roles and personnel. Our much valued peer support group facilitator, Amanda Erskine, stepped down from that role and took up a role as Trustee. Barbara Caldicott, a survivor, also became a trustee, replacing Les Newington who stepped down after being such a powerful force in helping SU get going. Their experiences provide invaluable contributions to our organization. Our Chair of 5 years, Cath Elliott-Walker, stepped down as chair but remains as a trustee and continues to provide excellent guidance, particularly around fund-raising. We recruited a new treasurer, John Craig, who has helped us enormously in getting a clearer picture of our finances and future possibilities. Marilyn Aitkenhead, also a founder of Survivors Unite, stepped up from Vice-Chair to become chair at the AGM in November 2021. Allyson McCollam, another founder, became Vice-Chair.

This stable support proved very helpful when our Recovery Practice Lead stepped down from that role at the end of February 2022, whilst thankfully continuing to provide counselling services for us, and our Project Manager resigned in order to take up a permanent (and better paid) local position. We are very grateful that he continued to provide some hours each week until our new Business Manager was appointed.

We took the opportunity to reposition these senior staff roles. We appointed our new Business Manager on 1/5/22, and our new Recovery Counselling Lead was appointed in June 2022. Trustees took on operational duties whilst we recruited new staff for these essential roles: finding supervision for our peer support workers; creating a new dedicated support role for people waiting to access counselling or peer support (people say this is a lifeline for them), finding a new peer group facilitator.

We also ran a second Compassion-focused training course and were able to offer a few places across Scotland to people also providing services to survivors of childhood sexual abuse. We used underspend from this grant (from the Murdoch-Forrest Trust) to run a poetry competition on the theme of surviving. This generated some inspiring work as well as promoting awareness.

Achievement & Performance for 2022 cont'd

We are indebted to Scottish Government, Big Lottery (Improving Lives), Foundation Scotland, The Robertson Trust, Scottish Borders Council and the Murdoch-Forrest Trust for putting their faith in us and we are very much looking forward to moving forward with our plans and continuing to provide our much-needed services.

Survivors Unite enjoys good working relationships with other services and organisations that provide support locally. We continue to be grateful for the generosity of Children First who have enabled us to have a base within their premises. As we have grown, the accommodation at Children First has become increasingly under pressure, so we took the decision to find our own premises (reporting ahead, we moved in to our new premises in September 2022).

Financial Review

Statement of Reserves Policy:

Reserves must be maintained at a level which ensures that SU's core activity can continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. The calculation of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the organisation's planning, budget and forecast cycle. SU will plan to maintain a reserve figure to cover operating costs for 2 months at all times. An increase of up to 10% above the reserves figure is acceptable.

Details of any deficit:

A deficit of £23,089 was recorded for the financial period but no funds were in deficit at the end of the financial period. The SCIO has sufficient funds to continue to carry out its charitable objects for the foreseeable future.

Details of Donated Facilities & Services:

The Charity benefits from the time given by all the Trustees to the running of the Charity.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The members of the Charity must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Charity during the financial year. The members of the Charity are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Charity at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Marilyn Aitkenhead
Chairperson

Dated:

14/12/22

Receipts & Payments Account Period to 31st March 2022

	Notes	Un Restricted	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Receipts					
Donations		190	0	190	545
Receipts from Fund Raising Activities	1	0	0	0	825
Other Charitable Activities		0	0	0	0
Grants	2	0	51,875	51,875	93,777
Total Receipts		190	51,875	52,065	95,147
Payments					
Expenses from Fund Raising Activities	3	160	0	160	221
Expenses from Charitable Activities	4	0	74,844	74,844	79,552
Independent Examination		150	0	150	125
Total Payments		310	74,844	75,154	79,898
Net Receipts/(Payments)		(120)	(22,969)	(23,089)	15,249
Transfer between Funds		0	0		
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		(120)	(22,969)	(23,089)	15,249

Statement of Balances as at 31st March 2022

	Un Restricted	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Balances at Start of Year	1,831	71,986	73,817	58,568
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	(120)	(22,969)	(23,089)	15,249
Balances at End of Year	1,711	49,017	50,728	73,817

Other Assets

See Note 5	2,287	2,287
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Liabilities

No Outstanding Liabilities

Financial Statements approved by the Charity and signed on its behalf by:

Signed.....
John Craig - Treasurer

Dated..... 14th December 2022

Notes to the Accounts

Notes to the Accounts

	2022	2021	
1. Income from Fundraising Activities			
The Kilt Walk	£0	£825	
2. Grants			
Inspiring Scotland (Scottish Government)	19,375	34,944	
Teviot & Liddesdale Community Fund	5,000	0	
Foundation Scotland	7,500	7,500	
National Lottery	0	33,333	
The Robertson Trust	20,000	17,000	
Sky Jacqui Trust	0	1,000	
	£51,875	£93,777	
3. Expenses from Fundraising Activity			
The Kilt Walk	£160	£221	
4. Expenses from Charitable Activity			
Staff Costs	26,565	23,478	
Counseling Fees & Costs	28,797	43,916	
Rent	8,664	968	
Overhead Costs (Phone, Postage & Stationery)	1,419	2,840	
Website & Computer Costs	1,604	2,919	
Volunteer & Travel Costs	3,007	1,067	
Insurance	1,613	1,691	
Lone Working (Safe Shores)	823	0	
Meeting Costs	96	125	
Group Members Outing	281	0	
Equipment	379	2,548	
Legal & Professional	600	0	
Training Costs	896	0	
Poetry Competition	100	0	
	£74,844	£79,552	
5. Assets of Survivors Unite SCIO as at 31st March 22			
	2021	Additions	2022
XL Display Boards	111.60	0.00	111.60
Dell Latitude 7350 Laptop	2,175.00	0.00	2,175.00
Total	2,286.60	0.00	2,286.60

Notes to the Accounts cont'd

6. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses during the year.

7. Nature & Purpose of Funds

The statements of account for the year show the financial figures for the Charity. The funds carried forward are made up of restricted and un-restricted funds as follows:

Restricted Funds	Bank Account	49,017.00
Un-Restricted Funds	Bank Account	1,625.81
	Petty Cash	85.02
Total Funds		£50,728.83

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the trustees of Survivors Unite SCIO
Registered charity number SC048563
On the accounts of the charity for the period to 31st March 2022
Set out on Pages 8 to 10

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

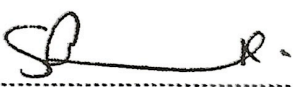
Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

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.

Signed: 
Sue Bennett 21 Dounehill Jedburgh

Date: 14.12.2022

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body:
ACIE & Dip Business & Finance