

**Porchlight** 

# **Annual Report & Accounts**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**



# Trustees & administration

Trustees	Appointed	Resigned	Subcommittee membership				
			Finance & risk	Fundraising & comms	HR	Performance & quality	Remuneration
<b>Hilary Edridge (Chair)</b>	29 Apr 2015	30 Nov 2024		X	X		X
<b>Patrick Fuller (Chair)</b>	30 Sep 2020		X	X			
Thomas Abbott	27 Jan 2024			X			
Anne Chapman	27 Jan 2024		X				
Sue Baker	17 Feb 2021	27 Feb 2024		X			
Timothy Child	15 Dec 2022			X	X		
Claire Ellis-Waghorn	27 Jan 2024			X	X		
Dominic Deeson	15 Feb 2017	10 Jun 2023		X	X	X	
Thomas Evans	15 Feb 2017		X				
Stephanie Goad	29 Jun 2018			X		X	
David Leah	21 Jul 2021		X				X
Simon Langworthy	24 May 2023	3 July 2023	X	X			
Adam Lott	1 Feb 2024					X	
Danica McLean	27 Jan 2024				X	X	
Neil Oldfield	27 Jan 2024	14 Jun 2024			X	X	
Dr Jenny Robson	12 Jul 2018		X			X	X
Dr Nicholas Ward	20 May 2020			X		X	
Naomi Simcox	29 May 2019	30 Jun 2023			X	X	
Anna Linstead	29 Jan 25		X				X

## Key management personnel

- Patrick Fuller, Chair of trustees (appointed Trustee 30 Sep 2020, appointed Chair 30 Nov 2024)
- Michael Barrett, Chief Executive Officer & Company Secretary (resigned Dec 2023)
- Tom Neumark, Chief Executive Officer (appointed Oct 2024)
- Catherine Keen, Chief Finance & Operating Officer
- Adam Colthorpe, Director of Development and Innovation/Income Generation and Communications
- Joanne Dawes, Director of Fundraising & Communications (resigned Dec 2023)
- Sarah Dennis, Director of Human Resources
- Julia Hargreaves, Director of Services

## Administration

### Auditor

RSM UK Audit LLP, Portland, 25 High Street, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 1BG

### Solicitors

Knights Professional Services Limited, The Brampton, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST5 0QW

### Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc, Four Brindley place, Birmingham B1 2JB

### Registered address

18-19 Watling Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2UA  
 Charity registration number: 267116  
 Registered company number: 01157482  
 Incorporated in England and Wales

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# About Porchlight

**We were founded in 1974 to help people facing the devastating effects of homelessness. Today, we also tackle the causes and consequences of poverty and inequality.**

In 2024, we are still here for people when it matters most. Offering safety, stability and respect; empowering people to live the life they want; and together, fighting for lasting change.

We work with around 6,000 individuals and families every year. We help people to reach their full potential by breaking down the barriers to housing, mental and physical health, work, education, financial independence or daily living skills.

We have many services that can help support people and how we help depends on someone's situation. Whatever people are facing, we're here for them when it matters most.



Porchlight's 50th Anniversary installation of tents illustrating client quotes

## A safe home, better life and fairer future for everyone.

**We're here for people when it matters most.**

Everybody deserves to have someone on their side when life gets tough. We draw on decades of experience to help people facing poverty, and inequality in health and housing.

**We offer safety, stability and respect.**

When someone needs help, they may be facing lots of different issues. We create a safety net so everyone can find the support that's right for them.

**We empower people to live the life they want.**

Empowering people so they can thrive takes care, compassion and understanding. We help people see their strengths and connect with others to build the future they want.

**Together, we fight for lasting change.**

Poverty, health and housing injustice are complex problems affecting millions of lives. They are also avoidable. We work to improve understanding of the issues and find sustainable solutions to rebalance an unfair system.

# Letter from the Chair of Trustees

## Patrick Fuller Chair of trustees

Dear Supporters,

As Chair of Trustees, I write to you during a challenging time for Porchlight and the people we serve. The past year has been marked by significant obstacles, but also by our unwavering support for those in need.

In April 2023, we faced a devastating £1 million annual funding cut from Kent County Council, putting our vital supported accommodation services at risk. This funding ceased completely in March 2024, forcing us to scale back our homelessness prevention and recovery work, and reduce the support provided by our helpline.

Porchlight's teams are therefore facing unprecedented challenges. It puts pressure on every area of activity and it is only through the dedication and professionalism of our staff and volunteers that we have been able to continue supporting the most vulnerable in our communities. Throughout the organisation, everyone has given their utmost to the cause, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to them.



Porchlight turns 50 this year, but we do not see it as a cause for celebration. Homelessness is at an all-time high, demand for mental health services continues to rise, and more people are being pushed into poverty. The average age of death for those living on the streets remains shockingly low at 45 for men and 43 for women.



 **5,794**  
people supported

 **200**  
staff and volunteers

 **£12.6m**  
total income FY23-24

The housing crisis has intensified, trapping many in temporary accommodation. We've advocated for a compassionate approach to helping people experiencing homelessness and joined other organisations in urging the government to take action on this critical issue.

Despite these challenges, we remain committed to our mission. We're focused on repairing the safety net, from homelessness outreach to supporting those discharged from hospital to housing-led support for people to move into their own homes. We've also expanded our proven services for vulnerable young people and worked to address mental health inequalities.

As we look to the future, we're more determined than ever to fight for a fairer society. We need your support in maintaining our services and the wonderful staff who deliver them, each determined to make a difference to the lives of those who need it most.

Thank you for standing with us during these difficult times.

With kind regards



# Our work

**Porchlight is a Kent-based charity supporting people experiencing issues related to poverty, health and housing; with a focus on homelessness, mental health and community development through local delivery programmes.**

We provide a range of different services tailored to the needs of the local areas, working directly, and with local delivery partners across all 12 districts of Kent along with Medway and the London Borough of Bexley.

The people we support face varied issues and often experience multiple disadvantages; for example, homelessness or housing insecurity can often also involve personal experience of mental health problems or addictive behaviours.

We are there for people when it matters most; to help prevent problems from escalating, respond to more urgent need, as well as stay alongside them as they build the future they want.



**A safe home, better life and fairer future for everyone.**

## Our services

### **Supported accommodation**

Accommodation alongside support and supervision to help people live as independently as possible.

### **Housing first/housing led accommodation**

Providing 'own front door' accommodation with a high level of support.

### **Homelessness outreach**

Working with people who are street homeless and support maintaining their tenancy.

### **Pathways**

Working with hospitals to prevent homelessness at the point of discharge from hospital care.

### **Porchlight Open Door (PODs) (Closed Dec 2024)**

Community hubs to help people connect with local services and support networks.

### **Live Well Kent & Medway**

Community mental health and wellbeing service offering group/one-to-one support.

### **Mental health together (launched Aug 2024)**

Planning a new integrated service model supporting people with complex mental health needs in partnership with Kent and Medway Partnership Trust (KMPT).

### **Porchlight adolescent wellbeing service (PAWS)**

One-to-one mental health support for younger people.

### **BeYou**

Mental health support for LGBTQ+ younger people through youth groups and one-to-one support.

### **Spaces 2 connect**

Working collaboratively with partners to better support people facing multiple disadvantages.

# Sector overview

## Homelessness

The homelessness sector in England for the financial year April 2023 to March 2024 saw significant increases in various aspects of homelessness, reaching record levels in several categories.

- A total of 324,990 households were owed a prevention or relief duty after making a homelessness application to English local authorities, an 8% increase from the previous year
- 146,430 households were assessed as being threatened with homelessness (prevention duty), a 3.1% increase from 2022-23
- 178,560 households were assessed as homeless (relief duty), a 12.3% increase from 2022-23
- The end of assured shorthold tenancies was a leading cause, with 79,500 households seeking help due to this reason
- 26,150 households were served with Section 21 'no fault evictions'
- Loss of accommodation due to family or friends no longer able to accommodate remained a significant factor
- As of March 31, 2024, 117,450 households were in temporary accommodation, a 12.3% increase from the previous year
- 74,530 households with children were living in temporary accommodation (63% of the total)
- 151,630 children were living in temporary accommodation
- 22.5% of households with children in temporary accommodation had been there for 5 years or more
- 17,210 households' accommodation at the time of being owed a duty was given as rough sleeping, a 15.7% increase from the previous year
- For households with children, 48.3% of prevention duties ended with accommodation secured for 6 months or more, a slight decrease from 49.6% in the previous year
- The proportion of successful outcomes at the end of prevention duties decreased by 1.3 percentage points from 2022-23 to 2023-24

## Mental health

The mental health sector in England for the financial year April 2023 to March 2024 saw significant increases in demand and service utilisation, alongside some improvements in provision.

- A record 5 million people were referred to NHS mental health services in 2023, up 33% from 2019
- 3,790,826 people were in contact with secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services, representing 6.6% of England's population (up from 6.3% in 2022-23)
- 1,139,355 of those in contact with services were under 18 years old
- 20.3% of 8 to 16-year-olds had a probable mental disorder in 2023
- There was a significant rise in eating disorders among 17 to 19-year-olds, from 0.8% in 2017 to 12.5% in 2023
- 795,470 children and young people accessed mental health services in the 12 months to April 2024
- NHS England rolled out 398 Mental Health Support Teams in schools and colleges, covering 35% of pupils
- The median wait time for adult mental health services was 48 days as of April 2024. For children and young people, the median wait time was 17 days
- NHS England planned to spend £14.4 billion on mental health, learning disability, and dementia services in 2023/24, representing 14.2% of total ICB funding with an additional £2.4 billion planned for specialised commissioning in mental health services
- The mental health waiting list was estimated at 1 million people in 2024
- Despite increased funding, mental health spending has not kept pace with overall NHS expenditure growth
- 49.9% of those completing NHS Talking Therapies for anxiety and depression moved to recovery, just under the 50% target
- The government committed to developing a long-term strategy and abolishing 'no fault' evictions to address mental health challenges

# Homelessness

## A multifaceted challenge

Homelessness is a complex issue that requires tailored, person-centred support to help individuals recover and rebuild their lives. At Porchlight, we address these challenges through a range of innovative services, developed in collaboration with local councils, healthcare providers, and community partners.

## Rough sleeping

Standard homelessness support often falls short for individuals with complex needs, such as trauma, severe mental health challenges, or addiction. Our dedicated outreach team works across Kent, providing life-saving interventions and connecting rough sleepers to essential services, particularly during extreme weather. This year, our rough sleeper team supported 237 people.

Tailored outreach includes specialised services for young people, women, and those with significant mental health needs. Partnerships with NHS mental health teams, drug and alcohol agencies, and local councils enable us to address the root causes of homelessness and create lasting change.

A new initiative with the NHS and the charity Pathway offers continued support for homeless hospital patients post-discharge, ensuring access to housing, mental health care, and financial guidance. This reduces readmission rates and relieves strain on healthcare staff.



**944** people supported when they needed it most



**28** people supported from hospital discharge



**279** people supported away from street homelessness including rough sleeping and hospital discharge

## Supported accommodation

Our supported accommodation services form the backbone of our approach to helping individuals transition out of homelessness. Beyond providing a safe, stable home, we deliver personalised support to address the underlying issues of homelessness.

Working with local authorities and partner organisations, we provide residents with access to mental health care, substance misuse treatment, skills training, and opportunities for community reintegration. For many, supported accommodation serves as a critical turning point, offering the foundation for long-term stability and independence.

Housing First schemes, developed in partnership with housing associations and local councils, provide people with immediate access to permanent housing without conditions for change. This proven model empowers individuals to recover at their own pace, supported by Porchlight staff. Stability allows them to reconnect with family, address underlying issues, and move towards independence.

Our specialised housing projects include Stepping Stones, supporting single women and women with children, and women-only properties designed for survivors of violence or abuse. These tailored accommodations offer safe spaces to heal and rebuild lives.

## Preventing homelessness

Prevention is the most effective strategy for tackling homelessness. We work with individuals at risk, providing debt advice, financial guidance, and assistance with vital paperwork to keep them in their homes. However, funding cuts have limited this essential work, putting more people at risk of homelessness and its devastating effects.



**92%** of people at risk, supported to keep their home



# The people we support



## Case study: Housing-led

A homeless client who'd been the victim of a violent crime has undergone an amazing transformation, thanks to a specialist housing scheme we run with Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.

The scheme helps people who require a high level of support, and the man was experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and it's highly likely that he would have struggled with his mental health and wellbeing in a shared property.

He's been given his own flat and will be allowed to recover at his own pace (while receiving support from Porchlight and other organisations).

It's proven that if someone feels safe and included, they will - in their own time - start to recover and make positive choices about how they live their life.

He has gone from living in fear to feeling confident and regaining his independence. It's a massive transformation, and we'll continue supporting him while he rebuilds his life.



## Case study: Mother & child

A six-year-old was able to start back at school thanks to our homelessness housing programme for mothers and children which we run in partnership with London Borough of Bexley.

After the mother had been assaulted, they moved into her parents' home for safety. But the living situation was overcrowded, and eventually they were forced to move out. To prevent them becoming homeless, we moved the boy and his mother into our Bexley property.

With somewhere suitable and stable to live, they began rebuilding their lives. We arranged for the mother to access support for anxiety and depression - the result of everything she's been through recently. And because she's a university student, we've helped her obtain a grant for parents in education.

We're delighted to say that we've found them somewhere more permanent to live. Now, mother and son can return to university and school and build a better life and fairer future for themselves - all from the stability of a safe home.

# Mental health

## Live Well Kent & Medway

Live Well Kent and Medway is a county-wide mental health and wellbeing support programme delivered on behalf of Kent County Council and the NHS by Porchlight, Shaw Trust, and a network of local delivery partners.

If you're aged 16+ and live in Kent or Medway, our network of voluntary organisations and charities can help you:

- Better manage your mental health and general wellbeing
- Gain confidence and meet new people
- Get advice for money, debt or benefit-related issues
- Get support for housing concerns
- Access free therapy and counselling-type services
- Find work, volunteering and education opportunities
- Join local activities and support groups run by people with similar experiences

# Live well

Kent and Medway



## 4,800

people supported when they needed it most



## 67%

had a common mental illness (CMI) and 26% had a serious mental illness (SMI)

## Children & Young People

We work with children, young people and their families to support with their mental health and emotional wellbeing.

### Porchlight adolescent wellbeing service

Help for young people (10-18) with mental health and wellbeing-related issues that are affecting their education, home life or relationships with family and friends.

We use CBT and DBT-informed approaches to support young people improve their mental wellbeing, become more confident and develop tools to help them navigate any similar issues in the future.

We can also help families improve relationships with the young person in their life and get support for other things that are affecting them (for example, housing problems, money and benefit worries).

### The BeYou Project

A mental health and emotional wellbeing service for LGBTQ+ young people (aged 8 - 25) in Kent and Medway.

We run safe space meet-ups where they can be themselves and get emotional support around issues they are facing. We can also work with friends, parents, carers and schools, helping them understand how best to support young people.



## 752

young people supported with their mental health and wellbeing



## 90%

of LWKM clients maintained or improved their mental wellbeing



# The people we support

## Case study: Link work

The person we supported had experienced domestic abuse and harassment at their previous property and consequently were forced to leave their home, self-referring after they were placed in temporary accommodation. They described the stressful nature of in-person meetings with the housing authority, where they felt they were being asked for information they could not provide, such as the details of their tenancy when living with their mother - one of their abusers. They wanted Live Well Kent and Medway to advocate for them, as they felt powerless.

The client has been receiving assistance from Victim Support at the time of the referral. The client had a pet cat who had been placed in a fostering service while they were living in the temporary accommodation, and it was clear that the welfare of the cat was a cause of great anxiety to the client.

The client experienced ADHD, anxiety, depression, agoraphobia, OCD, trauma, and panic attacks. At the time of the referral, the client was on the waiting list to be seen by a mental health nurse at their GP surgery. Given that the client had moved, they wanted support with accessing mental health services in that area.

The client described themselves as having a lot of unprocessed trauma from several incidents of domestic abuse at different times in their life.

### How did the service support the client?

In the first instance, having met with the client, the service made a referral for talking therapy, however, unfortunately this was later rejected as the client's needs were at that point deemed to be too high by the service. Working in partnership with the client's GP, a referral to the Community Mental Health Team was made. The service was also proactive in making a direct referral to Mental Health Together team for the client.

The link worker advocated for the client with the Council, having to make multiple email queries and phone conversations with several housing officers. Over weekly in-person meetings with the client, the link service was able to untangle some of the confusion the client was experiencing over their housing situation.

Collaborating with colleagues from Porchlight Living Better service, we made a referral to an organisation for domestic abuse support, who provide a ten-week course of group therapy sessions for survivors of domestic abuse. The service was able to act as a liaison between the client and different support organisations.

### Impact of the service

The impact of the support provided by the service could be clearly seen at weekly meetings, they appeared happier and more hopeful. They were able to take on more responsibilities and are now confident that their housing situation will be resolved with a permanent safe home. The client is especially happy that they will be getting their cat back from fostering.

The link service played a pivotal role in helping them to manage their own wellbeing, bringing together key stakeholders and helping them to navigate working with multiple agencies.

The client is now accessing support from Mental Health Together team and has some time and space to focus on their mental health and on processing the trauma they have experienced. The housing situation is now largely resolved, and they are now in a position where they can focus on the domestic abuse support group work. The client is happy that now is the right time to address their trauma, being in a safe and supportive setting.

"I feel like I can breathe for the first time in weeks. Thank you to Porchlight for helping me through all of the chaos. It was so nice to have someone to talk to and work with during this time. I had been trying to communicate with big organisations for so long that it was nice to sit down with another human being who would listen to me."

# Communities

## Porchlight Open Door

Our Porchlight Open Door meet-ups (PODs) were friendly get-togethers that help people to connect with the services and support networks that they need within their communities. They were funded until mid 2024.

People could get information and support about topics like housing, debt or benefits, try new activities or just have a cup of tea and a chat in a warm space.

We ran sessions to help people improve their health and wellbeing, cooking on a budget, fitness and mindfulness, along with employment and volunteering support - helping people see their strengths and connect with others to build the future they want.



# 483

community hub groups held

## Spaces 2 Connect

Spaces 2 Connect is a programme that drives collaborative working with partners and local services to better support people facing multiple disadvantages, addressing their needs in a connected way.

Our Spaces 2 Connect groups in Margate and Canterbury work with local community leaders and the local authority to share knowledge and practical experience to overcome shared community challenges.

Throughout the programme, we work to improve people's awareness of local services and their experience of accessing support, so that everyone can find the support that's right for them.



# 60

partner organisations attended, to provide better links to community services



# 333

Porchlight clients attended



# 5

workshops held; two by statutory organisations and three by VCSE partners





# The people we support



## Case study

- A client first attended Thanet POD after being signposted by her Porchlight coach.
- They were initially too anxious to walk into the POD by herself, therefore a POD worker would meet them at the door and walk with them into the group. The worker would ensure they sat at the crafts table as this was the quietest place and also because they had expressed a love of crafts.
- Over the next few POD sessions, they were slowly introduced to other members of the group and started to get involved in the activities. They were a little reluctant at first but managed to talk with a few other POD members with the worker's support.
- More recently, they have been able to confidently walk into the POD on their own and have been having open conversations with other POD clients. They have also made some friends and enjoy getting involved with group craft activities.
- Attending the POD has enabled them to tackle their anxiety and work on their confidence. They also feel less isolated and have found new ways to help with their wellbeing.



## Case study

- The client used to be a regular attendee at the POD, but he had only been three times since our relaunch in September.
- They were struggling with rent arrears, and we spoke to his coach and manager about the situation.
- Liaising with coaches helps all of us support the clients. It also helps the clients get to know the team so that eventually they would take a progressive step towards POD, as it's important for clients living in accommodation to get out into the community.
- We suggested to meet with the representative from NHS One You and they completed a health MOT.
- When we organised the Client Christmas Meal, we circulated an email with the poster attached and the client signed up to attend.
- To see the client at the meal on the 9th of December was amazing! They sat with other clients and seemed to enjoy the day. To see them smiling was a great success, and when asked if he had a good time he said, "Yes!" with a big smile.

# Fundraising

## Thanks to your support, we're helping people experiencing multiple disadvantages across Kent.

We are so grateful for the generosity and kindness of our donors and supporters, who continue to help others even when times are tough.

While we remain endlessly inspired by the kindness of our donors, we are conscious not to be complacent during such financially turbulent times.

A key element of our fundraising strategy is to maintain and to grow the number of Porchlight supporters as well as to diversify the ways in which we can generate a foundation of sustainable income. This enables us to support an increasing number of people with complex needs and to be here for people when it matters most.

Across corporate and community income streams we have seen increased uptake of challenge events and we appointed an events manager to develop our events programme into the 2024-2025 financial year.

Our continued development of community engagement with local voluntary and community groups has led to greater awareness, understanding, and support from youth groups and schools.

Donors to Porchlight can be confident that we comply with the regulatory standards for fundraising. We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and are committed to the Fundraising Promise.

We adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice which covers the requirements charities must follow as set out in the Charities Act 2011. All fundraising staff are members of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising. We have safeguards in place to protect our supporters and the reputation of our charity.

We ensure that all third parties have safeguarding measures in place too and we expect everyone to comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice. We take any concerns about our fundraising activities very seriously. Our complaints policy is featured on our website and clearly explains how people can make a complaint.

Our gift acceptance policy references from whom we will accept gifts and how we protect vulnerable people.

This year, we received three complaints relating to fundraising communications, which were quickly resolved. We are also signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service to allow people to opt out of receiving fundraising communications from us but did not have to action any requests.



## £1.42m

Gifts & donations

## £214k

Legacy donations

## £62k

Donated goods & services

Thank you to all of our donors and supporters who make sure that we're here for people when it matters most and help create a safety net so everyone can find the support that's right for them. Poverty, health and housing injustice are complex problems affecting millions of lives. They are also avoidable. Together, we fight for lasting change.



# Your support

## Thank you to all of the incredible people and organisations.

Porchlight undertakes fundraising activity via the support of community based fundraisers, applying to and partnering with companies and grant-giving trusts, direct mailings and appeals, and organising and offering places within challenge events.

### Leave a legacy of hope with a gift in your Will

The seven gifts left in Wills to Porchlight this year raised over £213,676 of income which will have a powerful impact on future generations – enabling our teams to transform people's lives and create a fairer future.

### Individual Giving

Our regular donors are vital for our financial sustainability with 190 signing up to give a regular gift this year.

Our appeals are also key fundraising moments for us during the year, raising £319,855, and helping us to attract 1088 new donors to support Porchlight.

### Challenge events

76 brave individuals signed up to our challenge events during the course of the year. With the most popular of these events being CEO Sleepout held at Leeds Castle, raising £28,182. As well as marathons such as London Landmarks, Manchester and Guernsey.



### Community fundraising

Our community fundraising team has been able to work with 67 schools across Kent, providing engaging content which has inspired and informed young people of the complex issues the people we support face.

### Trusts and foundations

The investment in developing our trusts and foundations capacity has proven to be a financially sound decision with this year's trust targets exceeded and over 50% of next year's target secured.

### Corporate fundraising

The business community of Kent continues to provide a substantial contribution towards improving the lives of Kent's most vulnerable people with 145 corporate organisations supporting Porchlight in some way throughout the year.

The ways in which Porchlight continues to work in partnership with the corporate community grows in strength, including staff awareness and engagement through to training and development.

# Our people

## Our workforce

Our workforce is at the heart of everything we do, and this year, we are proud to highlight the dedication, passion, and skill of our team members who make our mission possible. From paid employees to volunteers, each individual plays a vital role in supporting the people who need us most.

At the end of the year Porchlight employed 197 people working across client services and central support.

We continue to focus on employee wellbeing and introduced a new wellbeing pathway for our workforce ensuring consistent steps of support are offered to our workforce as well as staff development and equality, diversity and inclusion through the implementation of a new learning management system.

## Volunteers

Our volunteers have a wide range of skills and expertise that support the work we do.

At the end of the year our volunteers gave 4,387 hours with 71 volunteers supporting us, including frontline volunteers supporting people sleeping rough to access services including supported accommodation and mental health services as well as administrators, social work placements and trustees .

Porchlight volunteer, Jacqui (below), spoke at the Women of Kent Luncheon about the positive impact:

“Volunteering has helped me develop so much as a person; I’ve been able to access lots of training to help me with my volunteering. I have learnt to be a kinder, more understanding person.”



**197** employees

**4,387** volunteer hours

**71** volunteers



# Structure & governance

Porchlight is limited by guarantee and is a registered charity. It is operated under the rules of its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

## The Board of trustees

Porchlight is managed by the board of trustees which can make, repeal and amend regulations for any matter concerned with the administration of the affairs of the charity. The board has overall responsibility for the running of the charity and is responsible for:

- Approval of the strategic plan, strategic direction and vision of the charity
- Scrutiny of performance against the strategic plan
- Ensuring the charity is complying with all legislative requirements
- Ensuring the charity's finances are safe, properly used and accounted for
- Management of risk and business continuity
- Approval of annual budget
- Approval of annual financial statements
- Approval of changes to memorandum and articles of association
- Approval of the charity's governance policies
- Appointment of trustees
- Monitoring and evaluation of the progress of the charity in the operation of its policies and practices in line with its objects and strategy
- Appointment and removal of the chief executive officer
- Appointment and removal of the charity's auditor
- Appointment and removal of the company secretary
- Approval of unbudgeted expenditure over £50,000
- Approval of service contracts and approved suppliers

## Quality and safety group

The cross-directorate pillar groups report into the Quality and safety main group. The responsibilities are:

- Oversight of the systems and processes for delivering quality & safety throughout Porchlight's operational services
- Providing assurance to the Board that necessary systems for quality and safety are in place and operating effectively through quarterly narrative report and data dashboard
- Delivering the Quality & Safety annual plan

## Leadership team (LT)

The LT has delegated responsibility from the board to run the charity on a day-to-day basis, including:

- Developing the strategy and direction of the charity, reviewing performance, managing risk, and prioritising resources
- Ensuring compliance with legislative requirements
- Ensuring policies and procedures meet the charity's needs and duties
- Reporting to the board and subcommittees
- Leading on brand, culture and values
- Management of charity assets
- Oversight of external environment
- The signing, sealing and execution of documents where appropriate

## Senior management team (SMT)

The SMT is responsible for the management of our departments and services. They have responsibility for:

- Effective implementation of strategic objectives
- Reviewing progress and work plans
- Service performance and improvement
- Decision making for day-to-day services and functions' risks and opportunities
- Escalating issues where significant organisational risk or scale of change needs consideration

## Key management personnel

Key management personnel are listed on [page 2](#). The remuneration committee meets annually to ensure remuneration is competitive and affordable.

## Appointment and recruitment

Porchlight undertakes an annual skills audit which informs a governance self assessment session. From this session, the Board creates a Governance Action Plan which includes consideration of priorities for trustee recruitment. Where gaps in skills and experience are identified, the Board advertise for new trustees and on occasion use recruitment firms to assist with the process. Recruitment and appointment is led by a specially convened Nominations Committee of a minimum of 3 trustees, supported by the CEO and Leadership Team. The Nominations Committee interview candidates and make recommendations which are ratified by the Board.

# Future outlook

As we reflect upon the 2023-2024 financial year and embark on our 50th anniversary year, it's clear that the challenges facing our clients have never been greater; headlines around increased homelessness, unaffordable rent, poor quality housing, and a crisis in mental health care and resourcing.

Porchlight's vision is of a safe home, better life and fairer future for everyone. Our skilled and experienced workforce strive every day to make a difference to the people we support and to enable them to have fair access to services and person-centred support that will enable them to live the life they want.

During the start of the 2024-2025 financial year, we developed our new five year strategy.

It introduces new initiatives, ways of working, connections and conversations – both internally and with external partners and supporters. It gives us new opportunities for training and development, partnership working, learning from best practice, and being involved in range of new projects.

The new strategy will help us work more closely with each other, increase trust and accountability, and make sure we're aligned in our purpose to deliver our mission.



## Objectives: 2024-2029

Our five objectives set our priorities for the period April 2024 -March 2029.

The first three *strategic objectives* align with three key areas of inequality experienced by people we support:

- system inequality
- inequality of opportunity
- inequality of outcome

The final two *enabling objectives* show how our focus on excellence and sustainability provide the foundation to deliver our mission.

1	People access a better and fairer system of support.
2	People find the support that's right for them when it matters most.
3	People are empowered to live the life they want and make lasting change.
4	Excellence in our services, people and systems.
5	A foundation of sustainable income and support.

# Trustees' annual report

## Financial review

Our income for the year was £12,601,880, a decrease of 10% on last year. Our expenditure was £13,071,610, a decrease of 2%. Our investment property valuation resulted in a loss on investments of £75,000. Our overall financial position for the financial year 2023-2024 was a deficit of £544,730 at 31 March 2024.

## Income

This year, 72% of our income came from government grants (2023: 65%) and 13% from rental income within our properties (2023: 13%). However, our charity saw a total reduction of charitable activities income of £1,505,338 on the previous year.

Government grants are received for the provision of support within accommodation, floating support and outreach services, adolescent support services and mental health and wellbeing services. The remaining 15% of income was made up of voluntary income, funding from charitable trust and investment income; an increase of £133,143 on the previous year.

## Expenditure

We spent £12,586,317 on our charitable activities supporting homeless, vulnerable and isolated people in Kent (2023: £12,940,464). Despite our reduction in income, there has been an increase in expenditure in almost all directorates. We spent £5,867,149 in Homelessness Services (2023: £5,601,134), £6,238,836 in Mental Health Services (2023: £5,845,647) and £480,331 in Communities (2023: £1,493,683). To be able to deliver the needed expenditure on services against the background of reduced funding, we put our investment property up for sale resulting in a net book value loss of £75,000 when we put it on the market for £325,000.

Our continued growth and long-term financial health depends on having the right resources in place to sustain our high level of contract acquisition and to satisfy commissioners that we have the operational scale and capability to deliver our promises.

Our people are key to delivering high quality services, their hard work and commitment to a fairer future for all helps us support the most vulnerable in society. As a result, our staffing costs equate to 48% of all expenditure. Our tangible fixed assets increased in 2024 as a result of investing £268,523 in capital expenditure and as a result of a generous legacy donation we were able to invest £295,242 in a property reserved for supporting women experiencing homelessness.

## Reserves policy

At the end of the year, we held total funds of £4,003,639 (2023: £4,548,369).

Our reserves policy has always been focused on building our free reserves in order to allow us to continue our much-needed work in the event of a downturn income or an unforeseen increase in costs. Our policy has been to build our free reserves to cover six months' unrestricted expenditure which is just over £5 million.

However, in the face of both the cost of living crisis and the withdrawal of the Kent Homelessness Connect service, Porchlight's trustees took the decision to designate a portion of our reserves to ensuring our vital homelessness services continue in some form. This has placed a significant burden on our reserves this year and will continue to do so in the next 12 months. As a result, we have designated £650,000 of our reserves to fund homelessness services in 2024-2025 and we have carried forward designated funds in women's services and housing first. Designated funds totalled £723,509 (2023: £354,423) at year end. Restricted funds are only available for expenditure as directed by the donor or the funder. Restricted funds totalled £634,510 (2023: 687,356) at year end.

Porchlight's Board of Trustees regularly review our financial position, including our reserves, to ensure that we can sustainably deliver our life changing services. This means balancing the need for healthy reserves with the need to provide these services. Following a restructure of Porchlight's homelessness services, the focus is now shifting towards rebuilding reserves, a key priority for the board.



# Trustees' annual report

## Free reserves

Free reserves are for the general purposes of the charity, they are not restricted to or designated for a particular purpose and form part of our unrestricted income funds that are freely available after taking into account the designated funds that have been earmarked for specific purposes. The free reserves currently stand at £1,016,221 (2023: £2,274,622) and are calculated as follows:

Total unrestricted funds	£3,369,129
Less designated funds	(£723,509)
Less unrestricted fixed assets	(£1,629,399)
Total free reserves	£1,016,221

## Going concern

Porchlight has drawn heavily on its reserves over the past two years, to ease the transition away from a supported housing model funded through Kent County Council contractual income, to a model funded through more localised support contracts.

This work is now complete, and whilst we expect to make a further loss of around £1.2m in 2024/25, we will return to generating modest surpluses from 2025/26. To strengthen our financial position, we have implemented a recovery plan to progressively build our free reserves by controlling our expenditure, cost-saving measures surrounding the restructure of our workforce and overheads, ensuring supported accommodation is financially viable and by continuing to diversify income. This is all balanced against the need to invest in our staff and buildings to deliver our charitable objectives.

Porchlight's income comes from three sources: rents, contracts and fundraised income. Despite risks, which we continue to identify and monitor, we are confident in our ability to maintain our current income levels for each of these areas and will explore the potential to increase income in a sustainable fashion.

Porchlight provides 165 beds per night to people who would otherwise be homeless. We have undertaken extensive work to ensure that our rents are set at a level that makes our supported housing financially sustainable.

We conduct annual reviews of rent and eligible service charge levels, to ensure we are charging for full cost recovery and abiding by the relevant legislation. Increases taking into account these annual reviews of rent and eligible service charges have been submitted to the relevant local authorities and agreed or subject to final confirmation to take effect from 1 April 2025. In addition, we monitor arrears and bad debt to ensure that clients are given appropriate support to prevent arrears from increasing.

The Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Act 2023 will introduce additional inspection and regulations onto supported housing. However, Porchlight is confident that this will not place undue burden on the charity or risk our rental income, as we have extensive quality assurance systems in place.

We have an excellent reputation for delivering quality services. This, combined with Government announcements of additional funding for both homelessness services and the NHS, means that we are confident of maintaining our income from contracts and have the potential to increase it, if the right opportunities present themselves.

Porchlight's income from fundraising has steadily increased over the past few years and has consistently met or exceeded targets, due to the excellent work of our fundraising team. We are grateful for the on-going support from individuals, trusts and corporations.

To sustain this level of fundraised income, we will continue to invest in our fundraising team, develop existing fundraising streams and explore new ones, and create a new network of volunteers to support our fundraising activities and to engage with communities across Kent.

We have diligently executed extensive stress testing on our forecast models, ensuring their robustness and reliability. As a result of these thorough evaluations, we have confirmed our ability to remain cash positive throughout the forecast period.

# Trustees' annual report

The main items of Porchlight's expenditure are staffing, property and delivery partners. We are experiencing inflationary pressures which have had a significant impact on our ability to maintain and service our properties. The cost to Porchlight of employing staff will increase considerably in 2025, due to statutory changes including National Insurance rates and thresholds and increases in the minimum wage. These additional costs will be met through increased income from rents, (which have been agreed or subject to final confirmation with the relevant councils to take effect from 1 April 2025), renegotiating contracts and we will reduce our workforce by 10% in 2024/25.

In some cases, this will mean reviewing our services so that they, and Porchlight, are financially sustainable, ensuring that all commissioned services cover their direct costs and the central support costs required to deliver them. We are confident in our ability to understand and mitigate the economic risks and control expenditure.

Porchlight has undertaken a review of our approach to asset management and has identified the potential for a more strategic approach which will reduce the costs of reactive and ad hoc repairs work by creating a 10-year asset management plan.

We do not imagine that this approach will reduce our expenditure on repairs and maintenance, as this is an area that has seen significant inflation in the costs of both labour and materials. However, we are confident that the combination of using a full cost recovery approach to our rent setting and adopting a more strategic approach to our asset management, will mean we can control expenditure in this area.

Porchlight's Board, Finance Committee and Leadership Team meet regularly to review and agree financial controls, variance reports and budgets. Through these methods, Porchlight can exercise effective control and oversight of our financial position. They are committed to developing a robust cash flow and a strong balance sheet to provide a solid foundation for future growth and they are satisfied management have a resilient business model in place to deliver these objectives.

They greatly value the strong relationship Porchlight has with its donors and philanthropists and thank them for their continued support as we navigate this period of transformation and change.

During the year, the Board considers the impact of scenarios (stress testing) on the financial plan. The Board considered the "worst case" impact of a decline in fundraising income and an increase in voids and bad debts and a "perfect storm" scenario whereby income for supported housing was insufficient to cover the cost of delivering a quality service. The Board considered mitigating actions including cost cutting measures and concluded that sufficient cash reserves remain available for at least the next 12 months.

Based on the review of these forecasts and the available cash reserves the Trustees have concluded the Charity is a going concern and accordingly have prepared the financial statements on this basis.

## Investment policy

Our investment property is held for sale to support liquidity as we lean heavily on our reserves in the next 12 months. The asset is included in the balance sheet at fair value. The Trustees, with regard to the liquidity requirements of charity, did not reinvest our reserves in interest bearing accounts when they matured in November 2024.

## Environmental impact

Porchlight continues to identify opportunities to improve our operational processes to contribute to environmental sustainability including:

- ensuring our waste management minimises the impact on the environment
- developing our digital working practices to reduce staff travel and fuel consumption
- procurement processes to encourage responsible purchasing and sourcing of resources
- improving the energy performance of our accommodation and facilities.

# Trustees' annual report

## Key performance indicators

Operating surplus / deficit: overall deficit of £544,730.

Rent collected as a percentage of rent due:

- Target: 94%
- Actual: 63.5%

Rent arrears as a percentage of total rental income:

- Target: 2%
- Actual: 4.93%

Level of voids as a percentage of rental income:

- Target: 8%
- Actual: 15%

## Risk management

The Trustees review risks to the charity on an ongoing basis, ensuring that systems are in place to mitigate and manage the most severe risks. Currently the main risks to the charity are identified as:

- Reduced income from contracts: contracts are time limited and regularly retendered as the cost of living crisis takes a toll on many of central and local government agencies; including the NHS.
- Loss-making contracts, such as providing supported accommodation, requiring subsidies from unrestricted reserves.
- Changes to government policies and priorities in an unknown future landscapes.
- Challenges of failing to collect rent during a time of economic crisis.
- Increased expenditure from staffing costs. Contracts often have insufficient provision to changes in government rules regarding changes to minimum wage and national insurance liabilities. Maintaining competitive pay rates when commissioned services are being supported by voluntary income.
- The operational losses of 2023/24 and the anticipated losses of 2024/25 will create a risk to our liquidity.

Our mitigation strategy has been to prepare various cash flow scenarios, excluding any unconfirmed funding, to ensure we can continue to meet our obligations when they fall due.

In order to strength our cash position we have held 2 properties for sale in the open market and anticipate these sales to be realised at the end of 2024/25 and early 2025/26. In addition, we have secured a short term loan in case unforeseen events place further burdens on our liquidity.

Reviewing our internal controls in line with Charity Commission guidance has been added to our governance framework and ensures we have oversight of cash flow at all layers of leadership within Porchlight. Our return to profitability via our robust financial recovery plan underpins our commitment to maintaining financial stability and long-term growth.



Porchlight's 50th Anniversary installation of tents illustrating client quotes



# Trustees' annual report

## Preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' published in January 2019.

## Statement of Trustees' financial responsibilities

The charity Trustees, who are also the directors of Porchlight for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources. This includes the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing 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 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 business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

## Statement of information to Auditor

The Trustees who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware.

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

## Auditor

RSM UK Audit LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office.

Their report and incorporated strategic report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 26 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by



Patrick Fuller, Chair of trustees

# Independent auditor's report

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Porchlight (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (including the Summary Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

## Basis for opinion

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

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

## Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Independent auditor's report

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report, or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

## Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out on page 23, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

## The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.



# Independent auditor's report

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, The Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016, Charities Act 2011 and the charitable company's governing document. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Trustees' Report and remaining alert to new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those in relation to health and safety, tenancy laws and safeguarding. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management whether the charitable company is in compliance with these law and regulations.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and existence, cut-off and completeness of revenue as the areas where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, challenging judgments and estimates and testing on revenue.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Use of our report

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



Zoe Longstaff-Tyrrell (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of RSM UK AUDIT LLP,  
Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

Portland  
25 High Street  
Crawley  
West Sussex  
RH10 1BG

Date 27 March 2025

# Financial statements

## Porchlight Statement of Financial Activities (including Income & Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
Note		£	£	£	£
<b>Income:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	1,227,642	570,098	1,797,740	1,690,395
Charitable activities	3	7,934,880	2,811,509	10,746,389	12,251,727
Trading income		16,795	-	16,795	19,444
Investment income	4	40,956	-	40,956	12,509
<b>Total income</b>		<b>9,220,273</b>	<b>3,381,607</b>	<b>12,601,880</b>	<b>13,974,075</b>
<b>Expenditure:</b>					
Raising funds	5	478,858	6,435	485,293	388,402
Charitable activities	6	9,558,299	3,028,018	12,586,317	12,940,464
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>10,037,157</b>	<b>3,034,453</b>	<b>13,071,610</b>	<b>13,328,866</b>
<b>Net (loss)/gains on investments</b>		-	(75,000)	(75,000)	5,149
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>		<b>(816,884)</b>	<b>272,154</b>	<b>(544,730)</b>	<b>650,358</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	15	<b>325,000</b>	<b>(325,000)</b>	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(491,884)</b>	<b>(52,846)</b>	<b>(544,730)</b>	<b>650,358</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		3,861,013	687,356	4,548,369	3,898,011
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>3,369,129</b>	<b>634,510</b>	<b>4,003,639</b>	<b>4,548,369</b>

The notes on pages 30 to 40 form part of these financial statements.


# Balance sheet


## Porchlight Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	9	1,793,366	1,397,617
Investment property	10	-	400,000
		<u>1,793,366</u>	<u>1,797,617</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Property held for sale	11	325,000	-
Debtors	12	1,953,726	2,080,053
Cash at bank and in hand		1,622,696	2,258,638
		<u>3,901,422</u>	<u>4,338,691</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,691,149)	(1,587,939)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>2,210,273</u>	<u>2,750,752</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>4,003,639</u>	<u>4,548,369</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted income funds	15	634,510	687,356
Unrestricted funds	15	3,369,129	3,861,013
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>4,003,639</u>	<u>4,548,369</u>

Company number: 01157482

The financial statements on pages 27 to 40 were approved and authorised for issue by the board of trustees on 26 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

  
Patrick Fuller, Trustee

  
Stephanie Goad, Trustee



# Statement of cash flows

## Porchlight Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £	
Cash provided by operating activities	A	(133,733)	139,047	
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>				
Income from investments		40,956	12,509	
Proceeds from the sale of fixed assets		20,600	240,483	
Purchase of fixed assets		(563,765)	(87,448)	
<b>Cash (used)/provided in investing activities</b>		<b>(502,209)</b>	<b>165,544</b>	
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>				
Repayments of borrowing		-	(601,937)	
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(601,937)</b>	
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>(635,942)</b>	<b>(297,346)</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	B	2,258,638	2,555,984	
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>1,622,696</b>	<b>2,258,638</b>	
<b>Note A: Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities</b>				
		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as per the statement of financial activities)		(544,730)	650,358	
<b>Adjustments for:</b>				
Depreciation charges		155,475	120,454	
Loss/(gain) on investments		75,000	(5,149)	
Income from investments		(40,956)	(12,509)	
Profit on sale of fixed assets		(8,059)	(31,206)	
Decrease in debtors		126,327	45,981	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		103,210	(628,882)	
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>(133,733)</b>	<b>139,047</b>	
<b>Note B: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
Cash in hand		1,622,696	2,258,638	
<b>Note C: Analysis of change in net debt</b>				
	<b>At 1 Apr 2023</b>	<b>Cashflows</b>	<b>Non-cash changes</b>	<b>At 31 Mar 2024</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	2,258,638	(635,942)	-	1,622,696

# Notes to the accounts

## for the year ended 31 March 2024

### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention, modified to include investment properties at fair value, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Companies Act 2006. Porchlight meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### 1.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The Trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements including taking into account agreed rental income increases to take effect from 1 April 2025.

The trustees have concluded that sufficient cash reserves remain available for at least the next 12 months for the Company to be able to continue as a going concern.

#### 1.3 Income

Income is recognised when the charity has legal entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the items are met, it is probable that the income will be received and it can be measured reliably.

Donations are included as income when the cash becomes receivable. For legacies, entitlement is taken when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient net assets in the estate to pay the legacy and any conditions attached to the legacy have been met. Income from government and other 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 reliably measured. Where grants are received in advance, amounts are deferred at the year end as necessary.

Other trading activities relate to income in exchange for goods or services sold, at equal value. Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds and they can be reliably measured, normally upon receipt.

Income from interest on deposits is recognised when its receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably; this is normally upon notification or payment by the bank.

Donated Goods and Services are included as income where it would otherwise have been purchased. Amounts are included when received, at the value of the cost of purchasing the goods or service outright on the open market.

#### 1.4 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Expenditure on raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting income from donations and legacies, together with investment costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities. Support costs include central functions such as governance, finance, administration, human resources etc and have been allocated to activities on the basis of the direct expenditure of the activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

#### 1.5 Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before the normal retirement date, or whenever an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits. The charity recognises termination benefits when it is demonstrably committed to either (i) terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or (ii) providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy.

#### 1.6 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The expenses and any liability are allocated to the activity within the staff costs for that activity, similarly allocated to restricted or unrestricted based on the relevant staff costs for that fund.

# Notes to the accounts

## for the year ended 31 March 2024

### 1.7 Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

- Freehold property - 2% on cost of the building
- Leasehold property - over the life of the lease
- Fixtures & fittings - 25%

A full year of depreciation is charged in the year of acquisition, and none in the year of disposal.

### 1.8 Fixed Asset Investments

Investment properties are included in the balance sheet at their open market value. No depreciation is provided on the properties. Net gains and losses on disposal and revaluation of investments are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activity (SOFA).

### 1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

### 1.10 Accrued Holiday Pay

Provision is made at the balance sheet date for holidays accrued but not taken, at the salary of the relevant employee at that date. The expected cost of compensated short-term absence (i.e holidays) is charged to the SOFA on an accruals basis.

### 1.11 Fund Accounting

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

- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Funds transferred cover deficits on restricted funds.

### 1.12 Operating Leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the SOFA as incurred.

### 1.13 Financial Instruments

The Company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102, in full, to all of its financial instruments.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument, and are offset only when the Company currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### *Financial Assets*

Grants receivable and other debtors (including accrued income) which are receivable within one year and which do not constitute a financing transaction are initially measured at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost, being the transaction price less any amounts settled and any impairment losses.

#### *Financial Liabilities*

Other creditors (including accruals) payable within one year that do not constitute a financing transaction are initially measured at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost, being transaction price less any amounts settled.

### 1.14 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

#### *Valuation of Investment Property*

The carrying value of the investment property is stated at fair value. The charity uses a third party valuer for determining the fair value as detailed in note 10 to these financial statements, however, the valuation of the charity's investment property is inherently subjective, as it is made on the basis of valuation assumptions which may in future not prove to be accurate.



# Notes to the accounts

2. Donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds 2024		Restricted funds 2024		Total funds 2024	
		£		£		£
Gifts and donations		1,059,382		365,320		1,424,702
Legacies		106,198		107,478		213,676
General grants		500		97,300		97,800
Donated goods and services		61,562		-		61,562
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,227,642</b>		<b>570,098</b>		<b>1,797,740</b>
<b>Prior year</b>						
		<b>2023</b>		<b>2023</b>		<b>2023</b>
		£		£		£
Gifts and donations		1,120,109		87,819		1,207,928
Legacies		401,517		-		401,517
General grants		15,750		10,000		25,750
Donated goods and services		55,200		-		55,200
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,592,576</b>		<b>97,819</b>		<b>1,690,395</b>

Donated goods and services relates to the use of conference centres and software licences at no or little cost to the charity. The value included is that of acquiring those services at the full open market cost.

3. Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds 2024		Restricted funds 2024		Total funds 2024	
		£		£		£
<b>Homelessness services</b>						
Rent / Accommodation charges		1,703,744		-		1,703,744
Kent County Council		1,386,585		-		1,386,585
Local Authority grants		150,000		1,451,215		1,601,215
Student placement fees		3,920		-		3,920
NHS grants		-		39,448		39,448
Other grants receivable		38		135,105		135,143
		<b>3,244,287</b>		<b>1,625,768</b>		<b>4,870,055</b>
<b>Mental health services</b>						
Kent County Council		4,119,010		85,436		4,204,446
NHS grants		559,118		890,429		1,449,547
Other grants receivable		-		23,079		23,079
		<b>4,678,128</b>		<b>998,944</b>		<b>5,677,072</b>
<b>Communities</b>						
European Social Fund income		12,280		59,056		71,336
Big Lottery Fund		-		127,741		127,741
Sundry income		185		-		185
		<b>12,465</b>		<b>186,797</b>		<b>199,262</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,934,880</b>		<b>2,811,509</b>		<b>10,746,389</b>

# Notes to the accounts

3. Charitable activities (continued)	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
<b>Homelessness services</b>			
Rent / Accommodation charges	1,627,565	-	1,627,565
Kent County Council	2,495,855	135,672	2,631,527
ICB Income	-	8,367	8,367
Local Authority grants	150,000	854,296	1,004,296
Delivery network income	84,190	-	84,190
Other grants receivable	-	53,747	53,747
	<u>4,357,610</u>	<u>1,052,082</u>	<u>5,409,692</u>
<b>Mental health services</b>			
Kent County Council	3,393,219	51,740	3,444,959
ICB Income	596,072	1,367,529	1,963,601
Delivery network income	-	220,211	220,211
Other grants receivable	-	27,503	27,503
	<u>3,989,291</u>	<u>1,666,983</u>	<u>5,656,274</u>
<b>Communities</b>			
European Social Fund income	58,205	929,829	988,034
Local Authority grants	-	17,908	17,908
Big Lottery Fund	-	157,973	157,973
RBLI income	-	21,846	21,846
	<u>58,205</u>	<u>1,127,556</u>	<u>1,185,761</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>8,405,106</b></u>	<u><b>3,846,621</b></u>	<u><b>12,251,727</b></u>

Government grants are received for the provision of support within accommodation, floating support and outreach services, adolescent support services and mental health and wellbeing services.

Government grants received during the year totalled £8,682,241 (2023: £9,070,658).

There were no unfulfilled conditions attached to government grants recognised in the year (2023: None).

4. Investment income	Unrestricted funds 2024	Unrestricted funds 2023
	£	£
Rental income from investment property	12,100	12,470
Bank interest	28,856	39
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>40,956</b></u>	<u><b>12,509</b></u>

5. Raising funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising donations and legacies	478,858	6,435	485,293	388,402
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>478,858</b></u>	<u><b>6,435</b></u>	<u><b>485,293</b></u>	<u><b>388,402</b></u>

# Notes to the accounts

6. Charitable activities	Homelessness services	Mental health services	Communities	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Activities undertaken directly</b>				
Staff costs	2,339,362	2,207,914	351,298	4,898,574
Premises costs	1,684,742	154,384	34,157	1,873,283
Delivery network fees	516,988	2,692,927	-	3,209,915
Office costs	127,601	71,315	8,225	207,141
Tenant welfare fund	105,890	36,226	10,377	152,493
Sundry expenses	2,321	1,112	891	4,324
	<b>4,776,904</b>	<b>5,163,877</b>	<b>404,948</b>	<b>10,345,730</b>
<b>Support costs</b>				
Governance	56,395	60,966	4,781	122,142
Management & administration	237,890	233,321	16,245	487,456
Finance	277,538	272,208	18,953	568,699
Human resources	161,587	158,483	11,035	331,105
Communications	356,835	349,981	24,369	731,185
	<b>1,090,245</b>	<b>1,074,959</b>	<b>75,383</b>	<b>2,240,587</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,867,149</b>	<b>6,238,836</b>	<b>480,331</b>	<b>12,586,317</b>

All support costs are apportioned on the basis of unrestricted direct expenditure.

Expenditure on charitable activities was £12,586,317 (2023: £12,940,464), of which £9,558,299 (2023: £8,844,663) was unrestricted and £3,028,018 (2023: £4,095,801) was restricted.

Within governance costs is Directors' and Officers' Insurance at a cost of £10,696 (2023: £7,897).

6. Charitable activities (continued)	Homelessness services	Mental health services	Communities	Total 2023
Prior year	£	£	£	£
<b>Activities undertaken directly</b>				
Staff costs	2,848,038	2,509,404	758,424	6,115,866
Premises costs	1,425,733	109,261	39,310	1,574,304
Delivery network fees	543,494	2,444,330	439,082	3,426,906
Office costs	133,652	90,599	13,241	237,492
Tenant welfare fund	115,071	42,737	102,141	259,949
Sundry expenses	2,277	1,076	434	3,787
	<b>5,068,265</b>	<b>5,197,407</b>	<b>1,352,632</b>	<b>11,618,304</b>
<b>Support costs</b>				
Governance	24,401	25,023	6,512	55,936
Management & administration	117,779	144,359	31,164	293,302
Finance	131,634	161,341	34,830	327,805
Human resources	77,613	95,128	20,536	193,277
Communications	181,442	222,389	48,009	451,840
	<b>532,869</b>	<b>648,240</b>	<b>141,051</b>	<b>1,322,160</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,601,134</b>	<b>5,845,647</b>	<b>1,493,683</b>	<b>12,940,464</b>



# Notes to the accounts

7. Analysis of staff costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	5,676,197	5,910,629
Social security costs	516,995	559,002
Pension costs	271,710	278,642
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,464,902</b>	<b>6,748,273</b>

Included in pension costs above is an amount of £48,507 (2023: £71,145) relating to restricted expenditure.

Pension contributions of £41,294 (2023: £41,014) were payable at the year end.

Redundancy payments totalling £116,328 (2023: £10,812) were made in the year (There were no amounts outstanding at the year end, 2023: £10,812).

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands were:

	2024	2023
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-
£120,001 - £130,000	-	1
£200,001 - £220,000	1	-

The trustees did not receive any remuneration, benefits in kind and were not reimbursed for travel expenses in either year.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees and the Leadership Team. The total amount of employee benefits of the key management personnel was £644,160 (2023: £444,434). During the year one new staff loan was paid to key management personnel totalling £1,000 (2023: £500), no amounts were outstanding at the year end.

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Homelessness Services	79	87
Mental Health Services	68	75
Communities	12	23
Management & Administration	40	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>219</b>

8. Movement in total funds for the year	2024	2023
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Operating leases	221,479	333,959
Depreciation	155,476	120,454
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	8,059	31,206
Auditor's remuneration for statutory audit	27,500	24,000

# Notes to the accounts

9. Tangible fixed assets	Freehold Property	Leasehold Property	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 April 2023	879,088	610,999	731,333	2,221,420
Additions	295,242	-	268,523	563,765
Disposals	-	-	(50,165)	(50,165)
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<b>1,174,330</b>	<b>610,999</b>	<b>949,691</b>	<b>2,735,020</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 April 2023	37,214	211,347	575,242	823,803
Charge for the year	14,087	4,167	137,221	155,475
Disposals	-	-	(37,624)	(37,624)
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<b>51,031</b>	<b>215,514</b>	<b>674,839</b>	<b>941,654</b>
<b>Net book value</b>				
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<b>1,123,029</b>	<b>395,485</b>	<b>274,852</b>	<b>1,793,366</b>
At 31 March 2023	841,874	399,652	156,091	1,397,617

Included in freehold property above is land at a value of £351,635 (2023: £351,635) which is not depreciated.

10. Investment Property	Total
	£
<b>Fair value</b>	
At 1 April 2023	400,000
Transfer to property held for sale (note 11)	(400,000)
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<b>-</b>

11. Property held for sale	Total
	£
Net book value of property held for sale	325,000

During the year, the Trustees made the decision to sell the Charity's investment property in Deal. As the sale is virtually certain, a transfer has been made between non-current assets and current assets at the value it has been listed for sale. The donor released the restriction attached to this property and therefore it has been transferred to unrestricted funds.

# Notes to the accounts

12. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	306,597	425,740
Grants receivable	1,151,163	1,374,978
Prepayments and accrued income	495,966	279,335
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,953,726</b>	<b>2,080,053</b>

13. Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	770,588	559,441
Other creditors	25,662	59,486
Other taxes and social security costs	121,084	116,550
Accruals and deferred income	773,815	852,462
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,691,149</b>	<b>1,587,939</b>

Deferred income:	2024	2023
	£	£
Brought forward	581,711	1,291,802
New amounts deferred	896,697	370,598
Released to SOFA	(912,652)	(1,080,689)
<b>Total</b>	<b>565,756</b>	<b>581,711</b>

Deferred income relates to grants received in advance, where the period exceeds the year end.

14. Financial instruments	2024	2023
	£	£
Financial assets measured at fair value	325,000	400,000



# Notes to the accounts

## 15. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance at 1 Apr 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 Mar 24
Restricted funds	£	£	£	£	£
New Town Street Building fund	165,649	-	(1,682)	-	163,967
Homelessness Services	18,925	2,149,731	(1,803,281)	-	365,375
Mental Health Services	102,782	1,035,913	(1,033,526)	-	105,169
Communities	-	195,963	(195,964)	-	-
Investment Property	400,000	-	(75,000)	(325,000)	-
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<b>687,356</b>	<b>3,381,607</b>	<b>(3,109,453)</b>	<b>(325,000)</b>	<b>634,510</b>

	Balance at 1 Apr 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 Mar 23
Restricted funds	£	£	£	£	£
New Town Street Building fund	167,331	-	(1,682)	-	165,649
Homelessness Services	45,713	1,143,250	(1,170,038)	-	18,925
Mental Health Services	225,673	1,673,573	(1,796,464)	-	102,782
Communities	-	1,127,617	(1,127,617)	-	-
Investment Property	394,851	5,149	-	-	400,000
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<b>833,568</b>	<b>3,949,589</b>	<b>(4,095,801)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>687,356</b>

The New Town Street Building fund was created by donations and grants received in 1996/97 to build the property on land provided by Kent County Council on a 125-year lease. This fund is being written off over the life of the lease.

The remaining restricted funds relate to restricted grants and donations for mental health services, Outreach services, activities and the corresponding expenditure.

For details of the investment property fund transfer see note 10 and 11.

	Balance at 1 Apr 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 Mar 24
Unrestricted funds	£	£	£	£	£
General unrestricted fund	3,506,590	9,220,273	(9,756,243)	(325,000)	2,645,620
Designated funds	354,423	-	(280,914)	650,000	723,509
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>3,861,013</b>	<b>9,220,273</b>	<b>(10,037,157)</b>	<b>325,000</b>	<b>3,369,129</b>

	Balance at 1 Apr 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 Mar 23
Unrestricted funds	£	£	£	£	£
General unrestricted fund	2,824,828	9,759,721	(9,077,959)	-	3,506,590
Designated funds	239,615	269,914	(155,106)	-	354,423
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>3,064,443</b>	<b>10,029,635</b>	<b>(9,233,065)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,861,013</b>

Designated funds relate to monies set aside for Housing First, Women's Needs services, as well as £650,000 for the Homelessness service as per explanation on [page 19](#).

# Notes to the accounts

## 15. Analysis of charity funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 Apr 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 Mar 24
Summary of funds	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	687,356	3,381,607	(3,109,453)	(325,000)	634,510
Unrestricted funds	3,861,013	9,220,273	(10,037,157)	325,000	3,369,129
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>4,548,369</b>	<b>12,601,880</b>	<b>(13,146,610)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,003,639</b>

	Balance at 1 Apr 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 Mar 23
Summary of funds	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	833,568	3,949,589	(4,095,801)	-	687,356
Unrestricted funds	3,064,443	10,029,635	(9,233,065)	-	3,861,013
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>3,898,011</b>	<b>13,979,224</b>	<b>(13,328,866)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,548,369</b>

## 16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1,629,399	163,967	1,793,366
Net current assets	1,739,730	470,543	2,210,273
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,369,129</b>	<b>634,510</b>	<b>4,003,639</b>
	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1,231,968	565,649	1,797,617
Net current assets	2,629,045	121,707	2,750,752
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,861,013</b>	<b>687,356</b>	<b>4,548,369</b>

# Notes to the accounts

## 17. Operating lease commitment

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due within one year	156,936	222,878
Between one and five years	361,937	445,474
After five years	132,000	204,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>650,873</b>	<b>872,352</b>

## 18. Taxation

Porchlight is a registered charity and as such its income and gains falling within Sections 471 to 489 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are exempt from corporation tax to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

## 19. Related Party Transactions

Aggregate donations of £1,775 (2023: £2,763) were received from the trustees during the year.

## 20. Post balance sheet events

In December 2024, Porchlight received a legacy of two properties. No value has been provided on these properties in these financial statements and recognition of the value of this legacy will be accounted for in the year to 31 March 2025.

Contracts have been exchanged on 26 March 2025 in respect of the investment property held for sale.



# Get in touch, get involved

## Get in touch with us

If you're a member of the public with a general query:

Porchlight head office  
18-19 Watling Street  
Canterbury, CT1 2UA

Telephone: 01227 760078

Email: [headoffice@porchlight.org.uk](mailto:headoffice@porchlight.org.uk)

## Get help and support

### If you have housing and homelessness concerns

Our team will find out more about your situation and help you access support - whether that's with Porchlight or another organisation.

- Fill out a short online form at [porchlight.org.uk/information-support](https://porchlight.org.uk/information-support) and we'll be in contact as soon as possible.

### If you have mental health concerns

Our mental health line is a gateway to a range of support - from Porchlight and other organisations - to do with housing, mental health, employment, money and benefits, feelings of loneliness and isolation.

- Call 0800 567 7699 (Lines are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. Calls are free.)
- Email [info@livewellkent.org.uk](mailto:info@livewellkent.org.uk)

## Get involved

There are many ways to get involved in our work including volunteering, attending one of our fundraising events, organising your own fundraising event, corporate partnerships, donating, or leaving a legacy gift in your Will. Contact us for information about opportunities in your area,

## Give

**Cheques:** Please make any cheques payable to 'Porchlight'. These can be posted to our head office: FAO Fundraising, Porchlight, 18-19 Watling Street, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2UA. Please include your name, address and any other relevant information with your cheque, so that we can thank you for your generous donation.

**Online:** If you'd prefer to donate online, please visit: [www.porchlight.org.uk/donate](https://www.porchlight.org.uk/donate)

**Telephone:** If you prefer to donate over the phone please call us on 01227 813199.

### Donating goods or services

Unfortunately we do not have the capacity to accept donations. Please contact for advice on donating goods or services by emailing [getinvolved@porchlight.org.uk](mailto:getinvolved@porchlight.org.uk)

Porchlight's 50th Anniversary installation of tents illustrating client quotes

DID YOU KNOW  
THE AVERAGE AGE  
OF DEATH FOR PEOPLE  
LIVING ON THE STREETS  
IS JUST 45 FOR A MAN  
AND JUST 43 FOR A WOMAN?



# Porchlight

Registered Charity Number: 267116

Porchlight Limited is a registered company in England and Wales

Registered Company Number: 01157482

Registered Office: 2nd Floor Watling Chambers, 18-19 Watling  
Street, Canterbury, Kent. CT1 2UA