



2023 – 24 Impact Report

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

As the Chair of BHA for Equality, it is with great pride that I present to you our Annual Report for 2023-24. Over the year, our dedicated team has worked tirelessly to support, empower, and uplift marginalised communities, reinforcing our commitment to championing health and wellbeing, and challenging inequalities.

At BHA, we strive to remove the barriers in health that disproportionately impact marginalised groups, focusing our efforts on critical areas like cancer, HIV, diabetes, TB and hypertension. Our service offering includes targeted interventions, community outreach programs, and collaborative partnerships that aim to educate, inform, and support the communities most in need.

This year, our initiatives have reached thousands, thanks to the passion and persistence of our teams. From Greater Manchester to Leeds and Liverpool, we have expanded our influence, ensuring that those who are often unheard receive not only a voice but effective and immediate assistance. For instance, our sexual health services have improved knowledge and uptake of prevention tools through innovative outreach and educational workshops, which have significantly benefited communities at risk of HIV and other health concerns.



Our efforts this year have also extended beyond individual health services as we look to tackle systemic challenges within the NHS and social care that affects access and outcomes for our communities. Through community research, service user feedback, and strategic engagement with the new structures of the NHS, we have advocated for necessary changes that pave the way for more inclusive and equitable health services.

Our achievements in the past year reflect our mission to foster a healthier, more equitable society. However, the path forward calls for continued dedication and resilience as we face new and ongoing challenges. The NHS faces significant funding challenges, not least in Greater Manchester, but also beyond to our other areas. As an organisation reliant on funding from statutory services, this risks impacting on our work.

As you delve into the details of this report, I hope you are inspired by the impact of our work and the stories of real change in the lives of those we serve.

Please ensure to visit our website at:

www.thebha.org.uk

for more information about our work.

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GREATER MANCHESTER SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024

BHA's Sexual Health Services across Greater Manchester support Black and ethnically marginalised people to improve knowledge and understanding of sexual health issues and improve uptake of sexual health prevention tools and services.

OUR SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES DELIVER ACTIVITIES WITHIN A NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES INCLUDING:

- The Passionate about Sexual Health Partnership (PaSH), a collaboration between BHA for Equality, George House Trust, and the LGBT Foundation, which delivers prevention activities for people most at risk of HIV infection and provides support for people living with HIV.
- The 'HIVE' project which aims to end all new infections of HIV by 2030.
- PrEP awareness activities to increase uptake of PrEP within undeserved communities.
- Sexation, projects which aim to raise awareness of STI's in Black African and Black Caribbean communities, in Manchester, Salford and Trafford.



KEYS OUTCOMES ACHIEVED:

- We delivered 188 community-based outreach sessions **engaging with 2,994 people** and providing information and advice and wellbeing assessments on a wide range of sexual health topics.
- We delivered **31 group sessions**, in which **389 people** participated, increasing knowledge, understanding and skills on a range of topics including HIV/STI prevention, consent, sex education for parents, contraception and menopause.
- We delivered **554 HIV/STI screenings**. From these, 451 tests were carried out in community settings (232 HIV & Syphilis tests, 146 full screen STI tests and 73 rapid HIV tests), and 103 people were supported to complete HIV/STI kits (70 DBS tests and 33 rapid self-tests). This was an increase of 40% from previous periods.
- BHA delivered **81,860 condoms** in the community, through outreach in key community settings and through BHA's postal condom service.

IN ADDITION, BHA ALSO:

- Organised and supported a number of campaigns including Sexual Health Week, HPE Summer campaign, Black History Month, National HIV Testing Week, PrEP Awareness Week, and Greater Manchester Testing Week.

- Launched the booklet **"HIV in the Workplace: A guide to Employers and Employees"** and the booklet **"Your Guide to STI's"** in four different languages.
- Launched the Greater Manchester sexual health biannual **newsletter**.
- Hosted a radio show **"The Equality Talk"** on Radio Africana where we had conversations with different health organisations, advocates and professionals who work with Black African and Caribbean communities to explore how sexual health is not just a standalone topic, but an integral part of our well-being.
- Presented an oral presentation about our innovative "PrEP community panel" at the Fast Track Cities Conference in Amsterdam.
- Delivered several co-produced workshops aimed at exploring sexual health topics with local creatives such as sensual dance, a snooker tournament, Black Love painting, yoga, poetry and other workshops.
- Participated in several events across Greater Manchester including the Mela and the Carnival festivals.
- Promoted sexual health prevention messages and services using **Social Media Influencers** and **Community Ambassadors**.
- Organised the successful event "Body, Mind and Soul" at Contact Theatre.

FEEDBACK FROM SERVICE USERS:

TESTING:

"The service is easy to access. The staff are friendly, nice and professional."

"I was so scared about coming to test as I was worried I would be judged, but you have been so kind and calming and instantly put me at ease."

"Easiest and fastest service to access in my area."

CONDOMS:

"Could I have a few please I'm embarrassed to buy them but only have two left." And "It's a really great service you're providing to help people's sexual life thanks for that."

"I had no idea this type of condom existed! I've had so many men remove condoms during sex, or they'll secretly snip or rip it, so it tears. This way I can put it in myself before the client arrives and have the control. I can't believe no one told us about this" (About female condoms)."

GROUP SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS:

"Really informative, and put me at ease knowing how I can look after my sexual health and how to get tested."

"Great workshop. Wonderful to connect something fun with something as important as sexual health."

"Gained a good insight into ramifications of not checking sexual health."

"We really appreciate the effort BHA took in coming down to speak to us, we are in constant need of these service."

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES GREATER MANCHESTER

MANCHESTER RACE & HEALTH SERVICE

Our Manchester Race & Health Service uses community engagement as a means of identifying improvements in access, treatment, and outcomes through the following areas of work:

LATENT TB PROJECT

We support individuals who attend the TB screening clinic at Manchester Royal Infirmary and explain the reasons for the screening and the necessity of adhering to treatment if their test is positive. Over the year we have seen an increase in active TB cases, alongside some cases being drug resistant, making the community engagement element of our work even more important. We raise awareness of latent TB through delivery of information sessions in community centres, care homes and engage with a range of professionals such as social workers to ensure they understand the necessity of screening of young people within the care system. This year also saw the start of our work in local hotels that were housing asylum seekers.

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED:

- The project has increased understanding of latent TB and the need for testing by high-risk groups through engagement with individuals at TB clinics, GPs and in the community. In total 673 individuals were engaged in one-to-one conversations about TB and 1,220 TB symptom cards were circulated at foodbanks, community organisations, places of worship and GPs.
- A social media toolkit was produced, in partnership with TB Alert, to raise awareness on national TB Day.
- Participated in a national TB webinar – 'Yes! We can end TB' hosted by the National TB Unit UK Health Security Agency. 138 individuals attended enabling us to present our work on promoting early diagnosis and treatment of active and latent TB. Feedback was provided on the event as follows:

"Judging by the positive comments in the chat box your talks were very well received. Thank you again for your support, excellent presentations, and contributions today, and to the run up to it!"



- Positive feedback gathered on BHA's service from both service users accessing the clinic and NHS staff who work in the TB clinic:

"The services from BHA's Community Engagement Worker are invaluable and helps answer some of the questions patients may have that nurse may not know about, such as services in the community."

- TB Nurse

"The information is very useful. Thanks for explaining this so well. I understand better that you have translated it for me."

- Service user



COMMUNITY RESEARCH

Activities over the year underpin the significance of research into the experiences of minority communities using healthcare systems. We looked into two important aspects of healthcare in Manchester: the experiences of individuals from Black, Asian, and minority ethnic (BAME) communities accessing General Practice (GP) services and the impact of Long Covid on individuals of African and Caribbean descent.

ACCESSING GP SERVICES

We used quantitative and qualitative methods to engaged with 202 participants, involving 68 individuals of Black African origin, 57 South Asian, and 77 individuals identifying as Black Caribbean, mixed ethnicities, and White African/Asian respectively.

Participants noted significant challenges in:

- Accessing appointments, including delays, difficulties in scheduling, and increased reliance on virtual appointments.
- Negative experiences included inadequate time with doctors, difficulties communicating symptoms to receptionists, and longer waiting times.
- Some participants also mentioned positive impacts, such as improved service delivery through digitisation, which reduced transport expenses.

Views relating to the quality of services varied with some individuals reporting that they felt listened to and received adequate support from their GPs, while others reported feeling rushed and receiving inadequate treatment. Issues included long waiting times for appointments, difficulty obtaining test results, and dissatisfaction with treatment received during appointments.

When unable to secure appointments, participants explored alternative healthcare options. Some found relief through self-medication, home remedies, or consulting with friends or family in the medical field. However, concerns were raised about the expense and potential risks of self-medication, as well as the challenges of accessing private healthcare.

Participants offered several recommendations for improving GP services.

Suggestions included:

- Enhancing appointment availability and quality.
- Improving communication and patient-centred care.
- Enhancing receptionist training and support.
- Prioritising continuity of care with regular doctors.
- Addressing digital exclusion concerns, especially among the elderly population.

These recommendations aimed to improve access, communication, and overall patient experience within the healthcare system and will be presented to NHS Manchester for consideration.

LONG COVID – IMPACT ON AFRICAN/CARIBBEAN INDIVIDUALS

Although there was initial disinterest in this research it was evident from speaking to a few individuals of African and Caribbean origin the devastation it can have on one's life. As one individual quoted:

"Life has just not been the same and I know it's not just about how unfortunate I have been."

Recommendations arising from this research included:

- Using community outreach programmes to raise awareness provision within African and Caribbean communities.
- Improve access to support services by streamlining application processes for financial support, healthcare services, and disability benefits to make them more accessible.
- Provide culturally sensitive guidance and information on accessing support services tailored to the needs of diverse communities.
- Foster peer support networks.
- Offer training programmes for healthcare providers to enhance their understanding of long Covid and its impact on diverse populations.

IMPROVING HEART HEALTH ACROSS GREATER MANCHESTER

We were successful in obtaining funding for two projects to increase awareness of hypertension/high cholesterol. Firstly 'Health Heart Heroes', funded by NHS Salford ICP with support from Salford CVS, to set up blood pressure testing clinics in three districts of Salford. Through these clinics we have carried out 75 blood pressure checks and provided training to 10 individuals from three Salford based community groups. This will enable the continuation of blood pressure checks following cessation of funding.

Through the second project 'Health & Hearty' we are delivering services targeted at Manchester's Caribbean community to promote heart health and encourage individuals to monitor their blood pressure/cholesterol levels and improve management of existing heart conditions.

Achievements to date include:

- Delivery of over 100 blood pressure checks.
- Delivery of awareness sessions at local community organisations.
- Organisations of local community events to promote heart health.
- Engaged with patients registered with selected GPs to gather their experiences of health care provision.

This project is ongoing and ends in September 2024.

COMMUNITY HEALTH EQUITY MANCHESTER (CHEM)

Manchester's CHEM Group aims to tackle inequalities in health through the gathering of community insight to inform its services as well as engaging with representatives of communities in Manchester. Community consultation groups (known as Sounding Boards) were set up to gather information from different communities and BHA co-host the African/Caribbean Sounding Board in conjunction with the Caribbean African Health Network. Through the Sounding Board we have considered health issues that negatively impact those communities such as hypertension/high cholesterol and bowel cancer and discussed improvements in delivery of services to increase awareness of such conditions.

EXPERIENCES OF PAKISTANI, BLACK AFRICAN AND BLACK CARIBBEAN PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES IN MANCHESTER

"No one teaches you how to look after your child with a learning disability. You learn on the job as a parent and carer, but there are lots of books about 'parenting.' It is not that some information does not apply, it's the fact that you may have a learning-disabled child in nappies up to the age of 14 years plus issues around speech, learning and mobility and in some cases severe health care needs."

We conducted community research, in conjunction with Breakthrough UK to gather evidence related to unmet needs, challenges and experiences in accessing health care of Black African/Caribbean and Pakistani people with learning disabilities.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Set up a Pakistani co-production groups, led by a voluntary partner – Mustafia Sharif, to support our activities.
- Engaged with 71 individuals through community groups, day centres and a survey.
- Produced a public report with recommendations to tackle issues raised relating to stigma, resources/capacity building, availability of learning disability health checks and reasonable adjustments.
- Presented the report findings to Networks/Boards across Manchester with a focus on equality and learning disabilities.
- Continuing to support implementation of the recommendations through existing work.

GREATER MANCHESTER CANCER SCREENING ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME (ANSWER CANCER)

Answer Cancer is a collaboration of four organisations: BHA for Equality, Salford CVS, Unique Improvements and Voluntary Sector NW that leads our programme to improve cancer awareness and increase breast, bowel, and cervical screening uptake. This is done by mobilising the efforts of VCSE organisations, our community residents, workplaces, and service providers.

The programme offers:

- Free training to increase awareness and skills to talk about cancer screening.
- Grants to voluntary organisations who wish to support our work.
- Support to individuals who wish to become cancer champions.
- Support to employers who wish to sign our Be Seen Get Screened pledge to offer time off to their employees to attend cancer screening appointments.

BHA leads on community engagement and 2023/24 was our 5th year of operation.

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED:

- 124 awareness sessions, reaching 8,654 people directly.
- Estimated reach of 30,000 through radio and informal conversations.

Other key achievements included:

- Developing our Primary Care Network (PCN) pilot to support GPs to increase the uptake of cervical screening by phoning women who fail to attend cervical screening appointments. To date this work has resulted in a significant increase in cervical screening uptake across Greater Manchester.
- Collaboration with Cancer Screening Improvement Leads to deliver awareness sessions that cover specialist information including a podcast on health inequalities in cancer screening for the Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance, an event for refugees and asylum seekers as well as events during breast and bowel cancer awareness months.
- Conducted community research to identify barriers to cancer screening.

Our engagement sessions reach a varied audience with 40% of people engaged with being Black, Asian or minority ethnic background, 30% were men, 18% were disabled and 28% were carers.



CASE STUDY

I am a woman of Black African heritage. Being a Cancer Champion gives me confidence to speak to my community about cancer. There is a stigma in our community about cancer and people don't usually talk about it so being a Champion helps raise awareness in the community and hopefully encourages others to speak up and seek support when they need it.

Since completing the Cancer Champion training, I have spoken to all the women who attend our monthly and weekly events and have encouraged them to attend their screening

appointments when offered and to look out for signs and symptoms. In total I've spoken to roughly 45 people.

Whilst raising awareness of the screening programmes I spoke to three women who were all anxious about attending their screening and didn't know how to book it. I discussed the fears with the women and supported them to book an appointment. They have all since reported back that they have attended their screening appointment and were happy everything was fine.

BARRIERS TO SCREENING

"I've not been for cervical or breast screening appointments ever, and nor have I returned bowel screening kits when received. I do not feel any barriers to accessing the services, I had just not given them any importance in my life."

"Not been listened to and ignored by the GP. Not taken seriously about issues, so now I just don't go."

"I can't get appointment and you have to ring at certain time and you're number 30 in the queue and when it gets to your turn it goes dead."

"One lady said she always goes to her breast screening appointment as wants to let people know how easy it is."

"I feel rushed when I go, and I get anxious about it so don't want to attend."

LEEDS SKYLINE

KEY STATS:

713

Number of support sessions delivered

219

Number of person-centred counselling sessions delivered

101

Number of attendees at Skyline HIV Training session delivered

750

Number of volunteer hours

376

Number of visitors to structured support groups

206

Number of visitors to social groups and activities

37

Number of dry food pantry users

29

Number of BHA crisis fund

20

Number of Milk clients supported

NEW POST

BHA Leeds Skyline was awarded funding by Gilead Sciences to appoint an Enhanced Support Worker to work across BHA Skyline and the Brotherton Wing Clinic (BWC) to work on seeking people living with HIV who experience barriers to accessing health care appointments and, in turn adhering to medication. The Leeds Skyline team have worked closely with teams at the Leeds Teaching Hospitals to develop this new role and ensure that the recording, reporting of measuring outcomes meets the needs of the patients/clients, BHA and BWC. In March 2024, Leeds Skyline appointed Sam Norris for the post of Enhanced Support Worker. Both BHA and BWC are looking forward to the positive outcomes this new and exciting role means for people living with HIV across Leeds and Wakefield.

LIVE WELL LEEDS GRANT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING GROUPS

Between April 2023 and April 2024 Leeds Skyline continued to work on improving the mental and social wellbeing of people living with HIV by reducing social isolation. We were awarded a Live Well Leeds Microgrant of £1,000 to put towards the activities

that will improve social wellbeing. These funds went towards a trip to Lotherton Hall in December 2023, after it became apparent that many of our service users rarely have an opportunity to leave the city to enjoy wellbeing walks. Participants enjoyed playing on the zip wire, watching deer and viewing the penguins; albeit everyone stated that the weather was a little too wet for comfort. In addition to wellbeing the wellbeing day out we also ran a series of one-off workshops such as, writing workshops, yoga sessions, aerobic sessions, Black History Month Celebrations and participation in the Leeds Pride Parade to instil a sense of wellbeing and acceptance.

LIVING WELL WITH HIV

We continued to embed a culture of acceptance by facilitating a "Living Well with HIV" Course which ran for eight weeks and was attended by seven service users. This course was run by BHA staff with guest speakers from the BWC; topics covered included: setting boundaries, aging well with HIV, sex and sexuality and the five ways to wellbeing. Those who attended the course have gone on to become peer mentors and provide an invaluable service to our service users at BHA Skyline.

FAST TRACK CITIES ANTI-STIGMA GROUP/ COMMUNITY GRANTS

In the Autumn of 2023 BHA Leeds Skyline took on leadership of the Fast Track Cities Leeds HIV, TB and Hepatitis Anti-Stigma Group. As part of this work, Leeds City Council awarded Leeds Skyline with £8,000 to deliver micro community grants to people living with HIV to create projects that challenge HIV stigma. As of April 2024, the Skyline team have awarded grants towards three projects: two podcasts and one artistic project. In addition to the micro community grants Leeds skyline have also worked in partnership with Greater Manchester's Fast Track Cities Team and The Leeds Health and Care Academy to launch the Greater Manchester's Fastrack's "HIV Tackling and Challenging Stigma" online training free and accessible for all health and social care workers and volunteers within Leeds.

HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT GRANT

Finally, in March 2024 Skyline was awarded £5,000 to deliver energy vouchers and tangible items to those who need them the most. The Leeds Skyline team delivered 47 energy vouchers, two cookers, one set of bunk beds and one fridge to service users.



PASH IN LIVERPOOL

BHA's Sexual Health Service in Liverpool aims to improve knowledge, skills, confidence, and uptake of sexual health prevention tools. BHA develops services by engaging and involving communities who experience inequalities, predominantly Black, Asian, and minority ethnic communities, and those who are marginalised or disadvantaged.

The sexual health service is part of the PaSH Partnership, a collaboration between BHA for Equality, George House Trust, and the LGBT Foundation. The PaSH Partnership delivers a comprehensive programme of interventions to meet the changing needs of people newly diagnosed with HIV, living longer term with HIV, or at greatest risk of acquiring HIV.

During this financial year, BHA also undertook a research project, funded by Gilead Sciences, to assess HIV knowledge and uptake of sexual health services among Black and other ethnically diverse communities in Liverpool.

KEYS OUTCOMES ACHIEVED:

- We delivered 45 community-based outreach sessions engaging with 467 people with provision of information and advice and brief interventions on a range of sexual health issues.
- We delivered 25 workshops and training sessions on sexual health which were attended by 259 people.
- We facilitated 98 HIV tests.
- We distributed 5,718 condoms and lubricants, through BHA's postal service and during community outreach.



IN ADDITION, BHA ALSO:

- Created "The Migrant Network of Care," an event series aimed at providing a safe and inclusive space for refugees/asylum seekers, and individuals with migrant background.
- Promoted sexual health campaigns and events during Eurovision in Liverpool in May 2023.
- Joined and organised several campaigns including Sexual Health Week, Summer campaign, Black History Month, National HIV Testing Week, PrEP Awareness Week.
- Participated in several events such as Africa Oye festival, Pride and World AIDS Day.
- Created and promoted BHA's services and HIV prevention and sexual health messages across BHA's and PaSH in Liverpool's social media platforms.

FEEDBACK

"It was a great decision to meet you and start the counselling, I feel like I'll never get this opportunity again, I am so glad I did it."

"Now I am sincerely glad I relaxed, left my problems for a while and immersed myself in the lovely atmosphere, thank you."

"The guys work who work there are very friendly and helpful."

"Thank you so much for your help."

"Skyline is always there for me in the hard times and pretty much at the drop of a hat. I feel very much supported and welcomed by the staff. I am very well informed about what's going on each week."

"Thank you so much, god bless you."

KEY STATS:

1,980
Number of postal condoms delivered

908
Number of community condoms distributed

194
Number of rapid finger prick HIV and Syphilis Tests conducted

80
Number of Gregg's vouchers provided in exchange for HIV and Syphilis test

477
Number of support sessions delivered to people living with HIV

321
Number of 121 support sessions delivered to prevention clients

HIV PREVENTION AND TESTING: NEW VENUES

The Wakefield team worked to increase better access to healthcare to asylum seeker and refugee communities by establishing regular testing at three migrant hotels within the Wakefield district. The team has two bi-lingual staff members, who used their skills to translate prevention key messages where possible, where staff are not able to translate, the team use multiple apps to support the service users. Between April 23 and April 24, the team carried out 45 tests and distributed 341 condoms at the three migrant hotels. The team also gained a new testing venue at Castleford food bank, where they performed 15 HIV and Syphilis rapid finger prick tests and distributed 45 condoms.



HIV PREVENTION AND TESTING: INCENTIVES

BHA Wakefield sits on a HIV Prevention task group that identified people who are risk of homelessness or are homeless and/or inject drugs as a group that required targeted HIV prevention work, following a cluster of HIV transmissions within this demographic. The Wakefield team have worked in partnership with Wakefield Council, Turning Point and Christians Against Poverty to provide those who fall into these criteria with a £5 Gregg's voucher in exchange for HIV and Syphilis rapid finger prick test. Throughout April 23 to March 23 the team delivered 80 vouchers in exchange for tests, with people feedback; "Now I can eat today". The incentive resulted in the team supporting one individual with an HIV reactive test and another with a Syphilis reactive, both which may not have been dedicated had the team not been offering Gregg's vouchers. This incentive demonstrates that for the most vulnerable in society, it is difficult to consider your wider health needs if your immediate basic needs are not first met.

The incentive also provided the opportunity for the team to hold information sessions with people around HIV and dispel myths around transmission, with two people quoted stating they were not aware that there are other transmission routes other than intercourse.

"I only thought you could get it from sex, I didn't know there were other ways, it's good to know."

"I didn't know you could get from injecting, and I didn't know how to get tested."

"I barely have any money at the moment, so this means food."

"I didn't think I would take the test today, I only wanted the Gregg's voucher, but now I know the outcome."



FEEDBACK FROM OUR CLIENTS

HIV SUPPORT: WELLBEING

Throughout 2023 and 2024 the Wakefield team continued to promote wellbeing a culture of acceptance by hosting celebrating Wakefield Pride with service users and volunteers in the summer, hosting a charity fundraiser in September and hosting a day out to Knaresborough in October for our HIV support clients. The BHA Wakefield support clients enjoyed the sense of wellbeing the picturesque Knaresborough offered and the ghoulish sights of Old Mother Shipton's Cave. One service user reported, "It was great, really brilliant day out".

"Thanks for checking up on me and thinking about me, I really needed someone to listen."

- Support client

"I feel like I'm in the best place I possibly could be right now to get the right care and begin to rebuild my self-esteem and confidence following my low time a few weeks ago. Thanks for being there."

- Prevention Client

"Very discreet and non-judgemental."

- Prevention Client

"Thank you for a nice experience, it was very friendly"

- Prevention Client

"Clear and friendly, quick result."

- Prevention Client

"Thank you for all your help and support during this really intense time"

- Support client

"Thank you for listening to me and making me feel better about what is going on, I felt really down before I spoke to you, and I didn't know who to turn to."

- Support client

"Thank you, put my mind at ease."

- Prevention Client

"Great experience."

- Prevention Client

"Thanks for your help, it means a lot."

- Support Client

"Made me feel at ease, thanks again."

- Prevention Client

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

AREAS OF WORK

In our attempts to increase our impact on communities while handling sustainable growth, we are focusing on several key areas. Firstly, we are diligently working to consolidate our existing contracts, by finding co-funding, or alternative funding, for our work in TB and cancer.

Furthermore, we are looking to broaden our geographical footprint, aiming to extend our services and impact into new regions. By expanding our existing model into new areas, we can reach more communities in need and drive positive social change on a larger scale. This expansion will require careful planning, resource allocation and stakeholder engagement to ensure successful implementation.

We are dedicated to developing our funding base to secure the necessary resources for our continued growth and sustainability. This involves cultivating relationships with donors, grant makers, and other funding sources to support our programs and initiatives. By diversifying our funding sources and strengthening our financial resilience, we can better navigate the challenging funding landscape and weather any uncertainties that may arise.

Lastly, we are committed to extending our influence into new areas, using our expertise and track record to address emerging health and equality challenges. By staying ahead of trends and proactively engaging with key stakeholders, we can position ourselves as a leader and change agent in our field. This expansion of our influence will enhance our credibility, visibility, and impact.

FINANCIAL PICTURE

As we navigate the current financial landscape, we recognise the challenges posed by a difficult funding environment. Funding cuts are prevalent across various sectors, particularly within the NHS, and we anticipate adverse impacts on our operations, especially in Greater Manchester. While some of our largest contracts are secure in the short to mid-term, we acknowledge that several others remain uncertain, requiring careful monitoring and contingency planning.

In conclusion, by focusing on these key areas of work and maintaining a proactive approach to financial management, we are poised to overcome challenges, seize opportunities, and drive sustainable growth and impact for our organisation. Together, we can build a stronger, more resilient foundation for the future, ensuring our continued success and effectiveness in serving our communities.



FINANCIAL DATA

This year saw an overall standstill in terms of additional income. We were able to secure a few new pieces of income, but others ended without being replaced. In total our income increased from £2,249,093 in 2023-24 to £2,294,388, an increase of £45,295. Expenditure fell from £2,288,190 to £2,242,637, a fall by £45,553.

The small increase in income combined with the small drop in expenditure meant we went from a £39,087 deficit in 2023-24 to a £51,751 surplus. Full accounts can be found on the Charity Commission [website](#).

Financial Summary	Total in £
Total income for the year	2,294,388
Total income last year	2,249,093
Difference	+45,295
Total expenditure for the year	2,242,637
Total expenditure last year	2,288,190
Difference	-45,553
Final surplus for the year	51,751

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are enormously grateful to all our funders in 2023-24, including the following:

Bolton Borough Council	Liverpool City Council
Wigan Borough Council	Leeds City Council
Bury Borough Council	Spectrum CIC
Manchester City Council	The Garfield Weston Foundation
Stockport Borough Council	Gilead Life Sciences
Oldham Borough Council	The GMCA
Rochdale Borough Council	Terrence Higgins Trust
Tameside Borough Council	Salford CVS
Trafford Borough Council	10GM
Salford City Council	Manchester Active
Manchester LCO	Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
The Hepatitis C Trust	The Glasspool Charity Trust
NHS GM ICB	



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