



# ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED MARCH 2023

winchester

**STREET REACH**

Charity No. 1167148

"MEETING YOUNG PEOPLE  
WHERE THEY'RE AT"

# Winchester Street Reach

## Trustee's Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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## 1. Objects and Activities

Winchester Street Reach is a young person's charity open to all young people and whose work is particularly targeted to those in need and experiencing disadvantage.

The charitable purpose of Winchester Street Reach as set out in the governing document is to empower young people in Winchester and surrounding areas to recognise and achieve their full potential, targeting young people at risk of suffering due to the effects of a wide range of issues, including but not exclusively:

- Financial deprivation
- Drug and alcohol misuse
- Mental health problems
- Underachievement or exclusion from school/college
- Unemployment
- Homelessness
- Low self-esteem.

Winchester Street Reach supports young people through the delivery of street-based youth work, known as Detached Youth Work in local communities across Winchester, and through centre-based sessions. Our approach to working with young people is through making connections at the earliest possible opportunity and by building trusting relationships over time. Participation is always voluntary. Our projects focus on reducing inequality, and helping young people to stay safe, lead healthy lifestyles and feel more positive about their futures.

Our work is guided by the principle of 'meeting young people where they're at'; being available and accessible in spaces where they are comfortable, and being attentive to what they tell us about their lives. Our projects are designed with young people, respond to their needs and interests, and adopt a range of creative approaches. Our team is uniquely-placed to support young people that do not typically engage with other services and those who may be vulnerable.

We deliver Detached Youth Work across Winchester in four communities, Weeke, Harestock, Winnall and Stanmore, which are recognised areas of high need. We deliver weekly drop-in, centre-based projects including our Friday Football project, Micheldever Youth Club, in-school support groups for students at risk of isolation or exclusion, a 'warm hub' for young people in the winter months, and a number of residential trips.

Our staff team are relatable, have a range of backgrounds and interests and are trained to support young people with a range variety of presenting needs. They share a passion for working with young people and helping improve their lives.

## 2. Achievements and Performance

Winchester Street Reach delivered year-round support targeting young people in need and experiencing disadvantage across Winchester through a range of projects, working with a total of 537 different young people.

The charity took the decision to move premises from our office space at Trinity Winchester to Unit 12; a thriving community space in Winnall. The move provided the charity with a large delivery space for working with young people, with an adjacent office or breakout space. This was a strategic decision to offer more centre-based projects for young people, in addition to developing partnerships with the other organisations at Unit 12, better serving the community of Winnall and having an identifiable home. We relocated in October 2022 with groups of young people redecorating and building furniture, helping them to recognise the space as theirs.

This year we also launched our mobile youth bus, a high-top vehicle converted by a local company to our requirements as a space young people can enter and where pop-up workshops can be facilitated. The youth bus is branded, has soft furnishings, charging points and a fridge, and offers a space for up to 8 young people. A raised area has been created with a DJ platform for workshops and music sessions which is currently the primary use of the vehicle. The youth bus has allowed the youth work team to have longer and more meaningful interactions with teenagers, particularly those that are vulnerable or disengaged from their community. The project was enabled by a generous grant from Children in Need.

Winchester Street Reach works in partnership with a wide range of organisations in order to provide engaging sessions with high quality support. Our move to the community space at Unit 12 has enabled closer working with a range of important services including activity providers, a counselling service and a food pantry. Winchester Street Reach also play an important role in two panels delivered by statutory services; the Winchester Missing, Exploited, Trafficked (MET) panel and the Antisocial Behaviour panel. Our attendance informs our work and helps to join up support for the most at risk young people in Winchester.

We delivered a programme of core training to our youth worker team, equipping them to deliver targeted support around a range of key issues. This included a series of training on harm reduction relating to substances and other risk taking, relationships and sex education (RSE) that included condom distribution, as well as managing challenging behaviour and child exploitation.

Across our projects we have been working to engage with young people, helping them to keep safe, lead healthy lifestyles and feel more positive about their futures. Our projects offer young people opportunities to socialise, try new things, and feel a sense of belonging. Our team continue to work with young people around risk taking behaviours using a harm reduction approach. Post-Covid we have responded to an increase in mental health needs amongst young people, as well as supporting them around education challenges and healthy relationships.

## 2022-23 in Numbers

- 537 Young People worked with across all projects
- 313 Young people worked with through Detached Youth Work
- 224 Young People worked with at our centre-based projects
- 18 Young People attended residential trips
  
- 398 Interventions delivered around substance use
- 320 Interventions delivered around mental health
- 291 Interventions delivered around heathy relationships
- 251 Interventions delivered around school attendance
- 130 Interventions delivered around post-16 options and job search

### **Detached Project**

We delivered year-round street-based Detached Youth Work sessions in our target communities of Weeke, Harestock, Winnall and Stanmore, building trusting relationships with young people and responding to their needs. We promote our centre-based projects at the Detached project and help connect young people with these opportunities, as well as other services available to them. Our mobile youth bus was launched in September 2022 and has enabled us to work with young people for longer periods and in and more meaningful way in an environment that is both welcoming and unique.

### **Micheldever Youth Club**

Our term-time youth club in Micheldever provides a wide range of activities as well as targeted support to young people in the local community. The project provides participants from the rural village with important, accessible youth worker support. We design offsite trips with the young people and provide transport. Micheldever youth club participants also have access to other Winchester Street Reach projects.

### **Friday Football**

Friday Football is a drop-in project at Henry Beaufort School for boys and girls aged 11-17 years. This is a long-established project that has a youth club feel. The project helps to improve physical and mental health amongst young people in a fun and informal way. This year over 20% of participants were female. Since moving to the new space we have provided lifts for up to 7 young people from the Winnall area to help them access the project.

### **Isolation Project**

Our Isolation Project is delivered in schools on a referral basis and is targeted to young people experiencing isolation. We worked with participants in small groups and delivered the project in cohorts lasting a term-and-a-half. We delivered to cohorts at The Westgate School and Stanmore Primary School. The sessions included ice breakers and team building games as well as targeted work around mental health and wellbeing, confidence, and resilience. Through the project we also delivered a range of day trips, plus a residential trip to Magdalen Farm; an eco-farm in Somerset where group members were supported to take part in hands-on farming

and team building activities. Funding for the Isolation project also enabled us to deliver a series of evening drop-in sessions at our new delivery space through the winter.

### **Warm Hub**

From January to March we delivered a new drop-in project at our space in the form of a Warm Hub on a Friday after school. The project was targeted to young people from low income households feeling the impact of the Cost of Living Crisis. Young people were signposted from the Detached project, and over time the Warm Hub became a safe communal space for young people. We offered a nutritious hot meal through a partnership with Munch CIC, and we offered lifts to the Friday Football project. Due to the success of the Warm Hub, the project has continued in the format of an after school drop-in, with music workshops and homework support.

### **Camping Residential**

We took eleven young people on a Camping Residential trip at Avon Tyrrell in the New Forest during the summer holidays. The project was targeted to young people being supported by Winchester Street Reach and participants were invited from the Detached project, Micheldever Youth Club, Friday Football and Isolation Project. The group took part in a range of activities at the centre and a day trip to the New Forest Water Park.

### 3. Financial Review

At the beginning of April 2022, the charity started the financial year with net assets of £167,616. For the year to March 2023, we report an excess of expenditure over income of £17,311 which has reduced our reserves to £150,305. The allocation of these reserves is shown on page 8 of the Financial Statements.

We set our increased expenditure budget for the year at £145,841, to incorporate the expansion of our daytime offering through the Isolation Project and partly due to increased costs across the board.

By September 2022, our imminent move to Unit 12 saw us increase our expenditure budget by £10,000; £6,000 for the move itself and £4,000 for the rent increase for a large space which would help us significantly increase and improve our services.

There was an amazing fundraising effort over the course of the year and alongside the money received from known funders of £87,143, a further £41,607 was raised from new sources.

For the financial year to 2022-23, we had made a loss against our current assets of £17,311 after depreciation of fixed assets of £10,255. Cash at bank on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 stood at £117,220 (£128,408 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022)

Although the charity is in a healthy financial position, the Trustees are aware of cost increases through staff pay increases in line with the living wage and other inflationary pressures, together with budgeting for an increasing scale of activities. As such the anticipated expenditure for 2023-24 is expected to be close to £200,000.

#### **Reserves**

The Trustees consider it prudent regularly to review Winchester Street Reach's reserves policy having regard to the need to:

- provide core services for our participants
- meet contractual obligations
- meet the organisation's obligations as a good employer
- build up funds for specific purposes when required or deemed good financial practice
- protect and maintain the organisation's assets.

## 4. Future Plans

The financial year ending March 2023 represents the 4<sup>th</sup> year of Winchester Street Reach's 5-year Business Plan which commenced in 2019. Although this period was severely disrupted by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is encouraging that there has been great progress on the strategic goals outlined in that plan. Governance is strong, with an actively engaged Board of Trustees and newly empowered management structure led by Ben Martin as CEO. We have been able to reach more young people through a wider range of activities and services, enabled in part through the move to Unit 12 and the acquisition of the mobile youth bus. Although recruitment remains a challenge, staff retainment is good, with a great team spirit enhanced by a well-managed and varied training programme.

During the 2023-2024 financial year, the focus will be on consolidating on the step changes that have happened over the last couple of years, sustaining the higher level of funding required to deliver additional services enabled through the move to Unit 12, strengthening our reputation by continuing to deliver high quality services and activities for local young people, and building on relationships and partnerships in the local area through social media and direct engagement.

In July 2023 Trustees and key senior staff took part in a strategy workshop which focused on understanding the needs of our users, funders, and stakeholders. This will feed into further strategic planning discussions over the coming months which will inform the next iteration of our strategic plan.



## 5. Structure and Governance

The Trustees' responsibilities include ensuring that the charity is carrying out its purpose for the public benefit, complying with the charity's governing document and the law, managing the charity's resources responsibly, and ensuring that the charity is accountable.

The Trustee Board carries out its responsibilities through multiple mechanisms. Regular board meetings are held every two months, there is a dedicated finance sub-committee to monitor financial aspects in greater detail, and each Trustee has a dedicated area of special interest; for example safeguarding or a specific project that they monitor and report back on to the Trustee Board at regular intervals.

As a Foundation Model Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), the only voting members of Winchester Street Reach are its Charity Trustees.

Day to day management of the charity is delegated to the charity's senior team led by CEO Ben Martin. Ben led the charity as Project Manager up until December 2022, but as of January 2023 was promoted by the Trustees to the new role of CEO in recognition of both the charity's growth and an increase in the leadership and strategic elements of Ben's role.

## 6. Charity Reference and Administration

<b>Charity no</b>	1167148	
<b>Trustees</b>	Sarah Pease	Chair
	Roy Patterson	Vice Chair
	Katy Toms	Treasurer
	Claire Heath	(resigned 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2023)
	Andrew Gardner	
	Rebecca Dunn	
	Joanne Benson	(resigned 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2023)
	James Cross	(appointed 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2022)
	Charlie Palmer-Cogan	(appointed 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2022)
	David Stow	(resigned 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2023)
	Georgiana Hibberd	(appointed 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2023)
<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	Ben Martin	
<b>Registered Office</b>	Unit 12, Winnall Valley Road Winchester SO23 0LD	<i>(Copies of financial statements can be obtained from this address)</i>
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ken Stratton, FMAAT Kimball Smith Accountants Winchester Brewery House, High Street, Winchester, SO21 1RG	
<b>Bankers</b>	CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, E19 4JQ	

## 7. Approval

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Signed on their behalf by

**Sarah Pease**

Sarah Pease  
Chair of Trustees

## 8. Financial Statements

