



Working to end violence and abuse.

Annual Report

2023-2024

 @oasisdomesticabuseservice

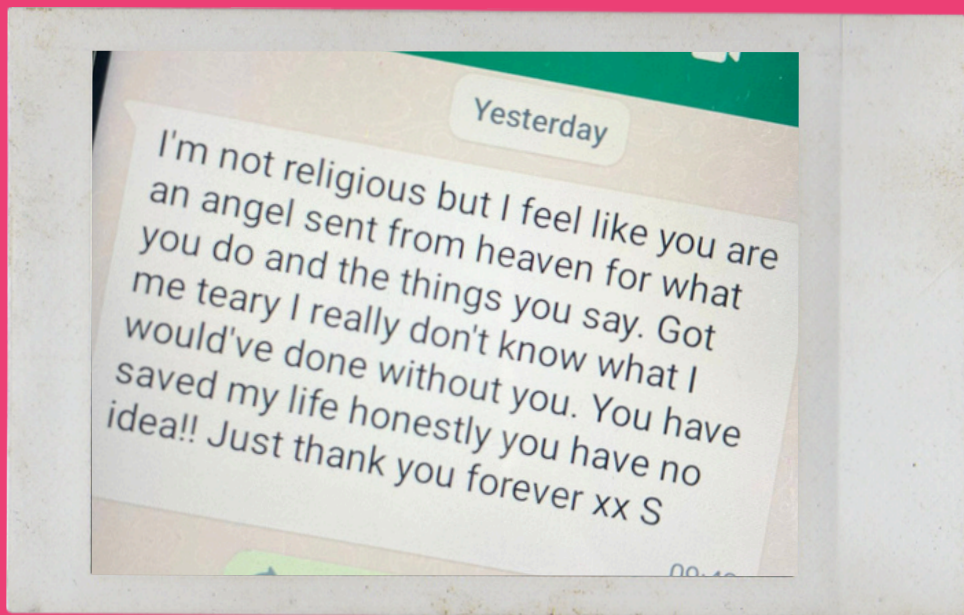
oasisdaservice.org

Registered Charity No: 1126198

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Becky and her brother used to hear their mum being hurt by her partner, and would see him controlling her. Becky would get her brother to watch TV to try to block out what was going on. One day their mum waited for her partner to go to work, and then told Becky to pack. "We literally just packed everything as quick as we could into the car". They came to an Oasis refuge. Becky says "the people we shared that house with definitely made it easier. You all know that everybody's been through their own hell. Everybody's been through something they can't cope with and actually everybody was amazing".

Our mission

For family life to be free from abuse. We will keep working towards this and creating innovative responses to domestic abuse that increase safety, rebuild lives and create lasting change, for as long as it takes.

Our vision

A world free from abusive relationships where every person is safe at home and in their community. We believe in a just, fair and equal society.

Values

Compassionate: We provide compassionate support to people in need, no matter who they are or what situation they find themselves in. We are always here to listen and help without judgement.

Curious: We undertake research and development to ensure our services continue to be innovative, effective and efficient. We are always looking for ways to do what we do better, using trauma-informed data and practice.

Committed: We are committed to providing the best level of support. We find new ways of support and forge new partnerships to help end the cycle of abuse.

Collaborative: We are generous with our expertise, our tools and our time. We believe in working with families, professionals and agencies to create stronger and more resilient communities.

Connected: We connect with individuals, organisations and services in meaningful ways. This is to ensure that we are providing the highest level of service and support. We adopt a multi-agency, holistic approach to the work that we do.



Welcome

This year has been a year of significant achievement and transformative change with a new Chief Executive at the helm, and we are both immensely proud of the steps we have taken to enhance our services, strengthen our community partnerships, and change the lives of those affected by domestic abuse.

We successfully rolled out a dispersed accommodation model across Medway and East Kent, and now manage over 100 bed spaces – these are sanctuaries for people fleeing from abuse. Our new model enables us to tailor our support to meet the unique needs of every individual, irrespective of gender identity or additional co-occurring conditions.

We secured funding from the National Lottery Community Funding to expand our support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse—a key area of our work and support that we are dedicated to evolving in the years ahead. We also took on delivery of the Medway Domestic Abuse Service, enabling us to continue delivering vital support to vulnerable people in the Medway community. We are committed to expanding our reach and impact in areas where our services are most needed.

In addition to enhancing our services, we have actively engaged in fundraising initiatives and partnerships and have been humbled by the support from local communities. Our new training team have forged collaborations with other organisations and companies and are tasked with fostering a broader understanding of domestic abuse across Kent and Medway.

In this report, you will find compelling stories of resilience, the impact of our initiatives, and the transformative power of community support. We extend heartfelt thanks to every individual who has contributed to our journey of empowerment and transformation over the last 12 months, and are grateful for the professionalism, resilience and dedication of our staff and volunteers throughout this period of change.

Thank you for standing alongside us as we continue to make a positive difference in the lives of those affected by domestic abuse.



Claire Williams
CEO



Beverley Aitken
Chair of Trustees



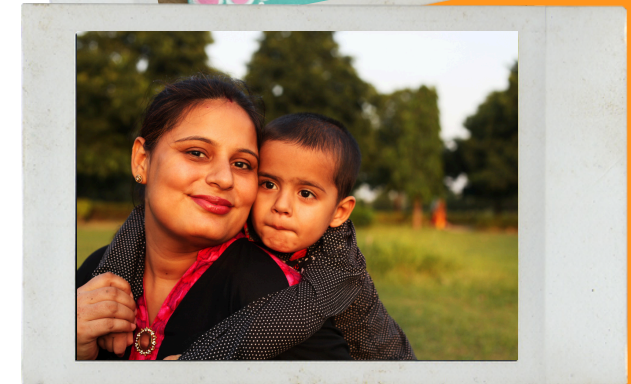
The difference Oasis made this year



In a world where safety and security should be a given, the reality is starkly different for many in Kent & Medway. Countless adults, young people and children face the harsh reality of abuse within their homes.

Imagine a child's day starting not with excitement for learning but with an overwhelming anxiety about their family's safety. Domestic abuse casts a long shadow over the lives of its victims: it disrupts their sense of safety, hinders their emotional well-being, and scars their futures.

At Oasis, we believe that every individual deserves a safe and nurturing environment in which to thrive. We understand the intricate web of challenges survivors face, and our commitment is to help them rebuild their lives free from abuse.



This year we provided refuge and safe accommodation, community based services including high-risk support, hospital support and court support, group work, young people's services and a helpline service

1483

adults and children were directly supported to break the cycle of domestic abuse and recover from the trauma

£122,200

raised through the generous support of our incredible community through individual and collective fundraising and donations

"You showed me full support and you took away my pain. I strongly believe I would have ended my life without my Oasis support worker."



A few figures and numbers

In 2023-2024 Oasis supported:

1317

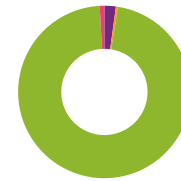
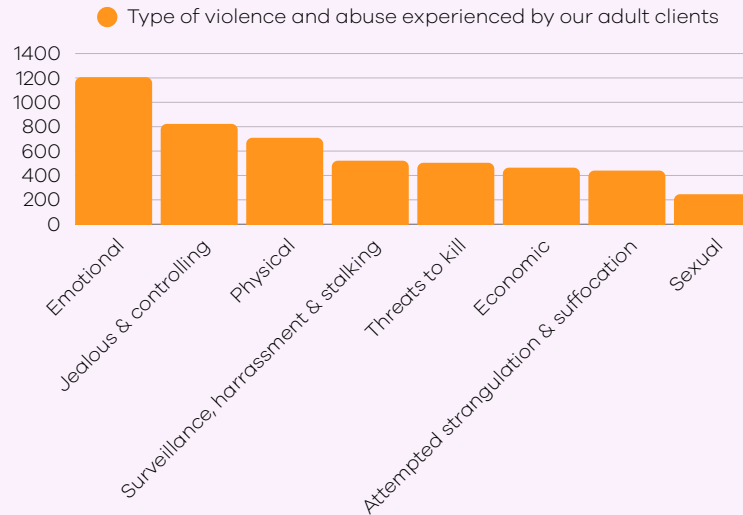
adults

166

children, directly

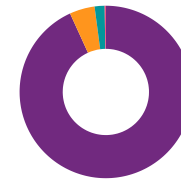
1998

children, indirectly



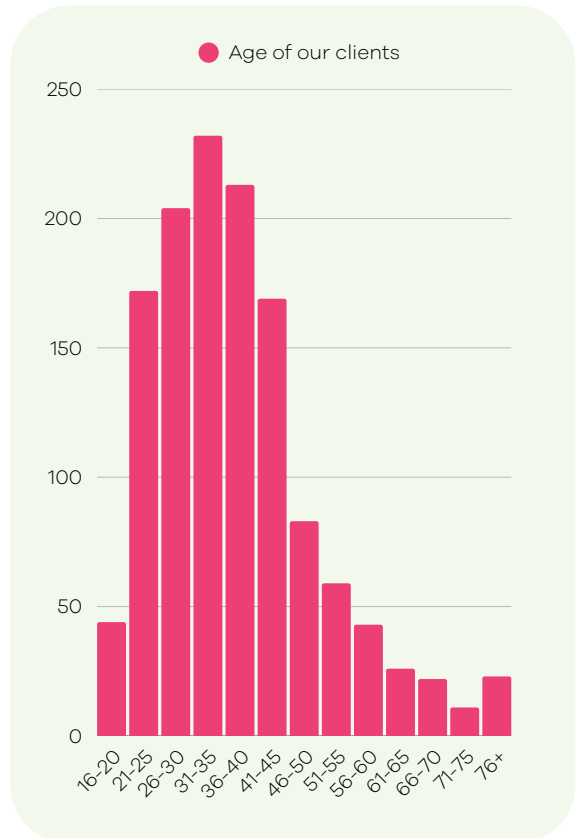
Sexual orientation of our clients

2% Bisexual
1% Gay
93% Heterosexual
1% Lesbian



Gender of our clients

95% Women
4.8% Men
2% Transgender
0.2% Non-Binary



95%

of our clients who declared an immigration need had a positive immigration outcome



73%

of our clients who declared a need in debt and money management became better able to manage debt



86%

of our clients who reported needs around homelessness as a result of domestic abuse accessed crisis accommodation



95%

of our clients having disclosed a need around accessing parenting support, 95% disclosed positive outcome regarding CP



93%

of our clients who declared a need around support navigating the courts disclosed having received positive support through Civil Court Process

Overview of services

At Oasis, we are dedicated to providing a lifeline to those impacted by domestic abuse. Our safe accommodations and community services offer not just shelter and access to practical support, but hope and a path to recovery. Through compassionate outreach and our specialised programmes for adults, children and young people, we empower individuals and families to rebuild their lives. Every day, we witness the transformative power of solidarity, helping survivors find their voice, regain their strength, and look towards a brighter future.

Our service provision consists of:

- **Safe accommodation**
 - 18 flats in East Kent
 - 12 properties across North Kent & Medway
- **Community Support**
 - Outreach
 - Signposting
 - High-risk support
- **Hospital support**
- **Children and Young People**
 - Young Adult Mentoring Service
 - Family Partnership
 - Recovering Together
- **Helpline**

Oasis is committed to ensuring that all people affected by domestic abuse can access the support they need appropriately and fairly. Our services are inclusive – irrespective of age, gender, gender identity or orientation, disability, ethnicity, religion, we can provide care and support.



Safe accommodation

In North Kent, we house 14 people and provide support to help them move on from the trauma of abuse. Over the last 12 months we have successfully moved on 9 residents into council or housing association properties. Four of these were new and first-time mums who were all supported to live independently. We also deliver support sessions which help residents identify healthy and unhealthy traits in a relationship. Thanks to local funding we have also been able to run confidence building activities for residents, such as cooking, budgeting, sewing and yoga, and have helped residents develop new interests and learn new life skills.

"The support I had when I was here was amazing, I feel more safe here."

-Alia, Oasis safe accommodation client



In Thanet, we changed our service provision, purchasing 12 standalone properties to replace our communal refuge. This new accommodation model has meant a change of working for staff and residents but means we can house men and transwomen at risk of abuse and provide tailored support for individuals and families in need. In Dover, we were thrilled to receive positive feedback from our Kent County Council inspection.

In Medway, we bought and furnished 10 properties in the last year and through our 'Safe in Medway' partnership with Medway Council, we have identified and housed 13 people at any one time in Oasis accommodation in this area. Our youngest client was just 22 years old and our eldest was 73. All clients are supported in residence by a key worker and whilst they make the transition to their own permanent home.

84
clients supported in our safe accommodation across Kent

100%
high-risk clients supported in safe accommodation and declared an improved perception of safety when they left

82%
clients in safe accommodation declared an improvement of their safety whilst living there

83%
high-risk clients supported in safe accommodation described an improvement in their overall wellbeing



Community support

This past year, Oasis continued to deliver critical community support across Medway, Thanet, and Dover.

We successfully secured the Medway Domestic Abuse Service (MDAS) contract for another three years, supporting medium and high-risk clients within community settings. Our MDAS team played a pivotal role in high-risk multi-agency referral meetings and the Medway Domestic Abuse Forum, supported events like the MOD health fair, and provided domestic abuse training to GP students at Canterbury Christchurch University's Medway Campus.

In Thanet and Dover, our team offered holistic support to clients in their homes and communities, attended multi-professional meetings, and fostered professional links through the Thanet Taskforce and Dover Vulnerability panels. We referred clients to Oasis' Phoenix Programme and saw our support groups thrive with the help of volunteers and peer mentors. Our Young Persons IDVA (YPIDVA) successfully engaged children and young people in need of safety planning, advocacy, and mentoring around healthy relationships.

We also received a £4,000 grant from Women's Aid's emergency fund, which enabled us to purchase security devices like ring doorbells, CCTVs, and dash cams, enhancing the safety of our clients.



"You made me feel supported and valid even though the abuse I went through wasn't physical, which was a big fear of mine when reaching out for help. But you helped me understand that emotional abuse can be just as harmful. You gave me the last little push and encouragement I needed to finally leave him. You put me in touch with a lot of organisations that can further help me with finding housing as I had to flee my home. You spoke to me very kindly and with a lot of care."
-Sadie, Oasis client



Hospital support

Hospital admission is often a catalyst, a moment at which those affected by domestic abuse confront the gravity of their situation. It's a reachable moment. That's why last year we secured funding to place three Hospital Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (HIDVAs) across two hospitals: QEQM in Margate and Medway Maritime Museum in Gillingham.

HIDVAs supported not only patients but also staff within the hospital setting. Our HIDVAs carried out 'trolley dashes' to various departments within the hospital to raise awareness of the service and gave training sessions to teams. Patients received 1-1 tailored supports from HIDVAs, who worked with hospital staff to ensure safe and positive discharge plans were put in place. HIDVAs also worked closely with staff in the Psychiatry, Alcohol and Substance Misuse and Homeless Pathways teams to address co-occurring conditions. Clients reported that HIDVA support had enabled them to feel more confident in decision making around their healthcare needs.

97

clients supported

83%

experienced positive health outcomes

"She (QEQM HIDVA) helped me a lot when I became homeless. She helped me to change benefits, gave me moral support, provided me with clothing. Oasis even gave me a Christmas present during my stay over the holiday period in hospital. But what's more important is that my HIDVA found me a refuge place when I desperately needed it."
-Emma, Oasis client



Children & Young People



In North Kent, our young adult mentoring outreach service (YAMS) and Family Partnership have made significant progress this year. YAMS raised awareness about domestic abuse and its impact on mental health, reducing stigma and improving access to statutory services and further education through advocacy. We supported two home-schooled clients by promptly coordinating with schools, and non-abusive parents have expressed satisfaction with the support their children receive. The Family Practitioner has been busy helping parents rebuild their lives, with success stories including a client safely regaining custody of her children and another staying clean from substance misuse and advocating for herself and her child. Additionally, we supported a client through the adoption process, helping her relocate to a safe area closer to her family.

In East Kent, our Young People's team achieved significant success this year, earning strong client outcomes and positive feedback. The National Lottery refunded the Recovering Together programme for three more years, Henry Smith funded complex needs mentoring for three years, and The Charles Hayward Foundation provided extra funding to expand our Recovering Together programme into Medway.

Our strengths-based, relationship-focused mentoring approach emphasises recovery from abuse through timely intervention. Recognising recovery as multi-faceted, we address individual, family, school, and community needs. We aim to achieve positive change in all these areas, from individual trauma sessions and parent psychoeducation groups to connecting families with resources and advocating for children in schools.

Recognising the importance of social prescribing and creating activities to help children connect socially and within their communities, over the past year, we've organised multiple trips to Wildwood, healthy eating workshops, nature walks, fishing sessions, art group sign-ups, days out at nature reserves, and provided sports equipment, ensuring a holistic and collaborative service.

88%

improved attendance in school

85%

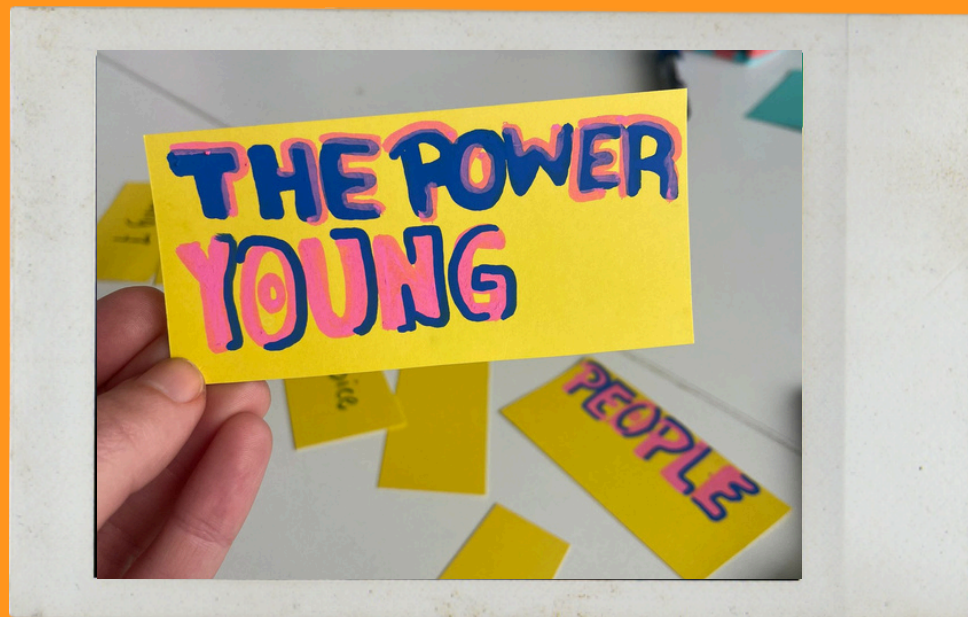
improved relationships and social networks

85%

improved mental health

"My mentor has always been really fun to be around and I knew straight away that I was able to talk to her. She's really helped me to feel happier and more settled in my new school and hometown."
-Lottie, 12 year old Oasis client





"Angus, one of the children I'm working with came into service with extreme anxiety and deep emotional pain. There were times and instances where they didn't think they wanted to be alive anymore because of the negative beliefs they held about themselves.

Following targeted work to understand how their brain works to protect them, and through mentoring support, Angus is now a more confident, chatty, bubbly and positive child who shows respect and empathy. They are a real credit to their parents who have engaged with the mentoring support and worked collaboratively to ensure that when the mentoring ended, the child would have support and guidance in managing big, and sometimes uneasy, emotions."

-Ben, Oasis mentor

Helpline

At the heart of our mission is the unwavering commitment to ensuring a life free from abuse for every family. Our helpline stands as a vital lifeline for those seeking safety, support, and advice. It serves not only as a gateway to our broader services but also as a beacon of hope for those in crisis.

Our helpline is a trusted resource, offering compassionate support to survivors, crucial guidance to professionals, and essential advice to concerned friends and family members. Staffed on weekdays by our dedicated Single Point of Access Manager, and reinforced by a team of committed volunteers, we strive to provide a lifeline when it's needed most.

However, the demand for our services is growing. For every call we answer, another goes unheard. This unmet need drives us to expand our helpline provision in the coming years, ensuring that no cry for help goes unanswered.

100+

calls per month

700+

emails received per month



Fundraising

Thanks to your support, we are helping more people affected by the trauma of domestic abuse. In 2023-24, over £122,000 was raised from events and donations from individuals across Kent. We're so grateful to our community of supporters who give so generously each year and find creative ways to support our fundraising.

Our sixth annual golf day was sold out again and we are thankful to the many returning local businesses who take part this year. We held our first cinematic event: a screening of the 1940s classic, 'Gaslight', at 'Broadstairs' iconic palace theatre. Attendees watched the film and enjoyed a Q&A after with our Head of Operations. Yamaha Music London, the current custodians of the Banksy Artwork 'Valentine's Day Mascara' organised two fundraising events in aid of Oasis, raising over £11,000 for our work. Our Christmas Wishes campaign raised over £6,000.

We don't outsource any fundraising to professional agencies. We are fortunate to be supported by our wonderful Friends of Oasis committee – a group of dedicated volunteers who organise a number of fundraising events each year to raise funds for Oasis. Our staff and volunteers abide by the Chartered Institute of Fundraising's codes of practice and we are signed up to the Fundraising Regulator. We received no fundraising complaints in 2023-24.

Volunteers

Our volunteers are indispensable to the Oasis team, selflessly giving their time, compassion and skills to support all areas of our mission.

From our peer mentors and support group volunteers using their lived experience to support, empower and give hope to our current clients, to our admin volunteers helping us stay on top of everything in the background, our Oasis Shop volunteers who keep our special charity boutique looking immaculate and our shop customers feeling welcomed (which is why they keep coming back!), our event volunteers who run around making sure our fundraisers run smoothly and vital donations come in, and every other role which helps alleviate the pain and trauma we witness on a daily basis.

We are so grateful that they choose to support us and work with us to end domestic abuse.

Trustees

Our board has continued to play a vital role in guiding Oasis to fulfil its mission and better serve our community. We are incredibly fortunate to have such committed and passionate individuals steering Oasis towards success.



Legal, Administrative & Governance

Roles and Management

Oasis aspires to a world free from abusive relationships where the vulnerable are enabled to deal with society on equal terms; a society that values and makes safe its communities, and communities that work together to protect and support one another.

Trustees:

B Aitken (Chair)
F Dunmall (Deputy Chair – Resigned 24 June 2024)
S Grant (Chair, Finance Sub Committee)
M Elliott (Deputy Chair – From 24 June 2024)
S Fox
MJ Insaideo
H Jones
E Matthews (Resigned 5 September 2023)
B Musindi
C Tate

Chief Executive:

Claire Williams

Head of Operations:

Tina Alexander

Head of Finance:

Caroline Palmer (To 2 February 2024)

Susan Fry (From 22 April 2024)

Head of Income & Engagement:

Loukia Michael (To 10 January 2024)

Jo Dawes (From 5 March 2024)

Head of Human Resources:

Kerry Smith

Head of Business Development:

Dawn Hughes (From 13 November 2023)

Impact and Development Manager:

Ophelia Donatien

Operations Manager:

Roz Gabriel (To 10 November 2023)

Governing Document

Oasis Domestic Abuse Service Limited, a charity which is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1126198, was established under a memorandum and articles of association (amended and adopted by the Charity Commission) dated 15 September 2008.

The charity is also constituted as a company limited by guarantee without share capital under number 05810653. The trustees are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

During the year under review, the memorandum and articles of association were updated in line with current charity practice and guidance. New Articles were adopted by the directors by a special resolution on 7 June 2024.

Administrative

Charity number:

1126198

Company number:

05810653

Registered Office:

c/o Greenwoods Legal LLP
Monkstone House
30 City Road
Peterborough PE1 1JE

Principal address:

The charity is exempt from disclosing the principal address on the grounds that it could place its stakeholders in personal danger.

Auditors:

Azets Audit Services
32-33 Watling Street
Canterbury,
Kent CT1 2AN

Bankers:

Charities Aid Foundation
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling ME19 4JQ

Contact us:

enquiries@oasisdaservice.org
www.oasisdaservice.org

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Act 2006, Section 4 guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Objectives

The charity's objectives are restricted specifically, in each case only for the public benefit to provide services directed towards the prevention of physical, sexual, psychological and emotional violence or threats of violence from any known person (hereinafter called "domestic violence") and the relief and support of persons who have suffered or are in danger of suffering domestic violence, their children and dependents, and to advance the education of voluntary and statutory agencies and the public in all aspects of domestic violence, its causes and prevention.

Activities for the year

See impact report on pages 1 to 13.

Public benefit statement

Oasis Domestic Abuse Service operates for the public benefit. The trustees confirm their compliance with section 17 of the Charities Act 2011, ensuring they have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, titled "Charities and Public Benefit."

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding challenges persist within the Third Sector, particularly regarding local authority funding. Oasis continually seeks to diversify and expand its income streams.

For the Financial Year 2023-24, total income for the year was £3,087,958 (2023: £2,742,936). Total expenditure for the year was £2,915,867 (2023: £3,149,659). This resulted in a surplus of £172,091, a significant improvement from the

previous year's, 2023, deficit of £406,723.

The income of the charity derived from Charitable Activities for 2023-24, £2,902,028 has increased by 13% year on year (2023: £2,566,092), with the total income from public funding sources increasing by £159,291 year on year. Income from public funding sources represents 64% of the total income derived from Charitable Activities, (2023: 66%).

Under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, several provisions enhance the rights of domestic abuse survivors to access safe accommodation. Notably, all eligible homeless victims of domestic abuse now automatically qualify as a priority.

We aim to utilise the properties purchased with a £3.9 million investment from Social and Sustainable Capital LLP to provide safe, self-contained, and secure accommodation dedicated to supporting victims of domestic abuse. Our goal is to ensure this accommodation is used effectively, minimising any vacancies. This will ensure that we generate income to further invest in the dispersed refuge model. Housing benefit income has increased to £567,508, (2023: £439,957). An increase of 29% whereas service charges have fallen by 21% indicating the change from the refuge model to the dispersed model. Income from Housing benefit and services charges sources represents 20% of the total income derived from Charitable Activities, (2023: 18%).

There is no doubt that the charity had been through a huge change during the financial year with the purchase of 12 properties in Thanet and Medway. The impact of the property purchases will be

fully assessed during the next financial year 2024-25.

Reserves Policy

In respect of the general reserves, the Trustees aim to maintain the general reserves representing 3 to 6 months of budgeted core expenditure within the range for the reserves for 2024-25, set at £172,650 to £690,600, (2023 - £850,000). This range will help maintain flexibility whilst ensuring that there is sufficient coverage for operational needs.

The balance of general funds as of 31 March 2024 was £748,565 (2023: £571,518).

Total designated funds as at 31 March 2024 were £1,411,438 (2023: £1,407,264). Details of which are set out in note 17 of the Financial Statements.

Total restricted funds as at 31 March 2024 was £289,337 (2023: £203,045). Details of which are set out in note 16 of the balance sheet. Please note that this figure has increased year on year due to the timing of the grants particularly at the year end.

Total funds of the charity as at 31 March 2024 have increased to £2,353,918, (2023: £2,181,827).

Going concern

At the date of this report the Trustees have identified no issues that would offer concerns about the charity's viability as a going concern.

Plans for the future

The plans for the future of Oasis, encompass our mission, vision and values as set out in our Impact report. We are undertaking a comprehensive review of our service delivery.

As part of our strategy, we want to ensure that there is a smooth access to immediate and comprehensive support for those affected by abuse. We are enhancing the provision of access to our services via the telephone.

We aim to provide support which is tailored and holistic by strengthening collaboration with our Health and Social Care partners.

We aim to provide survivors of domestic abuse with the tools to help them recover and turning the pain into power.

In respect of specialised services for our young people we are focusing on education and mentoring, particularly in our Recovering Together programme. We are focused on building a resilient organisation and in order to maintain financial sustainability, we are looking at many projects to diversify the income streams. We are embedding practices that embed good governance and are very focused on a culture of quality.

Our innovative dispersed accommodation-based services are designed to offer greater flexibility and convenience to survivors of domestic abuse. By integrating these new options into our portfolio, we aim to expand our geographical reach and provide comprehensive support to a broader range of individuals and families affected by abuse.

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The charity is also constituted as a company limited by guarantee without share capital under number 05810653. The trustees are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

During the year under review, the memorandum and articles of association were updated in line with current charity practice and guidance. New Articles were adopted by the trustees by a general resolution on 7 June 2024.

Risks to which the charity is exposed

At each board meeting, the Oasis Board of Trustees consistently monitors risks on a quarterly basis using a live risk register. Systems have been put in place to mitigate these risks effectively. Among the identified risks, the following are considered the most critical:

- Safeguarding - Given the nature of Oasis work with victims of Domestic Abuse, there is a high risk of safeguarding issues. To address this, we have enhanced and fortified our policies, processes, and operational methods to uphold our safeguarding standards. We are strengthening our safeguarding, and we are currently actively recruiting, for a newly created role, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Lead.
- Information security and cyber risks – we actively review our processes and procedures and consult external expertise when the need arises.
- Local Authority Funding Shortfall – We closely monitor the contracts and grants we hold, paying particular attention to their end dates. We actively renegotiate with local

authorities to secure the necessary funds to continue providing essential services to our vulnerable clients. While we strive to diversify our income streams, we recognise that insufficient funding pressures significantly affect the quality and extent of the services we can offer.

- Property Health & Safety Compliance – in the last two Financial Years we have undertaken a program of purchasing a significant number of properties through a substantial loan from a finance organisation which supports charities and social enterprises in the UK.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Board

Trustees are appointed to the Board based on an annual skills analysis. Each Trustee undergoes an induction process and appropriate training is currently being developed and will be rolled out shortly.

Under the amended articles, the usual term of office for a Trustee shall be three years, at the end of which they shall retire. A Trustee shall be eligible for reappointment by the Trustees for up to a further two terms, each of three years.

No Trustee shall serve for more than nine consecutive years, unless the trustees consider it would be in the best interests of the Charity for a particular Trustee to continue to serve beyond that period and the Trustee is reappointed annually on the anniversary of their first appointment by resolution of the Trustees.

All existing trustees (referred to as transitional trustees) are to retire at the end of their current three-year term

taken from the date they were appointed, and if eligible, offer themselves for reappointment subject to the above.

The articles state that there is no maximum number of Trustees but there shall not be less than three appointed Trustees.

The Board meets every quarter during the Financial Year and attends additional extraordinary meetings when required.

Organisational Structure

Day-to-day decision-making and management of the charity are delegated to the full-time Chief Executive Officer, Claire Williams, who was appointed on 10 April 2023.

A Finance sub-committee, which meets quarterly, reviews the charity's finances. This sub-committee comprises Trustees with expertise in financial matters. Decisions with significant financial or strategic impact are made by the Trustees.

Statement of the Board of Trustees responsibilities

The Board of Trustees (whose members are also directors of Oasis for the purposes of company law) is responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law requires the Board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company and of the outgoing resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Board of Trustees is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Housing and 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 company will continue in business

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

As far as the Board of Trustees is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and the Board of Trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Our thanks

To all our loyal supporters, generous partners, fundraisers and donors for your commitment to our cause.

- Albert Gubay Foundation
- Another Ways Women's Foundation
- B&Q Foundation
- The Brook Trust
- Charles Haywood Foundation
- Colyer Fergusson Charitable Trust
- The Henry Smith Charity
- Kent Community Foundation
- Kent County Council
- Kent Police and Crime Commissioner
- The Lawson Trust
- Medway Council
- National Lottery Community Fund
- NHS Kent & Medway Clinical Commissioning Group
- The Nicky and Eileen Barber Charitable Trust
- Oxfordshire Council
- Safe Lives



 **Oasis**
Working to end violence and abuse.

Love shouldn't hurt