



Next Chapter Scotland SCIO Trustees' Annual Report

20th October 2023 to 31st October 2024

Charity contact information

Next Chapter Scotland SCIO

Scottish Charity Number: SC052899

Website: www.nextchapterscotland.org.uk

Telephone number: 07591 339 618

Email address: info@nextchapterscotland.org.uk

Objectives and activities

Next Chapter Scotland exists to help anyone in Scotland who has been involved with the criminal justice system to navigate the stigma and discrimination that they can face throughout their lives.

We established in 2022 and became a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) in 2023.

Our Vision

Our vision is of a society that no longer judges people based on their worst choices but, instead, sees them as they are today.

Our Mission

Our mission is to help people in Scotland who have been involved with the criminal justice system to navigate the stigma and discrimination they can face.

Our Values

Non-judgemental

We connect with people as they present to us on any given day.

We only ever ask about offence type if it is relevant to the support being provided.

We will never exclude an individual based on their offence type.

The irony of this value is that, of course, we all make judgements. What we work hard to do is make sure that every team member is supported to acknowledge their own internal judgements. We support them to work

through any challenges they might experience, therefore allowing them to meet people with openness and compassion.

Trauma informed

Our organisation is guided by the principles of:

- **Safety:** Prioritising emotional and physical safety of team members and service users.
- **Trustworthiness:** Building trust through transparency.
- **Choice:** Giving team members and service users a voice and choice.
- **Collaboration:** Working in partnership with organisations and individuals to support each other and reach shared goals.
- **Empowerment:** placing team members and service users at the centre of our decision-making processes.

Valuing lived experience

We place lived experience at the heart of everything that we do. Our involvement of people with lived experience of the criminal justice system is underpinned by the following principles:

- **Equality:** Every voice carries equal weight.
- **Diversity:** We take proactive steps to remove barriers and ensure we hear as broad a range of voices as possible.
- **Accessibility:** We take proactive steps to provide everyone with the support they require to be able to be heard.
- **Compensation:** We want to be able to demonstrate the value of people's time and contribution by fairly compensating them for their involvement. We are working with our funders to achieve this.

How will we get there?

Our priorities are to:

- **Share clear and accessible information** to help people who have been involved with the criminal justice system navigate any discrimination they may face.
- **Bring people together** to foster hope and amplify the voices of people who have been involved with the criminal justice system.
- Support people who have been involved with the criminal justice system to **challenge the discrimination** they face.

- Help to **breathe life into the ideas** that people who have been involved with the criminal justice system have on how best to improve 'the system'.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Constitution

Trustee recruitment and appointment

We are run by a Board of Trustees made up of at least 50% people with a criminal record or a close family member of someone with a criminal record. We made this commitment because we believe that people who have lived through the experience should be at the heart of any changes that will improve their lives and the lives of their peers.

Achievements and performance

Headlines for 2023-24

Share clear and accessible information to help people to navigate the stigma and discrimination they can face

Website:

- Our website launched in February 2024
- Since launch it has been visited by 8,000 people with almost 18,000 page views
- The website covers 70 topics across 9 categories

Helpline:

- Our helpline launched in June 2024 and has so far supported 52 people with 90 queries.
- 100% of respondents to our helpline survey told us that the information provided was helpful
- 89% reported it leaving them feeling more confident
- 100% felt more knowledgeable
- 78% reported they could now see a path forward
- 45% felt they could now stand up for themselves more effectively
- 78% knew who else they could turn to for support

Bring people together to foster hope and amplify voices

Peer-support Facebook group:

- Our peer-support Facebook group has 155 members
- Our Amplifying Voices project launched in September 2024. This project will allow us to develop a robust evidence base to demonstrate the breadth and extent to which people's lives are impacted by involvement with the criminal justice system.
- We have shared 25 blogs on our website, which help to foster hope and help people to feel less alone in their experience.

Support people to challenge discrimination

We have secured funding to allow us to develop a piece of training specifically to support people to defend their rights when those rights are being violated as a result of involvement with the criminal justice system. We began work on this project in September 2024 and it is our hope that it will be ready to launch in the spring / summer of 2025.

Help to breathe life into the ideas that people have of how to improve 'the system'

We know that people who have been through the criminal justice system have an endless stream of ideas on how to make the system better.

At present we are supporting work towards:

- the development of a newsletter / magazine in Scottish prisons
- an advocacy service specifically for people who are subject to punishment either in prison or in the community
- the development of employability services with a specific focus on becoming self-employed

We are very interested in speaking with any organisations who are also interested in these topics.

Operational development

Our founder had, until September 2024, been working for the charity in an entirely voluntary capacity. Having put in over 1,000 hours of unpaid work to get us to the point we're now at, we're pleased to now begin to compensate her in her role.

Our volunteer Trustees meet four times per year for Board meetings at which they provide oversight, accountability and strategic direction to the organisation. In addition, they contribute additional time as and when their own personal and professional experiences can support the work of the charity. Particular areas of contribution include, social work student supervision, safeguarding, research, marketing and legal expertise.

We are always keen to bring new Trustees on board, especially those who have themselves been involved with the criminal justice system.

Our staff team has expanded to include two part-time employees and three part-time contractors.

Upon becoming an employer, we made the decision to implement a flat pay structure for our team. This reflects the way in which we value the contribution of each team member equally for their time and efforts.

We have two volunteers who are about to begin training for our Listening Ear project. The project is being supported by our Safeguarding Officer and will help to combat the isolation that many people face. We hope to extend this project further following a short pilot period.

We are also pleased to have been working with social work students, partly because they do excellent work and increase our capacity significantly but mostly because influencing the next generation of social workers is a wonderful way to help ensure compassionate, non-judgemental social workers of the future.

Financial review

Funders

We are incredibly grateful to our funders for their financial support. The breakdown of the funds received can be viewed later in the Accounts.

Donors

We are also unendingly thankful to those individuals and organisations who have chosen to make donations to the charity. We are so grateful, not only for the financial support but also for their solidarity with our aims.

Reserves

At present our reserves policy covers our essential costs (including insurance, webhosting, bank fees and independent examination of accounts). This figure currently amounts for £1,100.

We currently have these reserves protected.

We will look to review this policy annually as the charity grows.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name



Designation

Chair

Date

16/11/2024

APPENDIX 3



Report to the trustees/members of
Registered charity number
On the accounts of the charity for the period
Set out on pages

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

v2

Charity name Next Chapter Scotland Scio						
Registered charity number SC052899						
Period start date				Period end date		
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
20	10	2023	to	31	10	2024
Set out on pages 10 - 15						(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Elisabeth Loose

Date:

16 November 2024

Name:

Dr Elisabeth Loose

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Former treasurer of a charity

Address:

2/1
38 Dudley drive
Glasgow, G12 9SA

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose

SC052899



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	20	10	2023		31	10	24

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds current period to nearest £	Total funds last period to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations	2,195				2,195	
Legacies	64	6,310			6,374	
Grants	6,500	57,026			63,526	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
Gift Aid	22				22	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Other (refunds etc)	50				50	
A1 Sub total	8,831	63,336	-	-	72,167	-
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	8,831	63,336	-	-	72,167	-
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	16				16	
Gross trading payments					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	3,484	13,465			16,949	
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Other					-	
A3 Sub total	3,500	13,465	-	-	16,965	-
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,500	13,465	-	-	16,965	-
Net receipts / (payments)	5,331	49,871	-	-	55,202	-
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
	1,852	(1,852)			-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	7,183	48,019	-	-	55,202	-

Section B Statement of balances

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total current period	Total last period
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash and bank balances at start of year	-				-	
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	7,183	48,019			55,202	
						-	
						-	
	Cash and bank balances at end of year (Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	7,183	48,019	-	-	55,202	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Investments				
		Total	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available)	Current value (if available)	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B3 Other assets					
		Total	-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B4 Liabilities	Independent Examination of Accounts	Unrestricted	100	
		Total	100	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate)	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B5 Contingent liabilities				
		Total	-	-

Signed by one or two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of
approval

16/11/2024

Section C Notes to the Accounts

C1 Nature and purpose of funds (may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)

Category	Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
Food	Chicken	10	1.50	15.00
	Beef	5	3.00	15.00
Beverage	Coke	20	0.50	10.00
	Water	10	1.00	10.00
Other	Apples	10	1.00	10.00
	Bananas	10	1.00	10.00

C2 Grants

[illegible]

C3a Trustee remuneration

<p>If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)</p>	<p>015 2</p>
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C3b Trustee remuneration - details

Authority under which paid	£
Chief Executive paid as per Clause 42A of the constitution	1,344

C4a Trustee expenses

<p>If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
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C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£
Travel and subsistence	1	80

C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)
Connected person: A Trustee is a paid Director with Significant Control.	Fixed term contract, secured through open tendering process.	2,000	

C6 Other information

Additional analysis (1)**Analysis of receipts and payments****1 Donations**

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-

2 Grants

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
			-	
			-	
			-	
Total	-	-	-	-

3 Gross receipts from other charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-

4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Wages - employees	1,596	3,538			5,134	
HMRC		243			243	
Pension		171			171	
Staff costs - contractors		350			350	
Lived Experience compensation	120				120	
Fundraising					-	
Travel and subsistence	146	103			249	
Room hire	110				110	
Advertising	441	628			1,069	
Telephone / Software	109	85			194	
Website	235	3,111			3,346	
Equipment	544	602			1,146	
Stationery		144			144	
Accessibility		3,272			3,272	
External event costs (venue hire, catering)		67			67	
Design / Print / Postage	9				9	
Internal transfer					-	
Training	39	100			139	
Payroll costs					-	
Professional fees					-	
Engagement partners / hosts					-	
Insurance		571			571	
Recruitment		480			480	
Bank fees	45				45	
Board costs					-	
Other	30				30	
Independent Examination					-	
Memberships	60				60	
					-	
Total	3,484	13,465	-	-	16,949	-

Additional analysis (2)

5 Breakdown of unrestricted funds

	Unrestricted	Stevenson Trust	Noel Buxton Trust	Robertson Trust Wee - Grants 1	Robertson Trust Wee Grants 2	Total unrestricted funds	Total unrestricted funds last period
Receipts							
Donations	2,195					2,195	
Legacies	64					64	
Grants		500	3,000	1,000	2,000	6,500	
Receipts from fundraising activities						-	
Gross trading receipts						-	
Gift Aid	22					22	
Rents from land & buildings						-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	50					50	
Sub total	2,331	500	3,000	1,000	2,000	8,831	-
Receipts from asset & investment sales							
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets						-	
Proceeds from sale of investments						-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,331	500	3,000	1,000	2,000	8,831	-
Payments							
Expenses for fundraising activities	17					17	
Gross trading payments						-	
Investment management costs						-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities		500	1,500	500	983	3,483	
Grants and donations						-	
Governance costs:						-	
Audit / independent examination						-	
Preparation of annual accounts						-	
Legal costs						-	
Sub total	17	500	1,500	500	983	3,500	-
Payments relating to asset and investment movements							
Purchases of fixed assets						-	
Purchase of investments						-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	17	500	1,500	500	983	3,500	-
Net receipts / (payments)	2,314	-	1,500	500	1,017	5,331	-
Transfers to / (from) funds	1,852					1,852	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	4,166	-	1,500	500	1,017	7,183	-
Nature and purpose of funds							
Unrestricted funds have primarily been used to launch the support helpline and raise awareness of the charity.							

Additional analysis (3)

6 Breakdown of restricted funds

	The National Lottery Community Fund - Awards for All	The National Lottery Community Fund - Improving Lives	COSLA - Illegal Money Lending Fund	The Hidden Charitable Fund	The Weavers' Company Benevolent Fund	The Volant Charitable Trust Small Grants Programme	Scottish Government - Anti-Racism Community Engagement Fund 2024	Total restricted funds	Total restricted funds last period
Receipts									
Donations								-	
Legacies	6,310							6,310	
Grants		35,776	1,250	6,000	5,000	4,000	5,000	57,026	
Receipts from fundraising activities								-	
Gross trading receipts								-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings								-	
Rents from land & buildings								-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities								-	
Sub total	6,310	35,776	1,250	6,000	5,000	4,000	5,000	63,336	-
Receipts from asset & investment sales									
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets								-	
Proceeds from sale of investments								-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,310	35,776	1,250	6,000	5,000	4,000	5,000	63,336	-
Payments									
Expenses for fundraising activities								-	
Gross trading payments								-	
Investment management costs								-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	6,310	5,814	850	421		70		13,465	
Grants and donations								-	
Governance costs:								-	
Audit / independent examination								-	
Preparation of annual accounts								-	
Legal costs								-	
Sub total	6,310	5,814	850	421	-	70	-	13,465	-
Payments relating to asset and investment movements									
Purchases of fixed assets								-	
Purchase of investments								-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,310	5,814	850	421	-	70	-	13,465	-
Net receipts / (payments)	-	29,962	400	5,579	5,000	3,930	5,000	49,871	-
Transfers to / (from) funds			(400)	(852)		600		(1,552)	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	-	29,962	-	4,727	5,000	3,330	5,000	48,019	-
Nature and purpose of funds									
Legacy funding - The National Lottery Community Fund - Awards for All: Support the development and launch of the website and cover some essential organisational costs.									
The National Lottery Community Fund - Improving Lives: Support the delivery of a 12 month pilot of our Amplifying Voices project.									
COSLA - Illegal Money Lending Fund: Enabled the development of documents raising awareness of the risks of illegal money lenders.									
The Hidden Charitable Fund: Support the delivery of our support helpline.									
The Weavers' Company Benevolent Fund: Support the delivery of our sexual offences support helpline.									
The Volant Charitable Trust Small Grants Programme: Support the delivery of our women's support helpline.									
Scottish Government - Anti-Racism Community Engagement Fund 2024: Support engagement activities with people who have experienced racism.									