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Charity Commission Annual Return and Accounts 2017

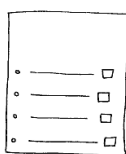
April 2016 - March 2017

Giving a voice and support

Registered charity number: 1108304



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Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Name of charity: Speakeasy Advocacy

Registered charity number: 1108304

Address: 17 New Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 7PR

Trustees:

Name	Position
Rob Hannah	Chairman
Carole Over	Vice chairman
Derek Easton	Treasurer
Matthew Ansell	Secretary
Colin Watts	Volunteer representative
Marie Le Warne	Firefoxes representative
Alex Azimi	Happy Club & Friday Network representative

Staff team:

Chief Executive = Amanda Kent

Office manager = Ruth Jewell

Senior Advocate = Lynda Awan

Advocate = Nick Jeffery

Advocate = Sue Warner (joined October 2016)

Advocate = Rachel Barlow

Advocate = Nicola Bishop

Advocate = Nikki Mulligan (left March 2017)

Bank: Unity Trust Bank, Nine Brindley Place, Birmingham, B1 2HB

Virgin Money, Jubilee House, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4PL

Independent examiner: David Hargrave



Structure, governance and management

We are governed by a Constitution (based on the charity commission model), and are an unincorporated association.

We must have at least 3 trustees who are either users of the service or advocates - at least 1 of each.

We developed a Trustee Policy in October 2013 that stated we have to have a trustee representative of Happy Club, Firefoxes (previously known as Virtual Friends) and the Friday Network.

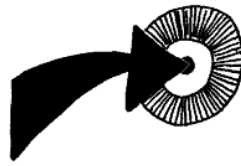
Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting. All trustees receive training to do their role; trustees who are also users of the service have support from an advocate.

Trustees always make decisions about:

- What our priorities are
- Whether we do new work
- If we should employ a new member of staff

The operations group (chairman, vice chairman, treasurer and chief executive) have responsibility for the day to day running of Speakeasy Advocacy. This includes putting in place systems and procedures to manage the risks that the charity is exposed to.

Speakeasy Advocacy is a member of Hampshire Advocacy Regional Group (HARG) and the National Coalition of Citizen Advocacy Schemes.



Objectives and Activities

The objects in our constitution are:

"To protect and preserve the good health of children, young people and adults with autistic spectrum disorders and/or learning disabilities".

As an advocacy organisation our aim is to:

- Make sure people are listened to
- Empower people to take control of their lives, making their own decisions and choices so that they become as independent as possible
- Support people to become part of their local communities and prevent social exclusion

Where we work:

We cover the following areas in Hampshire:

- Basingstoke
- Andover & Test Valley
- Winchester
- Hart & Rushmoor

Summary of our activities this year:

This year we have worked with **853** people. See the next page to see the breakdown of people worked with.



Contract	People worked with
<p>HCC Hampshire Advocacy contract: Community 1:1 advocacy for adults of all care groups (excluding mental health)</p> <p>4 self advocacy groups for adults with a learning disability or autism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farnborough Self Advocacy Group • Happy Club • Coffee Morning • Speaking Out (supported by Winchester GoLD from May 2016) <p>Support people with a learning disability to act as Hampshire Learning Disability Partnership Board Representatives</p>	<p>370</p> <p>12</p> <p>27</p> <p>10</p> <p>13</p> <p>3</p>
<p>HCC Hampshire Advocacy contract: Care Act Advocacy for all care groups (excluding mental health)</p>	<p>250</p>
<p>HCC Hampshire Advocacy contract: Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) Advocacy all care groups (excluding mental health)</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>HCC Hampshire Advocacy contract: Children's Advocacy for Looked After and Disabled children. *58 were allocated to Choices Advocacy</p>	<p>100*</p>



HCC funding for individuals to attend: Wednesday Network service	8
HCC funding for individuals to attend: Friday Network service	44

Speakeasy is also involved in the following:

- Recruitment of volunteers
- Local and national networking
 - ✓ Basingstoke Disability Forum
 - ✓ Basingstoke Voluntary Sector Forum
 - ✓ Local Implementation Groups for Basingstoke and Hart & Rushmoor, and Andover and Test Valley
 - ✓ Hampshire Learning Disability Partnership Board
 - ✓ Hampshire Autism Partnership Board
 - ✓ Hampshire Advocacy Regional Group (HARG)
 - ✓ Working Together with Parents Network (part of the Norah Fry Research Centre at the University of Bristol)
 - ✓ National Coalition of Citizen Advocacy Schemes
 - ✓ Attend the National Advocacy Conference
- Providing HARG with admin and finance support, as well as acting as Hampshire Advocacy contract lead

For more detailed information on what we have done this year please see our website www.speakeasyadvocacy.org.uk.



Financial Report

Accounts - Year ended 31st March 2017 **Financial Report by Treasurer Derek Easton**

This year we finished our activities for the year with a surplus of £29,188. This was a better result than predicted. This surplus mostly arose due to savings from staff vacancies and some additional earned income. We will be carrying forward a sum of £223,092 to 2018. We now have sufficient funds to cover our ongoing liabilities and any unforeseen expenditure in the coming year.

The Local Authority is currently providing funding for Advocacy services in Hampshire to Hampshire Advocacy Regional Group (HARG) and we in turn are allocated funds by them according to the range and scope of the services we are responsible for providing. There are pressures on the overall budget due to changes in legislation, resulting in additional funding being made available for 17-18. We have been advised by the Local Authority that they will reduce the amount of funding for the year beginning April 2018.

Despite this funding cut Speakeasy have committed to the principal of maintaining existing levels and quality of service for 2018 using our financial reserves if necessary. We are confident that this course of action will in no way compromise our financial position for the future.



Accounts - Period ended 31st March 2017

Statement of Financial Activities

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
Grant Income	186,581	63,075	249,656	170,142
Other Income	5,592	2,968	8,560	35,194
Total Income	192,173	66,043	258,216	205,336
Salaries & NIC	149,669	19,475	169,144	152,292
Premises Costs	15,383	9,149	24,532	22,002
Other Expenditure	27,121	8,231	35,352	31,325
Total Expenditure	192,173	36,855	229,028	205,619
Balance of Funds for Year	0	29,188	29,188	-283
Balance of Funds Bfwd	0	193,904	193,904	194,187
Balance of Funds C/Fwd	0	223,092	223,092	193,904



Balance Sheet

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Office Equipment	1,355		2,513	
Furniture & Fittings	1,225		1,427	
Equipment for Groups				
		2,580		3,940
Current Assets				
Debtors	37,971		40,871	
Petty Cash	95		115	
Bank Deposit Account	114,710		114,029	
Bank Current Account	76,691		45,284	
No 3 Account	0		2,295	
		229,467		202,594
Current Liabilities				
Creditors - Short Term	5,945		10,016	
Taxation	3,010		2,614	
		8,955		12,630
Current Assets Less Liabilities		220,512		189,964
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		223,092		193,904



Balance of Funds	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total		
B/Forward	0	193,904	193,904	194,187	
This Year	0	29,188	29,188	-283	
C/Forward	0	223,092	223,092		193,904

The accounts were independently examined on 2 August 2017 by David Hargrave, a fellow of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants.



What we will do next year

Continue to deliver the new Advocacy contract with the HARG consortium (Choices Advocacy, Havant & East Hants Mind, Solent Mind, Winchester Gold are the other advocacy organisations)

Continue to work towards the Quality Performance Mark.

Continue with our application to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



The accounts were approved by the trustees on 1st
November 2017

Pictures by CHANGE Picture Bank