



SPIRIT Advocacy

Strengthening People In Raising Issues Together

Incorporating HUG Action for Mental Health (HUG), People First Highland (PFH) and SPEAK (Stigma Prevention through Education, Advocacy and Knowledge)

SPIRIT Advocacy AGM - 27th October 2020

Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31 March 2020

The accounts for the year ending 31 March 2020 show that SPIRIT Advocacy has managed its finances responsibly, with the measures taken over the last few years having successfully reduced costs and enabled the organisation to operate, despite considerably reduced funding compared to five years ago.

Expenditure has consistently been kept below the budget level and as a result SPIRIT has been able to carry forward funds to the next financial year which will help the organisation to carry out its obligations.

The main source of income is funding from NHS Highland which has been capped at the same level for some years with no increase for inflation. SPIRIT also receives other income for particular projects, including funding from the Robertson Trust towards the SPEAK project for young people.

Despite successfully keeping within budget, SPIRIT does not have the resources currently to improve our collective advocacy to the point that it is as effective and possible and active efforts are being made to find additional sources of funding.

The Covid19 restrictions came in just before the end of the financial year so that the full impact of them will be reflected in the accounts for the financial year 2020/21.

In relation to income, the accounts show SPIRIT to be in a healthy position; this is a tribute to staff working very hard over and above the limited hours the current contract allows. Now that a three-year contract is in place with NHS Highland SPIRIT has an opportunity to apply for additional funding to improve the service.

William Cook
Treasurer
October 2020

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