

Saving Lives, Changing Systems, Bringing Hope
Annual Report and Financial Statements
31 March 2026

solacewomensaid.org

Solace Women's Aid is a charity registered in England & Wales.
Charity Number 1082450. Company Number 03376716.

@SolaceWomensAid

solace

“Solace helped me get through the most difficult period of my life.”

Survivor



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A message from our Chair and CEO

Over the past year, the news agenda has felt significant. We've seen political unrest at home and abroad, abuse allegations among the rich and famous and an increasing amount of space given to misogyny in the public eye.

The weaponisation of violence against women and girls (VAWG) by groups with anti-migration agendas has not only spread misinformation but also created even greater risk to one of the most vulnerable groups of survivors we support. Time and again, we see migrant women left without access to safety or support. To combat this dangerous rhetoric, Solace teamed up with sister organisations as part of the Not in Our Name Campaign, raising awareness of the impact of these harmful narratives and publishing a guide to help people talk about the weaponisation of VAWG.

The continued influence of the so-called manosphere is another societal development making women less safe. As much as certain high-profile figures in this area may be criticised by some, they are equally exalted by others. We also contend with the constant roar of online sexism spouted by people empowered by such rhetoric. This spiral breeds more misogyny, leading to more boys and men considering women's lives, on a fundamental level, to be worth less. The government's pledge in its VAWG strategy, released in December, to support more preventative work via education is welcome, and we will continue our programmes about healthy relationships in schools with boys and girls. To support the education of young people in this area, our International Women's Day campaign focused on supporting young women and girls to recognise harassment and abuse, empowering them to clap back, report and stand up for their friends.

The steady flow of revelations emerging from the Epstein files reminded us that just as there is no 'perfect victim' of abuse, there is no 'type' more or less likely to perpetrate abuse. At Solace, we use these headlines to remind survivors that we are here to support them, encouraging them to reach out, whether they are experiencing abuse or feeling triggered by the news agenda.

In a similar vein, the fifth anniversary of Sarah Everard's abduction and murder highlighted the fact that decision makers have failed to prioritise VAWG. Based on headlines and Solace's work with survivors, little has changed since Sarah's death, despite high levels of publicity around the case. The Met Police have not sufficiently reformed. The average number of women killed by men in England and Wales — one every three days — remains the same. At Solace, we continue to speak to women, every day, living in fear.

While everything above paints a bleak picture indeed, at Solace, we're not in the business of giving up. Even in the most challenging times we continue to keep survivors at the heart of our work and innovate to ensure we're providing the most effective support possible. We have launched initiatives within our children and young people's work not only to see children as victims in their own right, but also ensure their support is designed for their specific needs, not just grouped with those of their mother. Our training programme has added new courses in response to developing needs and knowledge gaps, while our tireless approach to equity, diversity and inclusion grows both internally and externally.

Every day that we bear witness to gender-based violence and abuse, we also see our staff, volunteers, supporters and so many others standing up for survivors. We see women supporting women, which continues to be both inspiring and compelling.



Nahar Choudhury
CEO



Abigail Ampofo
Chair of Trustees



A message from our Shadow Board Chair

Over the past year, the Shadow Board has continued to grow not only in visibility but in purpose, influence and impact. As Chair, I am incredibly proud of the work we have achieved together and of the ways survivor voices have continued to shape conversations, challenge systems and influence meaningful change.

The Shadow Board represents far more than consultation. It reflects Solace's commitment to ensuring that lived experience remains central to organisational learning, accountability and leadership. Survivor-led spaces are essential in creating services and responses that are not only informed, but truly shaped, by those with direct experience of abuse and violence.

This year has also been one of reflection, learning and growth for the Shadow Board itself. As we continue to strengthen our role within Solace, we remain committed to creating spaces where survivors are not only heard but recognised as experts in their own experiences and other areas of expertise, and as vital contributors to change.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to those across Solace who have supported the Shadow Board throughout the year. From Nahar, our CEO, to the Trustees, senior leadership team, expert advisers, ambassadors and staff members. Your support, openness and willingness to engage meaningfully with our work have been invaluable. The collaborative spirit within Solace remains one of its greatest strengths.

Every day, Solace continues to provide safety, advocacy, empowerment and hope to survivors facing abuse and violencet at time when violence against women and girls (VAWG) remains so widespread, this work has never been more important.

As Chair of the Shadow Board, I remain deeply committed to strengthening the role of lived experience within Solace and beyond. Together, we will continue working towards a future where survivors are not only listened to, but actively involved in shaping the systems, policies and responses that affect their lives.

I am deeply proud to stand alongside such passionate and dedicated individuals and I look forward to continuing this work in the year ahead.





Alexia Cheneau
Chair of the Shadow Board



Our year at a glance

Our work touched the lives of **25,679** people



(2024/25: 24,394)

19,949 adults and children supported in our frontline service



(2024/25: 17,264)



We worked with **5,730** people in our prevention services

(2024/25: 7,130)



861 women and children across our 19 refuges and 71 move-on spaces

(2024/25: 817)



We raised an income of **£16.6 million** to run our vital services

(2024/25: £15.8m)

Our **314** staff members work tirelessly to help survivors

(2024/25: 306)





We trained 5,141 people to recognise and respond to abuse

(2024/25: 4,453)



We worked in partnership with 45 organisations to end abuse

(2024/25: 42)

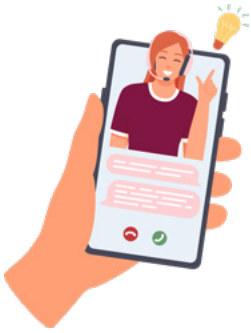


Volunteers helped to support survivors through 5,413 hours of their time

(2024/25: 7,280)

96% stated there was a continued need for Solace services

(2024/25: 93%)*



93% rated the service as excellent or good

(2024/25: 89%)*





91% of respondents found it easy or very easy to make initial contact with Solace's services

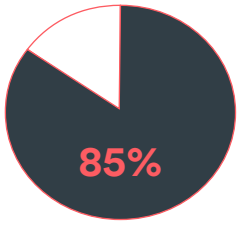
(2024/25: 87%)*

*Data from Solace's service user satisfaction survey 2025/26

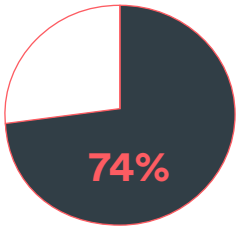
Who we support and their experiences



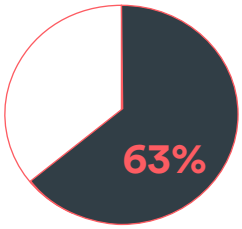
Survivors' experiences of abuse



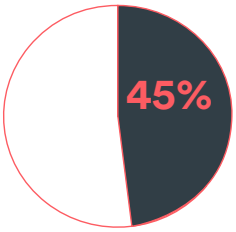
of survivors we support experienced emotional abuse



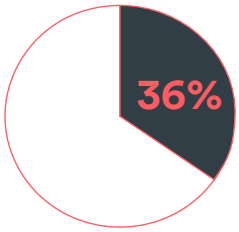
of survivors we support experienced coercive or controlling behaviour



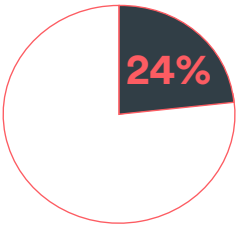
of survivors we support experienced physical abuse



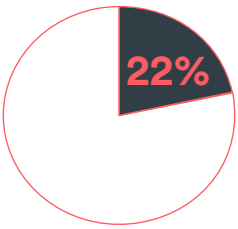
of survivors we support experienced economic abuse



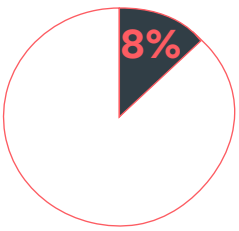
of survivors we support experienced harassment and stalking



of survivors we support experienced sexual abuse



of survivors we support experienced tech-facilitated abuse



of survivors we support experienced so-called 'honour' based abuse

Other key stats

2,948 of survivors we supported have children

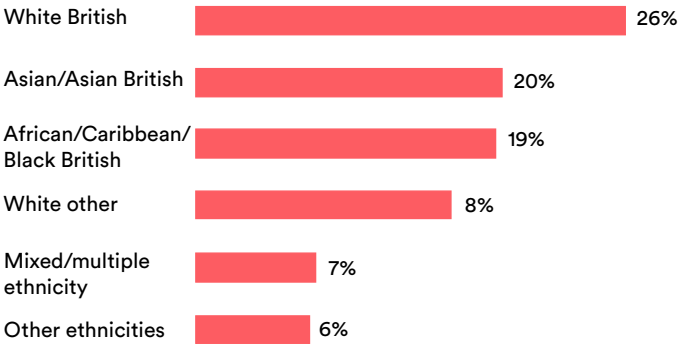
2,258 survivors we supported had mental health support needs

35% of survivors we supported have a disability

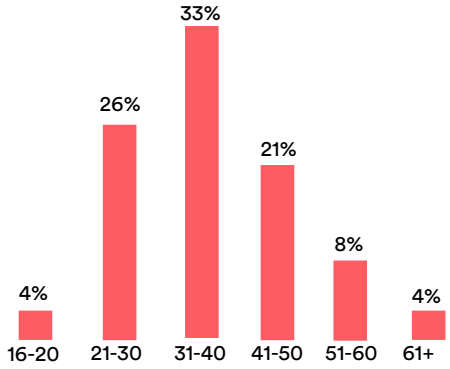
561 women supported with insecure status 367 with no recourse to public funds

179 male survivors were supported through our services

Adults supported in our services

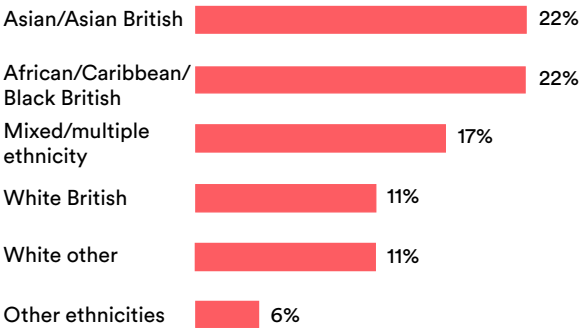


Ethnicity of adults

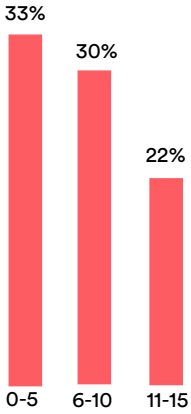


Ages of adults

Children supported in our services



Ethnicity of children



Ages of children



Strategic report

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026. The reference and administrative information set out on page 35 forms part of this report. The trustees review the aims, objectives, and activities of Solace each year. This report looks at what Solace has achieved and the outcomes and benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people Solace is established to assist during the reporting period. The review also helps ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

Vision, mission and strategy



Our key objective

The promotion of the physical, emotional, and psychological wellbeing and safety of victims of domestic, sexual, and associated abuse, in particular women, young people and children.



Our vision

A world where everyone is able to live safe and independent lives which are free from gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation.



Our mission

Solace exists to end the harm done through gender-based violence. Our aim is to work to prevent violence and abuse as well as providing services to meet the individual needs of survivors, particularly women and children. Our work is holistic and empowering, working alongside survivors to achieve independent lives free from abuse.



Our values

- Feminist and intersectional in our understanding of male violence against women and girls
- Survivor-led, trauma-informed and empowering
- Diverse, anti-racist and anti-discriminatory to create a fully inclusive environment for staff and service users



> **Solace has done so much that I cannot put pen to paper. Your service is an excellent support for survivors like me to live a normal life.**
>
> Survivor

We are committed to:

Social justice and human rights

Service users having a central voice within the organisation

Working in collaboration with other agencies

Continuous improvement

Our strategic priorities 2022-27

Following the launch of Solace's 2022-27 strategy, we have continued to work towards our six strategic objectives to drive forward our ambitions of supporting more survivors on their journeys to recovery and beyond. Our six strategic objectives are:

1. Long-term recovery and lasting change
2. Strategic influencing, partnerships and leadership
3. Organisational development and growth
4. Aspirations, education and employment
5. Children and young people
6. Empowerment, engagement and accessibility

> "You helped me morally, socially, emotionally, financially. I came back to life after contacting you. I was so low and felt suicidal, but you gave me hope, and strength to live.
>
> Survivor

> "I don't have enough words to thank you. I no longer feel alone. The support from Solace has been so much more than enough.
>
> Survivor



What we achieved this year:
Long-term recovery and lasting change

Recovery from abuse is not a single, linear path and everyone's journey is different. Working alongside thousands of survivors for more than half a century, we have seen how meeting survivors where they are and responding to the full range and complexity of their needs can be truly life-changing. Our specialist services and frontline teams support survivors every step of the way, from crisis through to recovery.

82%

of survivors in our accommodation said they felt safer following our support

(2024/25: 74%)

Every woman has the right to safe accommodation

Our refuges and accommodation services not only provide survivors with safe places to live, but also specialist, psychologically informed support that helps women and children meet their practical and emotional needs. With this support in place, survivors move from simply surviving, to thriving. In 2025/2026, with funding from seven London boroughs, the GLA and Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), we supported 861 women and children across our 19 refuges and 71 move-on spaces across London (2024/25: 817).

79%

of survivors in our advice and advocacy services said that Solace helped them to understand processes and access further support

(2024/25: 81%)

Helping survivors find safety through advice and advocacy

Our dedicated London advice line offers a vital first-point-of-contact for survivors in crisis, operating across 16 London boroughs. In 2025/26, the line handled 8,970 calls from survivors and professionals across London, providing free and confidential support on domestic and sexual abuse (2024/25: 7,690). Advocates staffing the line are trained specialists, funded by London Councils and MOPAC.

Our community advocacy teams work alongside survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence in their local communities, with a particular focus on those assessed as high risk and referred through local multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARACs). In total, we worked with 19,949 survivors (2024/25: 17,264). We expanded our community Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) services to eight boroughs, and now provide services in the London Borough of Redbridge.



> **"Thank you Solace for giving me my life back. I was in a very bad place and having a safe place to live and incredibly supportive staff has been wonderful. I built up my confidence and independence and self-esteem again. My mental health significantly improved.**
>
> Survivor in a Solace refuge

Healing from trauma through specialist therapeutic support

Our counselling and group work is person-centred, strengths-based and psychologically informed, supporting survivors of domestic abuse and wider VAWG to move beyond survival and into the rest of their lives. We deliver these services within communities in Islington and Waltham Forest, and through the pan-London Ascent Advice and Counselling service, through which we cover East, North East and South East London. This year, this service supported 366 adults and 176 children.

73%

of survivors told us our support improved their understanding of their rights

(2024/25: 77%)

With MOPAC funding, we have also continued to provide counselling to women and children living in our refuges. Over the past year we helped 266 survivors to heal and rebuild their lives (2024/25: 132).

> **I am so astonished by how far I have come in a relatively short space of time. My Solace counsellor always provided me with an empathetic, compassionate ear and invaluable insight. I will look back on this time as a crucial turning point and am so appreciative to have had the opportunity to get the support I received**
>
> Survivor

Creating pathways to healing after sexual violence

Survivors of sexual violence can access Solace's free, anonymous and specialist support through our North London Rape Crisis Service helpline, which is open every weekday and available to women and girls aged 13 and over. Our team of ten Independent Sexual Violence Advocates (ISVAs) are specifically trained to support the needs of people who have experienced sexual violence.

This year we answered 1,919 helpline calls (2024/25: 1,228), provided advocacy support to 387 women who had experienced sexual violence (2024/25: 351), and delivered life-changing therapeutic support — through one-to-one counselling and group work — to 266 women (2024/25: 401). In October 2025, this service became part of a new alliance model to deliver the Mayor's Pan-London Sexual Violence Support Service (see new partnerships on page 15.)

> **I feel more confident about what can I do to keep myself safe, I know my options and feel more in control of my life. Now I am living with my two children in total peace; that makes me feel great. Without the understanding and support of Solace and my counsellor I couldn't have achieved this. I still have a lot to work on regarding the impact that these years of abuse had on me, but I am finally reconnecting with my friends and my extended family, and I feel that I can achieve whatever I dream of.**
>
> Survivor



What we achieved this year:
Strategic influencing, partnerships and leadership

At Solace, we know that lasting change for survivors requires collective action. That's why partnership sits at the heart of everything we do. This year we have extended our reach to women and girls across the capital and our influence with local and national decision makers. This has been done through more collaboration with sister organisations and statutory services, alongside being part of pan-London alliances that reach survivors across all 32 boroughs.

Women's rough sleeping census 2025

This year we continued our work with Single Homeless Project to deliver our revolutionary Women's Rough Sleeping Census. The project's profile is growing, with the 2024 report referenced in the government's National Plan to End Homelessness and the Mayor of London's Rough Sleeping Plan of Action. Both used the Census to evidence the barriers women face and the impact of violence and abuse. A record-breaking 101 local authorities (2024/25: 88) took part in the 2025 Census to hear the stories of 1,406 women (2024/25: 1,104). The research revealed that nearly two thirds (65%) of women surveyed said they had slept in places excluded from official homelessness counts, including buses, A&E waiting rooms and public transport, or had stayed awake through the night to avoid violence, exploitation and sexual assault.

The report also found that across six local authorities, official government snapshot counts recorded zero women sleeping rough, while the Census identified 162 women sleeping rough in those same areas. Read the full 2025 report here.

65%

Nearly two thirds of women surveyed had slept in places not counted as homelessness, including buses, A&E waiting rooms and public transport



I was a rough sleeper in a busy central London area. I say 'rough sleeper', but in my case, I was barely getting any sleep. As a woman, I was often afraid to sleep, so I wouldn't sleep at all, especially at night. When I was homeless, I was harassed, assaulted and preyed on.

Women's Rough Sleeping Census participant 2025

Barriers to safe housing report

This year saw the launch of our report, 'Where Will I Go?', outlining the barriers to safe housing survivors face. Including the voices of twenty survivors, the report was the topic of a roundtable in Parliament. Our research revealed that survivors are frequently offered unsafe, poor-quality or inappropriate temporary accommodation; half said they felt unsafe, and 30% were placed in properties with no heating or electricity. 85% of survivors with children reported a negative impact on their child, including worsening mental health, disrupted schooling and behavioural changes.

The report highlights the urgent need for regular, trauma-informed training for housing professionals. Other recommendations included guaranteed physical presence in housing departments during normal business hours to ensure survivors can apply for housing in person, by phone and digitally, and for 5% of all new social housing to be ringfenced for survivors of domestic abuse. Read the full report here.

> **The only thought in my mind was keeping me and my daughter safe. I had no idea where to go.**
>
> Survivor participating in housing research

Working together for London's survivors of sexual violence and abuse

Since October 2025, the four Rape Crisis Centres run by Solace, nia, Rape Crisis South London, and the Women and Girls Network, have formed a new partnership with Respond, Galop and Survivors UK to deliver the Mayor's Pan-London Sexual Violence Support Service.

Using our 225 years of collective experience, and in consultation with survivors, we are creating a more consistent, accessible, and needs-led sexual violence service offer across all 32 London boroughs and the City of London.

Our shared vision is for survivors to have more choice, connection, and voice in their unique recovery journey. The Alliance will offer tailored and empowering interventions suitable for all stages of healing, from initial support and safeguarding, advocacy, therapy, peer support, holistic interventions and spaces for growth and activism.

The new service model officially launched in April 2026 and we are grateful to the MOPAC for guaranteeing existing funding levels for the next five years.
Read more about the alliance here.

Our partnerships

We are pleased to continue to lead the Ascent Advice Plus Partnership and Casa Project, and to be a member of the London VAWG Consortium. Partnerships run across all parts of our services and are integral to the support we provide to survivors. We continue to work alongside our sister organisations in the Ascent Advice and Counselling partnership, Ascent Specialist Refuge Project, Ascent Floating Support Service, Housing First VAWG Westminster Service, Angelou Project and CouRAGEous Project to ensure that women and girls across London can access the specialist services they need.

45

the number of partners we worked with to support survivors of violence against women and girls

(2024/25: 42)

Reaching more survivors through partnerships

From January 2026, Solace became part of Safe Horizons, a group of 13 organisations working in partnership to provide pan-London domestic abuse services. We continuously seek out innovative ways to reach and support as many survivors as possible.

We also joined the Conditional Caution Pilot, an early intervention programme in London for first-time, low-risk domestic abuse offenders. Backed by the MOPAC and the Metropolitan Police, the service uses out-of-court resolutions rather than sending perpetrators straight to court. The goal of the pilot is to stop repeat offending by making offenders understand the impact of their actions on partners and children with Solace providing support to survivors.

What we achieved this year:
Organisational development – internal

Solace staff remain at the core of what we do and allow us to provide expert care and support for survivors. Our priorities of equity, inclusion, mental health and wellbeing apply internally as well as in our external work with survivors. Every day, we are listening and learning what best supports Solace colleagues to succeed.

Supporting staff wellbeing and resilience

While working at Solace is incredibly rewarding, that work can be intense and wellbeing support is an essential part of our offer to our staff. Our staff volunteer Mental Health Champions play a vital role in creating a workplace culture where colleagues feel comfortable discussing their mental health and know that support is there when they need it.

Complementing clinical supervision sessions and daily debriefs facilitated by trained British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) supervisors, our Champions help maintain and promote our mental health resources hub and produce a regular staff newsletter. Staff can access regularly refreshed mental health and wellbeing guidance on areas such as resilience, intergenerational trauma and the impact of endometriosis on mental health. This sits alongside our free and confidential counselling sessions, daily debriefs, yoga classes and more. Full-time staff continue to take two wellbeing days each year and can swap some bank holidays for other faith-based celebrations.

We are pleased that this year five volunteer counsellors provided free support to 26 members of staff. Similar to the on-demand debrief and supervision sessions available to people of colour working at Solace, plans are underway to extend the same offer to trans staff from a specialist supervisor.

26

members of staff received free support from 5 volunteer counsellors



Solace together 2

Two years ago, our Solace Together sessions focused on staff views about our culture, intersectional feminist practice and ways in which we can become a truly anti-racist organisation. Since then, our CEO and other senior leaders planned and implemented internal programmes in response.

Over the past year, senior leaders created content for another round of Solace Together training, based on staff feedback. This round of training is focusing on survivors: the barriers, stakeholders, relationships and numerous services they encounter on their journeys to safety. By considering services from a survivor's point of view – the multitude of stakeholders they encounter, the barriers they may face – Solace colleagues are able to see the range of support each and every one of us provides to achieve our shared mission.

Together, we develop as individuals and as an organisation to help ensure we support survivors as effectively as we can.

Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI)

We continue to strengthen and grow our inclusive practice and ways of working for survivors and staff. This continuing development would not be possible without the work of our EDI and Culture Steering Group (ECSG), a strategic organisational body that co-designs and refines our two flagship development programmes: a Mentorship Programme and a Leadership Programme, Inspiring Sisters, which is dedicated to supporting and advancing colleagues from the global majority. We're proud to have run our leadership programme for women from the global majority and to have had six staff who are people of colour and/or have diverse abilities undertake our mentoring programme.

6

women from global majority or with diverse abilities undertook our mentoring programme.

Our mandatory Courageous Conversations training gives staff the skills and confidence to recognise and appropriately challenge microaggressions and exclusionary behaviour. Focused on 'calling in' rather than 'calling out', the training supports colleagues to support each other to create an inclusive working environment in which everybody can thrive.

Externally, Solace marks landmark diary events such as Black History Month, Pride and more. By exploring the ways in which intersectionality impacts women experiencing abuse, or the ways in which they experience abuse, Solace helps ensure that all survivors see the support they can receive from Solace.



What we achieved this year:
Organisational development – growth

As demand for our services continues to grow, we remain focused on expanding our reach and strengthening the support available to survivors across London. During 2025/26, we were proud to secure new opportunities to extend our impact, including taking on the Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) Service in Redbridge. We also continued to develop innovative approaches to supporting survivors through our Primary Care IDVA roles in Tower Hamlets and Islington, working alongside GPs and primary care teams to identify and support women experiencing abuse earlier.

In 2025/26, we raised £16.6m income (2024/25: £15.8m). So much of our work would not be possible without the generosity of individual supporters, community fundraisers, and corporate partners. Every day, we are inspired by the ingenuity and passion people bring to fundraising, contributing to helping survivors find safety and rebuild their lives after abuse.

£16.6m
raised in 2025/26, helping survivors across London find safety and rebuild their lives after abuse

New enhanced mental health pathfinders alliance

This past year Solace – in partnership with Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust, Respond, The Survivors Trust, Ashiana Network and the Sexual Violence Alliance – won the contract for the Pan-London Enhanced Mental Health Pathfinder (EMHP), commissioned by NHS England.

Beginning work in April 2026, the Alliance aims to improve access to support for survivors of sexual violence with complex trauma-related mental health needs. Over the next five years the EMHP will aim to reduce fragmentation, strengthen collaboration between statutory and voluntary sector providers, and create a more joined-up pathway of care. These goals will be accomplished via shared referral pathways, assessment, improved data sharing and training, leading to connected, trauma-informed services across London.

Jazz against violence

We were once again delighted to be supported by the incredible ECubed team through their annual Jazz Against Violence event. After match funds, the 2025 event raised £26,000, bringing together supporters, musicians and partners and most importantly providing vital funds to help women and children rebuild their lives after abuse.

£26k
raised through the 2025 Jazz Against Violence event, helping women and children rebuild their lives after abuse



‘Give the Gift of Safety’ campaign

Our Christmas campaign, *Give the Gift of Safety*, raised vital awareness by shedding light on the reality that the festive season is not a time of joy for everyone. By sharing the powerful, lived experiences of survivors supported by Solace, the campaign resonated deeply with our community, raising over £56,000 to fund our life-saving services. As part of the campaign, we were delighted to work with production company Really Bright Media, to create a video highlighting survivor experience and the ways Solace can help.

£53,385

of donated gifts from our generous corporate and community partners

(2024/25: £50,072)



Businesses standing with survivors

Our corporate partners continue to play an important role in helping us support survivors. Through financial support, volunteering, pro bono and in-kind work, they help us reach survivors, raise funds and promote our campaigns.

We are grateful to Hearst Network for their financial and pro bono support, fundraising and use of their office space, and for providing care packs for the 2025 Women’s Rough Sleeping Census.

We also thank Goldman Sachs for their long-standing partnership, including sponsoring our Children Thrive summer parties for the sixth consecutive year, alongside volunteer and pro bono support.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Salesforce for sponsoring our Christmas Gift Drive for a second consecutive year. The Salesforce team came together to generously donate more than 500 gifts for the women and children supported by our services and dedicated a day to wrapping them to help bring some festive joy to our service users during the Christmas season. Salesforce’s generosity helped make the festive season brighter for hundreds of survivors and their families in our refuges and community services, and we are deeply grateful for their continued partnership and commitment.



What we achieved this year:
Aspirations, education and employment

Every survivor deserves the opportunity to rebuild their life, pursue their ambitions and shape a future free from abuse. Through our support, training and volunteering programmes, we help survivors develop the confidence, skills and opportunities they need to achieve their goals in education, employment and beyond.

By sharing our expertise and equipping professionals, volunteers and partner organisations with the knowledge to respond effectively, we strengthen support for survivors far beyond our own services.

Strengthening responses to VAWG through training

Our training programmes raise awareness and provide a diversity of stakeholders with the essential skills they need to understand, recognise and address domestic abuse in their workplace. All of our training is grounded in more than 50 years of frontline experience and include direct feedback and consultation with survivors. This year, we've been pleased to develop specialised training for housing teams, teams who work with survivors with dementia, and universities and schools.

Supporting survivors' economic independence

Supporting survivors to build independent, secure futures is a key part of our work. This year, we are proud that five survivors took the next step towards employment by joining the Luminary Employability Programme. Through our Catalyst Grant Fund, we also provided practical grants to help survivors overcome barriers to education and employment, including funding for laptops and training courses, giving them the tools and opportunities to develop new skills, access work, and build long-term financial independence.

5,141

people received expert training on violence against women and girls

(2024/25: 4,453)



> **As a volunteer, I felt massively supported in every single way.**
>
> Solace volunteer

Improving digital access through our lending library

Digital access is increasingly essential to rebuilding independence, accessing services and staying connected. This year, we secured funding to launch our Digital Lending Library, providing refurbished laptops to survivors across our refuge and community services. The scheme has already equipped 16 refuge sites, with further expansion planned, and includes dedicated devices for our Irish Traveller and Silver projects to help reduce digital exclusion. Alongside access to technology, we delivered digital safety training to support survivors in using devices confidently and securely, helping them develop the skills they need to access education, employment and vital online services.

Volunteers strengthening support for survivors

Volunteers continue to play a vital role in extending the support we provide to survivors, and we are proud of the work of our 177 volunteers (2024/25: 147) who delivered 5,413 hours of support (2024/25: 7,280). In 2025/26, our 15 volunteer counsellors delivered 707 counselling sessions, offering compassionate, specialist support to those rebuilding their lives after abuse. We also expanded opportunities for volunteers to make a meaningful difference through initiatives including our language skills volunteers, who help improve access to services for survivors whose first language is not English, and our court volunteers, who provide practical and emotional support to survivors navigating the justice system. Together, our volunteers help ensure more survivors receive the support they need, when they need it.

5,413

hours of vital support delivered by 177 volunteers, helping more survivors get the support they need.

(2024/25: 7,280)

> **Volunteering at Solace changed my whole life. I was given amazing training in the most supportive environment, surrounded by women who want to make a difference in the world. I always left my volunteer shifts on a high.**
>
> **Solace volunteer**



What we achieved this year:
Children and young people

For years, Solace has been undertaking preventative work with children and young people, and this year we were pleased to see prevention recognised as a central pillar of the government's VAWG Strategy, published this past December. By addressing the systemic and societal mores that embed misogyny in our lives, we can educate young people of all genders to have healthy attitudes and informed boundaries within present and future relationships. Solace provides safe, trauma-informed, and judgment-free spaces for young people to unpack experiences and reduce risk. In schools, refuges, our therapeutic and community settings, Solace's approach is strengths-based and young-person-centred.

Preventing VAWG through education

Now in its tenth year of delivery in Haringey primary and secondary schools, Solace's Protect Our Women (POW) Project is an educational programme for children, young people, parents and professionals in contact with children and young people. Through a holistic, preventative approach, POW raises awareness of the root causes of VAWG, while increasing understanding of healthy relationships and emotional wellbeing. The programme runs through relationship and sex education (RSE) programmes for primary and secondary pupils, or it can be delivered via an emotional wellbeing curriculum. There is also the option of a whole-school approach, in which VAWG sector professionals are placed within schools to identify risk, support disclosures and inform policy.

This year, POW has supported 504 children, continuing to embed prevention and early intervention at the heart of how we protect the next generation from VAWG (2024/25: 576).

Our Bexley service also ran a Day Programme aimed at young people, focused on group work around healthy relationships. Solace experts provided this preventative work in a variety of settings, including to a group of young people with special educational needs, youth clubs and a forest school.



> **I am spending more quality time with my children and going to bed early without fear. I have more confidence and happiness.**
>
> **Survivor in refuge**

Supporting families in refuge

Children remain a priority within our services, despite a lack of dedicated funding for them as victims of abuse in their own right. Throughout our refuges, family support workers help address the lasting impact domestic abuse has on mothers and children, while sessional play workers give mothers some much-needed respite and specialist counsellors support children and young people.

Solace's S.T.A.R. programme supports trauma awareness and resilience by providing safe and confidential spaces to mothers and children, separately, to unpack their experiences of abuse and trauma. As the programme progresses, participants identify new strategies, build resilience, heal and strengthen relationships between children and their mothers.

Tailoring our risk tools to CYP experiences

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 recognises children and young people who witness or are exposed to abuse as victims in their own right, alongside those who experience abuse in their own relationships. Because many of the children and young people within our services have experienced exposure, historic abuse, or sexual violence, the risk assessment known as the Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Harassment and Honour-Based Violence Assessment (DASH) is not always a suitable tool for their journeys to safety.

In 2025/26, as no alternative existed, Solace Children and Young People (CYP) services developed a holistic CYP Risk Tracker. It assesses risk by weighing protective and vulnerability factors alongside different risk types and severity levels, helping workers and young people build a fuller picture of risk and a stronger safety plan.

Since January 2026, all Family Support Workers and Youth IDVAs have been piloting the tool, with staff feedback informing its full rollout. In accommodation services, we have seen encouraging progress: risk was previously assessed on the basis of a mother's situation and experience, then applied, uniformly, to all her children. With Solace's tool, each child's individual risks and needs are assessed separately, ensuring support and action plans reflect their specific circumstances and strengths.

100%

of children and young people supported said that there was a continued need for Solace services

Delivering VAWG support in London's Major Trauma Centres

The Major Trauma Centre (MTC) Service, funded by the Violence Reduction Unit, provides intensive short-term crisis support and advocacy to young people aged 11-25 who present at St Mary's, King's College, Royal London or St George's hospitals. This support is for those who have experienced, or are at risk of, domestic abuse, sexual violence, exploitation, honour-based violence or other forms of gender-based violence. Youth IDVAs work closely with hospital safeguarding teams, also training staff.

In 2025/26, we supported 169 young people, delivered 55 training sessions reaching 908 hospital staff, and ran 97 peer mentoring sessions. Sessions included support with employment and interview skills, as well as ongoing emotional support.



> **Before coming to refuge, I felt a little nervous, but when I got here I liked it because I felt safe. My family support worker told me that I should not worry anymore. They noticed I was sad and asked me if I was ok. I started crying and they told me that this feeling is ok. I felt happy that I was told that I am allowed to feel like this.**
>
> **Survivor**

What we achieved this year:
Empowerment, engagement and accessibility

Providing the most effective, sustainable support for survivors means never operating in a vacuum. Solace is proud to benefit from the input and expertise of so many survivors, ambassadors and advisers. Our commitment to embedding survivors' voices throughout our work has shone through our Shadow Board, while new expert advisers support our work across all areas. Our multiple disadvantage services, meanwhile, bring together a range of services to support women with additional barriers to support.

Our shadow board

In its first year, our Shadow Board has gone from strength to strength. Fully embedded into the organisation, the Shadow Board inputs on Solace's governance and campaigning work. This group of experts by experience meet regularly to discuss issues affecting survivors the most and the most effective ways to bring about lasting change. At the moment, the group is creating our next campaign for 16 Days of Activism. Shadow Board members also regularly support Solace's communications work, internally and externally, appearing on panels and speaking to media outlets about their experience and wider VAWG issues.

Our new ambassadors and expert advisers

Over the last twelve months, we have been privileged to have more expert women join our ambassador and expert adviser network. In 2025/26, new advisers include criminal barrister Charlotte Bull, VAWG sector expert and consultant Cherryl Henry-Leach, and human rights expert and Liberty Director Akiko Hart.

Our thanks go to all these women for their voluntary commitment to ending male violence against women and girls, alongside our trustees and expert advisers.



18

people successfully housed through the new Housing First service, providing specialist support to people experiencing entrenched rough sleeping and domestic abuse

Supporting women experiencing multiple disadvantage

Solace continues to strengthen our expertise in providing vital support to the most vulnerable women in London, including those experiencing multiple disadvantages.

In April 2025, alongside Single Homeless Project and Camden Council, we launched a new Housing First service, with social housing available to people experiencing repeat/entrenched rough sleeping, including couples where there is known or suspected domestic abuse in the relationship. The service acknowledges the relationship of the couple while offering each person intensive, holistic support from a team that includes specialist domestic abuse and perpetrator management expertise. Solace's specialist IDVA provides expertise to the whole team around VAWG dynamics and supports the team in how to promote safety.

This model builds on our 2024 feasibility study, which highlighted the importance of multi-agency working to share decision making and risk management. Eighteen people have successfully been housed to date.

We have also launched a Sex Worker Pilot in the London Borough of Enfield. Employing a flexible approach to ensure that survivors were able to engage in a way that worked for them, our advocate was able to tackle the issue of long-term non-engagement. For instance, a survivor supported during the pilot was empowered to attend a hospital appointment and follow up on their own personal health journey, accompanied by their advocate. This step meant that they were able to engage with the appointment fully and get the most out of their care.

Our Women in Safer Engagement and Recovery (WiSER) Project has supported survivors for another year. This partnership of specialist VAWG charities works to support women experiencing gender-based violence and abuse alongside having experienced severe multiple disadvantages. Survivors we support may be excluded from mainstream services or find it hard to engage with the support as it is conventionally offered.

Now in its seventh year, our Housing First Project continues to support survivors in accessing furniture, setting up bills and rent payments, maximising income, accessing local services and reintegrating with the community on their road to recovery from abuse. We are proud to have continued to deliver our Ruby Project, an inclusive Housing First project seeking to support Black and minoritised women affected by VAWG and homelessness in partnership with IMECE.

Solace also supports survivors experiencing multiple disadvantages via our two 24-hour specialist refuges.

Raising awareness through the media

Our work regularly features in high-profile news outlets highlighting our services, survivor testimony and our collective expertise on a range of topics. Key coverage included an interview with our CEO on LBC News about the government's newly published VAWG strategy, a BBC TV report on our Women's Rough Sleeping Census, an ITV News TV interview with a survivor advocate on her experience with court delays, as well as a report in The Times highlighting a survivor's experience of being placed in unsafe housing by a local authority. Additionally, Solace has featured regularly in coverage examining the continued failings of the Met Police – we featured in 201 pieces of coverage in outlets such as the BBC and the Metro, following the 5-year anniversary of the murder of Sarah Everard at the hands of a serving Metropolitan Police



360

pieces of media coverage secured across 315 outlets, including 79 national news outlets

Our social media presence also continues to grow. LinkedIn followers rose by 10% over the year, with engagement more than doubling. On Instagram, our followers grew by 12%, while interactions increased more than fivefold on Facebook and TikTok, the latter of which was relaunched in March, showed healthy growth as well.

Our website reached 221,835 unique users this year, a 38% increase on last year.

Our thanks

We're incredibly grateful for the support that Solace receives from generous individuals and organisations which help us to work towards our mission of ending the harm caused by gender-based violence. A huge thank you to all our supporters during 2025/26 including those who have chosen to remain anonymous.

We continue to be grateful for our partnership with statutory funders and want to thank:

The London Boroughs of Barnet, Bexley, Camden, Enfield, Haringey, Islington, Lambeth, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest and Westminster, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, Violence Reduction Unit, Greater London Authority, London Councils, Home Office and Department for Science, Innovation and Technology.

We also want to thank our trustees, expert advisers, charity ambassadors, survivor ambassadors and shadow board members who use their expertise and lived experience to shape the work Solace does and raise awareness for other survivors who need help.



"One of the worst things to endure after leaving the abuse was not being believed. Solace was the safe space where I wasn't ever doubted.

Survivor



Our supporters

Above Difference
Acaster Lloyd Consulting
Accenture
Ali Meadows Fund
Apt. London
Avison Young
Barclays
Blake Morgan LLP
Brookfield Properties
Brown Rudnick
Charities Trust
CIS Community Trust
City Bridge Trust
Cloudesley
Concord
Cripplegate Foundation
Dischma Charitable Trust
DNNR London
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FieldworkHub Ltd
Financial Lifestyle Management Ltd
Four Nine
Furnishing Futures
Garden Court Chambers
Garfield Weston Foundation
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Hearst Network
Hollick Family Foundation
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HSBC
Iceland Charitable Foundation
Iguano Trust
Impulse Decisions
Irish Government
Irish Youth Foundation
IWIRC London Network
Jack Sealey Ltd
Julia Rausing Trust
JP Morgan
Jungle Creations
KPMG
Leylands
Lewis Silkin LLP
London Catalyst
London Community Foundation
London Designer Outlet
London Homelessness Foundation
Microsoft
Neighbourly Foundation
Oak Foundation
Olwyn Foundation
One Welbeck
Our Safer City
Public Interest Law Centre
Rani & Co
Rich Support Limited
Rosmarinus Charitable Trust
Slaughter and May
Southwark Charitable Trust
Squire Patton Boggs
TK Maxx
The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust
The Big Give Trust
The Caring Family Foundation
The Channel Company
The Childhood Trust
The Glen Beg Foundation
The Golden Bottle Trust
The Rosa Fund
The Screwfix Foundation
The Tudor Foundation
The Wogen Anniversary Trust
Trust for London
Urban and Mainline
Vanguard
Veeam
Vitol
WeMove Dance CIC



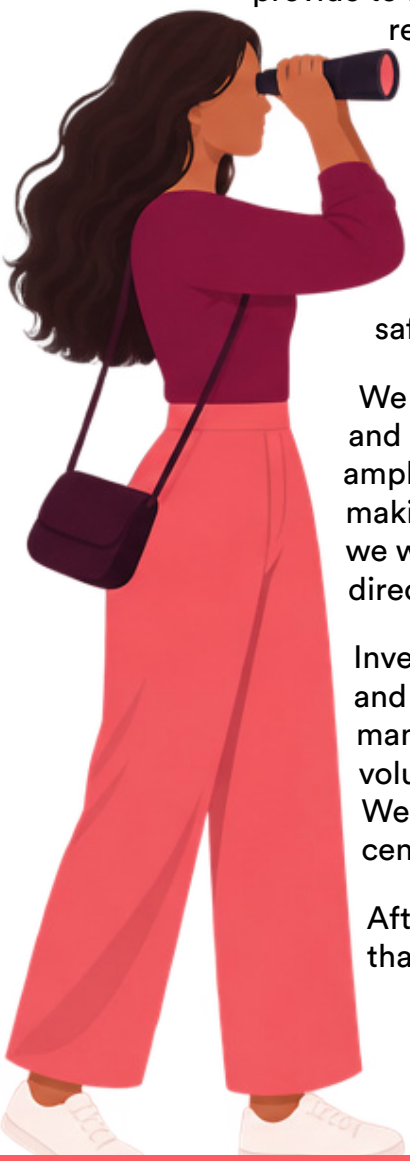
Looking to the future

Goals for 2026-27



Our 2022-27 strategy set out our six organisational objectives, which help us to focus on our dual aims of supporting more survivors and improving our support of frontline staff working in the organisation. This remains as important as ever. Our CEO and board of trustees continue to focus on six operational goals to sit alongside our five-year strategy:

- Inclusion, becoming an anti-racist organisation and cultural transformation
- Inclusive service delivery
- One team of valued, diverse and skilled people
- Amplifying the service user voice
- Make prevention a priority
- Strengthening our infrastructure services



Our priorities in 2026-27 focus on growing and evolving the support we provide to survivors, ensuring our services continue to respond to the realities and complexities of their lives. As we come to the end of our 2022-27 strategy, a priority will be developing the organisation's next five-year strategy which will seek to guide our work through external and internal opportunities and challenges.

Over the coming year, we will expand partnerships, deliver specialist training, raise awareness and influence policy to improve responses to survivors and help prevent abuse, particularly focusing on access to safe housing and the response of the police.

We will continue to develop inclusive, responsive services and use data and evidence more effectively to understand impact, improve delivery and amplify survivors' voices. Survivors will remain at the heart of our decision-making. Through our Shadow Board and other engagement opportunities, we will ensure lived experience helps shape our services, culture and future direction.

Investing in our people remains a priority. We will enhance learning and development, support staff to strengthen their leadership and management skills, and maintain our wellbeing offer so staff and volunteers can continue delivering high-quality, trauma-informed support. We will review how technology can help our teams (both frontline and central) spend more time doing their vital work supporting survivors.

After more than 50 years of supporting women and children, we know that ending VAWG requires collective action.

Encouragingly, recognition of the scale of the issue continues to grow, with the Government's VAWG strategy making the case for investment in prevention – we will work with stakeholders to ensure that meaningful change is made through the government's plans to halve VAWG in a decade.

But we still face ongoing challenges, including financial pressures, uncertainty in public funding and rising demand for services. To ensure long-term sustainability, we will invest in our fundraising, start to diversify our income streams and seek to increase our passionate group of supporters so that more survivors can access the support they need.



Financial Review

The financial results for the year ended 31 March 2026 are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities, balance sheet, cash flow statement and notes to the accounts on pages 45 onwards.

Solace reports a surplus of £657k for the year to March 2026 (2024/25: £196k). The surplus for the year reflects success in retaining and winning new contracts.

At the start of this financial year, Solace faced financial uncertainty with £1.5m of contractual income coming to an end mid-year. Trustees approved a cautious loss-making budget with restricted parameters around investment. Over the course of the year Solace successfully retained and expanded services through 12 new contracts. A cautious approach to budgeting meant the contribution these activities generated was not factored into our investment plans for the year, resulting in a net contribution to reserves.

We saw a 43% increase in fundraising income thanks to Solace's corporate partnerships and successful applications to trusts and foundations for core funding. Our unrestricted income was generated towards the end of the year, restricting in-year investment. Solace's current funding model is heavily reliant on commissioned contracts and diversifying income is a priority for us.

Our fundraising strategy set in March 2026 sets a longer-term direction for increasing unrestricted and restricted income, focusing on priority areas to provide funding for gaps in infrastructure and increase funds to focus on survivor-centric initiatives, working in collaboration with new partners, testing new ideas and taking managed risks. To design and deliver this new strategy, new roles have been added to the fundraising team both this year and through into 2026/27. We are exceptionally grateful for all those who support our services in this way. These funds are essential to supporting us to deliver beyond core contractual services.

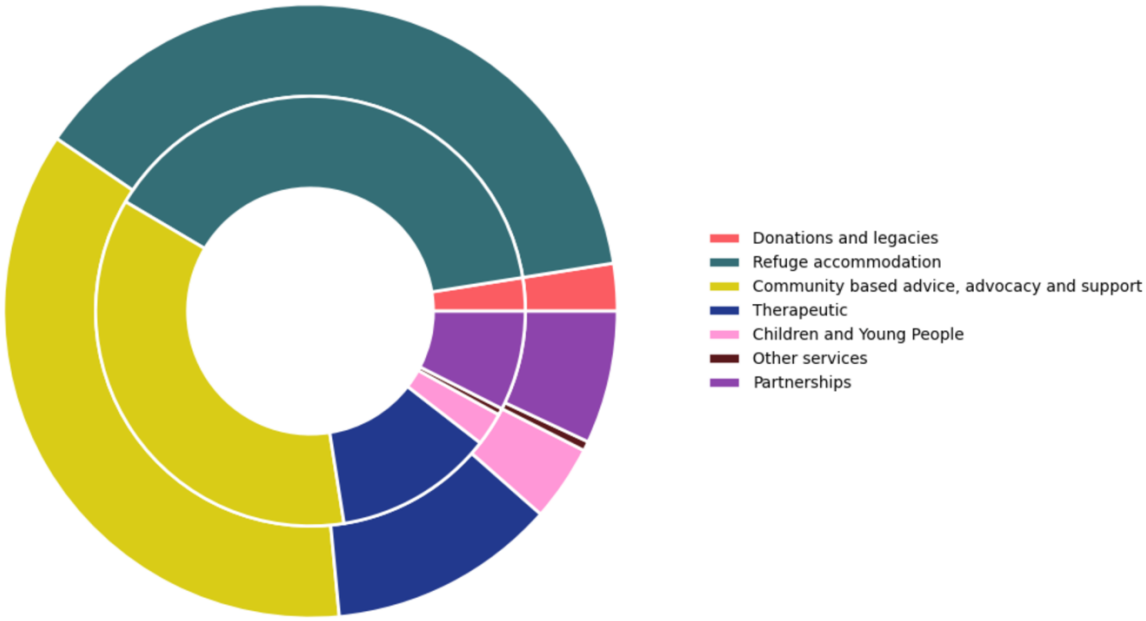


Fig 1: Comparative of year-on-year income by activity

Refuge services were relatively stable during the year, with a full year of activity now captured for our Enfield move-on service. Solace managed rent and service charge increases within 2.7% (CPI + 1%); this increased income was matched by uplifts in landlord rents and service-related costs. Repair delays in a number of our managed properties resulted in voids increasing from 3.1% to 8%. This increase was offset, however, by a £235k reduction in our rent arrears, bad debt expenditure having carried through the new rent provisioning approach first adopted in 2024/25. We are especially thankful to all the organisations that support us in providing funds for grants and services to work with service users in refuge. Your support allowed us to increase activities by 30% this year.

Success in renegotiating underperforming contracts was particularly strong in our community activities this year, placing existing services on a more financially viable footing. We expanded Solace's community-based advice, advocacy and support services, taking on five new contracts across four London boroughs. We launched our new digital lending library, which provided repurposed laptops to 16 refuge sites. It was with sadness that we said goodbye to colleagues in our North London Sexual Health IDVSA service and Barnet Community team while our No Recourse to Public Funds activities were restructured due to a reduction in funding streams making up this service. The service is now delivered under our therapeutic work stream.

In October 2025 the four rape crisis centres – which are run by Solace, nia, Rape Crisis South London and the Women and Girls Network –formed a new partnership with Respond, Galop and Survivors UK to deliver the Mayor's pan-London Sexual Violence Support Service. This five-year contract saw the successful transition of services to a new delivery model. Solace was able to utilise funds previously earmarked for demobilisation to support transition activity and benefited from contributions towards senior management time as part of the strategic response to restructuring ways of working.

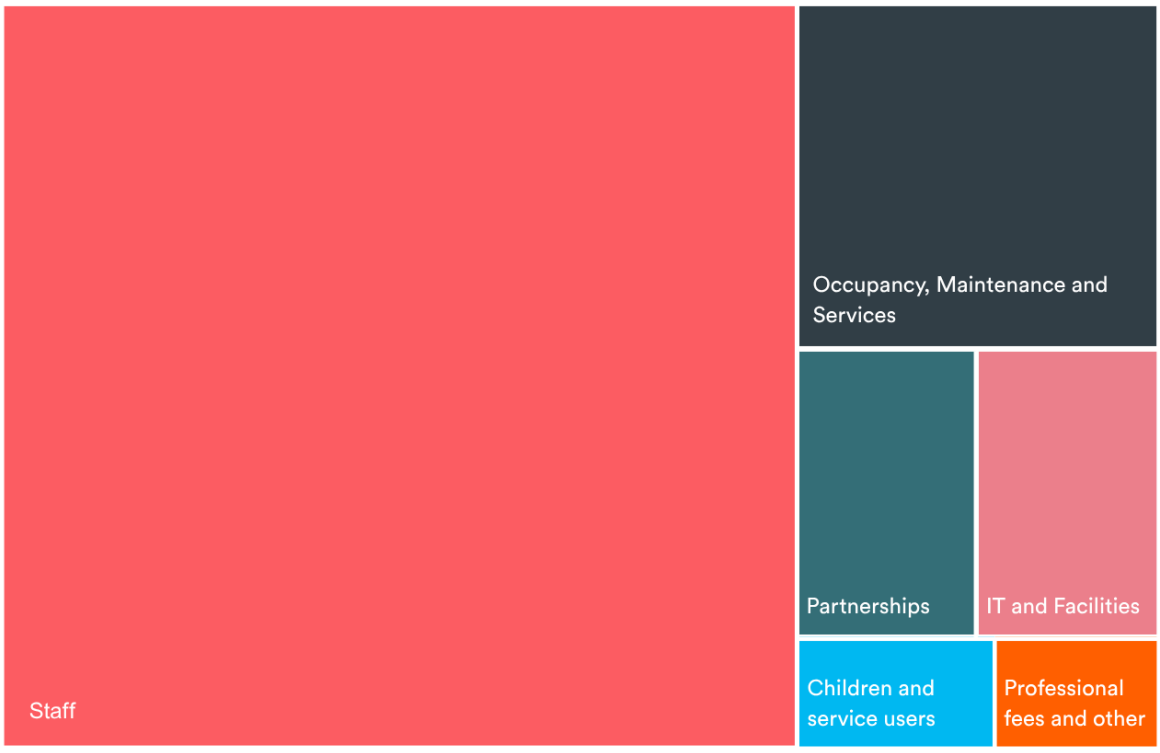


Fig 2: 2025/26 breakdown of expenditure

Our biggest expenditure remains our staff costs, at 70% (2024/25: 67%). We recognise the significant pressure working in the VAWG sector places on our staff and seek to reward staff fairly within the constraints afforded by contracts. In January 2026, following market pay analysis, Solace awarded pay increases to all staff. We honoured our commitment to the London Living Wage, and all staff received at least a 2.5% pay increase accordingly. Central costs as a percentage of overall expenditure remained at 14%. Solace continues to closely manage out-of-contract expenditure and maximise recovery of support costs under contracts, where possible.

Our total fund balances as of 31 March 2026 were £2.9m (2024/25: 2.2m): £974k of this total was designated funds (2024/25: £989k), £39k restricted funds (2024/25: £26k) and £1.8m general funds (2024/25: £1.2m). Designated funds represent the netbook value of tangible and intangible fixed assets needed to deliver services; these assets are not available for sale.

Reserves policy and going concern

Solace's general funds represent unrestricted funds that are not committed to specific service delivery or tied to any tangible or intangible fixed assets held by Solace.

It is Solace's policy to retain sufficient reserves to safeguard its financial commitments and to continue to provide essential services to women and children who are experiencing domestic abuse and/or sexual violence, in the event of unforeseen financial problems for a length of time sufficient to enable those problems to be resolved.

Trustees reviewed their reserves policy in March 2026 and agreed to build Solace's reserves based on an analysis of the risks facing the charity. In determining the level of reserves required by Solace, the following factors are considered by the board of trustees:

- key strategic risks as described in Solace's risk register,
- our strategic goals,
- financial strategy and sustainability,
- liquidity management,
- commitments to staff and other contractual obligations and
- needs of services and beneficiaries.

The reserves targets are set at such a level as to protect the charity from having to make quick structural changes during unexpected periods of financial difficulties. The Finance and Resources Subcommittee reviews the level of reserves required by Solace annually and recommends the appropriate level to trustees.

Based on the analysis of risks, the trustees have set a satisfactory reserves level and a target reserve level for the charity. A minimum satisfactory general reserves level of £1.6m was set. As of March 2026, Solace holds £1.8m in general funds, £204k above the satisfactory reserve level.

The desired general reserves level was set at £2.3m. As of March 2026, there is a shortfall of £0.5m. In the coming financial year, trustees have weighed the need to increase reserves against managing a fair pay award, investing in the new fundraising strategy and capital infrastructure. Solace has prepared financial models looking forward over the next five years. These predict desired target general reserves will be reached by April 2028.

Further notes on our reserves are outlined in note 14 of the financial statements in this report.

Solace trustees have considered the material uncertainties which may cast doubts on the appropriateness of the going concern assumption with regards to the 2025/26 financial statements. As noted above, these uncertainties are continually monitored by the board and the senior management team, with remedial actions implemented in a timely manner. Having considered the risks of these uncertainties, the trustees have concluded that the going concern assumption remains appropriate for the coming year.

Risk management and principal risks

Trustees have overall responsibility for establishing and maintaining the system of risk management at Solace. The charity maintains a charity risk register which tracks key risks to Solace and is reviewed by trustees at quarterly sub-committee meetings and during the full board meeting. Unexpected and sudden changes in risks would be scrutinised by trustees over and above planned meetings.

The principal risks facing the charity are financial, operational, reputational, people and culture and regulatory, as detailed below.

Financial

Solace operates in a challenging and demanding sector with uncertainties over longer-term funding due to our reliance on services commissioned by local and central government. Solace actively monitors our pipeline to ensure we remain informed of opportunities for new services and recommissioning of existing services. Financial risks arising from any contract renewals in 2026/27 are mitigated through Transfer of Undertaking Protection of Employment (TUPE)arrangements.

Solace receives limited unrestricted fundraised funds. This impairs our ability to fund strategic initiatives. A new fundraising strategy is being adopted from March 2026 to drive growth in this area and diversify funds. Financial risks are monitored through regular reporting to the Finance and Resources Subcommittee and trustees, with scrutiny of annual budgets, reforecasts, management accounts and cash flow projections. Scenario planning with prudent income generation activities has been prepared and reviewed with trustees to ensure that Solace continues to have sufficient resources to deliver its services and remain solvent in the foreseeable future.

Operational

The nature of our service delivery – providing support to women and children experiencing domestic abuse and sexual violence – increases operational risks associated with the potential provision of inadequate support for our service users due to unclear priorities, lack of quality oversight or inadequate staff resources.

Operational risks are managed through implementation of suitable policies and procedures, including good practice for case management, appropriate caseloads, rigorous staff training, staff supervision and support, and regular reporting to senior management. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety regulations, risk assessments and data protection regulations in relation to service users, staff, trustees, volunteers and visitors. Solace also has emergency procedures in place, should we experience localised or national incidents. Solace has appropriate insurance cover in place.

Risks to IT systems and cybercrime are managed through the use of accredited managed IT providers using secure cloud-based technology. Monthly reviews of performance and IT

risks are undertaken with senior management and reported to trustees. Staff receive regular training on IT and cyber security and induction training is provided to all new employees.

Reputational

As with operational risks, reputational risks are heightened by our engagement with people in difficult, often dangerous, circumstances. Over the past year we have seen the weaponisation of violence against women and girls (VAWG) to promote certain political views. In these instances, the presentation of this complex, nuanced subject has often been misleading and damaging. As a result, stakeholder trust, staff wellbeing and service users have all been affected. Solace has continued to keep survivors and their experiences at the heart of everything we do and the ways in which we represent our work and its impact. Survivors are experts by experience and we always present their journeys with accuracy, compassion and respect.

Solace's reputation is linked to the quality of the services we deliver. Service audits are conducted annually to review compliance with funder agreements. The senior management team works closely with boroughs and other funder leads to manage issues promptly.

People and culture

Like others in the charity sector, we continue to see high staff turnover. Part of Solace's business model is to accept that the flat organisational structure of our activities means many individuals choose to leave to pursue promotional opportunities. Solace's focus is on being an effective learning and development provider while staff are with us for their, and service users' benefit. Risks and challenges of staff recruitment and retention are managed through continuous feedback mechanisms including next in-line meetings, the employee staff forum and exit interviews to analyse and learn from the changing needs of our employees. We continue to work with teams to adopt agile working practices without compromising on the quality of our service delivery.

Solace is committed to being an actively inclusive charity and has reviewed its Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) action plan with trustees, staff and volunteers. Over the past 12 months we have reviewed the operations of our EDI function with a view to embedding best practice within our workforce and strengthening support for services.

Regulatory and compliance

Solace has reviewed our operations in light of the Supreme Court's ruling on the definition of 'sex' in the Equality Act 2010 and the issuance of the Equality and Human Rights Commissions (EHRC) Code of Practice. Solace will continue to deliver life-saving specialist, trauma-informed and responsive women-led services to women and children in line with this guidance. At present we remain in a situation where some services are having to turn away trans survivors. We are working with partners to meet the changing needs of this service group to ensure we can support them to access the support they need.

Keeping women and their children safe is our primary responsibility and we take all appropriate steps to protect everyone from harm. Safeguarding is at the heart of our operational services and a key governance priority. We deliver robust safeguarding training to all our staff and volunteers as part of their induction training. Training covers legal frameworks, how to spot signs and symptoms, how to respond and what makes a good referral to social care. We also explain our whistleblowing policies to all staff and volunteers during the training. Annual refresher training on safeguarding is mandatory for all staff.

We have a suite of policies and procedures designed to manage regulatory and compliance risks including those covering acceptance of donations, unauthorised fundraising, procurement, IT security, anti-fraud, data protection and social media. We undertake regular training on compliance and continue to review and strengthen our training to staff and volunteers.

Reference and Administrative Information

The financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements, the memorandum, and articles of association, the Companies Act and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Company number	03376716
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Country of registration	England & Wales
Registered office	9 Appold Street, London ECA 2AP
Website	www.solacewomensaid.org

Board of trustees

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Ms. Abigail Ampofo	Chair *(appointed 10 December 2025)*
Ms. Hannah Cane	Interim Co-Chair *(appointed 27 March 2025, stepped down 10 December 2025)*, *Vice Chair (appointed 10 December 2025*)
Ms. Madeline Church	Interim Co-Chair *(appointed 27 March 2025, stepped down 10 December)*
Ms. Kerri Hartwell	Treasurer
Ms. Emily Florence Hutchings	*(resigned 27 June 2026)*
Ms. Vivien Ma	*(resigned 23 March 2026)*
Ms. Natalie Lopez	*(resigned 1 October 2025)*
Ms. Meghan Roach	
Ms. Jo Jengo	
Ms. Alison McKinlay	*(appointed 9 July 2025)*
Ms. Katherine Couper	*(appointed 9 July 2025)*

Principal staff

Ms. Nahar Choudhury	Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Julia Rank	Director of Finance and Business Support
Ms. Rebecca Goshawk	Director of Business Development
Dr. Jennifer Cirone	Director of Services
Ms. Jess Redfern	Director of People and Culture (*appointed 8 September 2025, resigned 24 December 2025)*
Ms. Suzanne Scruton	Director of People and Culture (*appointed 27 November 2025)*
Bankers	HSBC plc 1 Aldermans Hill London, N13 4YE
Auditor	Moore Kingston Smith LLP 9 Appold Street, London EC2A 2AP

Structure, governance & management

Solace is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 May 1997, and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 16 September 2000. The charity is formed under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.

Recruitment and appointment of members of the Board of Trustees

Solace welcomes women to the board of trustees who have the skills, dedication and enthusiasm to take overall responsibility for the organisation. The charity advertises for members in a number of ways, including recruitment websites and other relevant publications.

Trustees serve for a period of six years in aggregate. Officers may serve for a period of nine years. Solace has a diverse board, ensuring that our trustees are representative of the communities we serve. Two trustees resigned during the financial year and three were appointed. New appointments enhanced the skills held by the board to meet the changing needs of Solace.

Induction and training for the board of trustees

All prospective members receive information regarding Solace, including the most recent annual report and audited accounts, as well as copies of relevant policies and procedures. They meet with the CEO and principal staff who carry out an induction that includes training on key policies (including equality, diversity and inclusion; safeguarding; confidentiality; complaints; whistleblowing; financial regulation; risk assessments; data protection; and DBS checks), a tour of our services and meetings with staff and service users.

A skills audit is conducted annually and any gaps identified are met through training, guidance from the CEO and other members of the trustees and staff, as well as targeted recruitment.

Trustees are encouraged to attend relevant training in areas such as governance, human resource management and financial management. The cost of this training is met by the organisation.

Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 6 to the accounts.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The trustees regularly review the charity's aims, objectives, and activities to ensure they continue to deliver tangible benefits to the public, without undue restriction or discrimination. In setting the annual plan each year, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives of the charity.

In planning and carrying out the charity's activities, the trustees have ensured that these are undertaken in furtherance of the charity's stated purposes and for the public benefit.

Fundraising

Solace is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. We do not employ the services of any fundraising agencies or third parties, nor have we run a telephone or door-to-door fundraising campaign. Our relationships with supporters is especially important to us and the charity does not wish for our supporters to feel under any pressure to donate to the charity. We have a close relationship with our fundraisers and support them in delivering events and complying with relevant codes of practice. Where we work with commercial participators, contracts are exchanged so that we can ensure compliance with the code of fundraising practice, applicable laws and adherence to best practice.

We received no complaints about our fundraising practices in 2025/26.

Quality Management

Solace prides itself on high-quality support to our service users. Our staff team is committed to these standards and we continually look at ways to improve our services. We continue to invest in accredited training for staff and have a comprehensive internal training programme to ensure we deliver quality services. The organisation is supported by our business development, business support, HR and finance teams who have introduced new systems and procedures to better support our frontline services and the wider organisation. This helps us to continue to deliver excellent services and ensure value for money for our funders.

In 2025/26, we achieved and retained several accreditations and quality marks, demonstrating the high standard of Solace's work, including:

- Rape Crisis National Service Standards,
- Disability Confident Committed Employer,
- Advice Quality Standards,

- ISO 9001 and
- CHAS (The Contractors Health and Safety Assessment Scheme).

Organisational structure

The trustees meet every quarter and are responsible for Solace's overall management and strategic direction. The trustees also meet twice a year for Board Away Days. These women are drawn from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to our work including those who have been impacted by domestic or sexual abuse. We are also committed to diversity and have a trustee board representative of our service users and staff.

Trustees delegate appropriate functions to the subcommittees listed below, at least two members of which must be from the board.

Expert Advisers are selected to provide specialist advice to the subcommittees. They scrutinise reports with trustees at sub-committee meetings.

Business Development Subcommittee: Oversees the overall strategy and business development plans for the charity, as well as training and consultancy, fundraising and communications. Chair – Ms. Hannah Cane. Claire Geddie continued to attend as an expert adviser and was joined by two new advisers this year; Rosie Spigelhalter and Paula Murphy. Paula subsequently stepped down to support Solace in a more operational manner.

Finance and Resources Subcommittee: Oversees financial management to ensure optimum use of resources. It scrutinises income and expenditure and regularly reports to, makes recommendations and clarifies options available to the trustees. Chair – Ms. Kerri Hartwell. Two expert advisers sit on the committee: Becky Tobin and Holly Van Der Merwe.

Human Resources and Governance Subcommittee: Oversees staffing issues including recruitment, retention, pay, equality and diversity, health and safety and environmental issues. It acts as the appeal body for any disciplinary and capability matters and is responsible for overall board governance. Chair – Ms. Madeline Church, who replaced Ms. Natalie Lopez. Sian Elliot, Rachel Galvin, Frances Gillies and Claire Wright sit on the committee as expert advisers this year.

Services Subcommittee: Scrutinise operational top-level reports and internal audits; discusses policy, devises, and reviews the service operations strategy. Chair – Ms. Meghan Roach, who replaced Ms. Madeline Church. Frances Gillies acted as an expert adviser this year.

Overall management is delegated to the CEO and Directors, who are responsible for ensuring that Solace delivers high-quality services, and meets contractual obligations and conditions of grant aid. Principal staff are the CEO, Director of Services, Director of Finance and Business Support, Director of Business Development and from September 2025 the Director of People and Culture, who convene regularly to oversee the organisational management of Solace. The Directors report to the CEO.

The wider Senior Management Team includes one Deputy Director of Services and nine Heads of Services who meet with the Directors and CEO on a monthly basis.

Team and Service Managers run the day-to-day activities with their staff teams delivering services in refuge, community-based services and from our Head Office. They report to Heads of Services and meet with the CEO and Directors each quarter.

Related party transactions

Related party transactions during the year related to professional pro bono services valued at £nil (2024/25: £nil), and donations from three trustees totaled £350 (2024/25: £214).

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

Solace awards a fair remuneration package to all staff including key management personnel. Both the Human Resources and Finance and Resources Subcommittees undertake an annual review of salaries, and the trustees are responsible for setting the CEO salary. The CEO sets Directors' salaries. The ratio of the highest and lowest salaries in the organisation does not exceed 1:4.

Statement of responsibilities of the board of trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Solace for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report including the strategic 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 trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate 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 trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

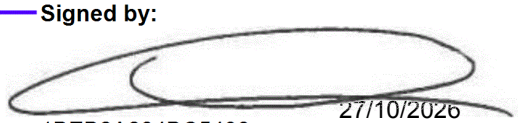
Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2026 was 9 (2024/25 - 8). The trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Moore Kingston Smith LLP were appointed as auditors in 2018 and are deemed to be reappointed under Section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The report of the Board of Trustees has been approved by the trustees on 30 September 2026 and signed on their behalf by

Signed by:



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Abigail Ampofo – Chair.

Independent auditor's report to the members of Solace Women's Aid

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Solace Women's Aid ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating the Summary Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the

other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 39 and 40, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charitable company.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charitable company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity SORP, and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

- We obtained an understanding of how the charitable company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.

- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.

- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company and charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

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Shivani Kothari *(Senior Statutory Auditor)*
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP
Statutory Auditor

Date: 30/10/2026
9 Appold Street, London
EC2A 2AP

Statement of financial activities

(Incorporating an income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	534,641	1,573	**536,214**	353,095	21,891	374,986
Charitable activities							
Provision and Prevention							
Refuge accommodation	3a	5,016,881	1,463,003	**6,479,884**	4,881,655	1,485,115	6,366,770
Community based advice, advocacy and support	3a	4,265,532	1,965,973	**6,231,505**	4,035,631	1,696,104	5,731,735
Therapeutic	3a	181,482	2,010,781	**2,192,263**	123,000	1,705,691	1,828,691
Children and Young People	3a	60,790	409,000	**469,790**	61,998	427,081	489,079
Other services	3a	63,960	-	**63,960**	49,705	-	49,705
Partnerships							
Partnerships	3a	-	625,166	**625,166**	-	952,271	952,271
Insurance recovery and investment income		21,797	-	**21,797**	22,132	-	22,132
Total income		**10,145,083**	**6,475,496**	**16,620,579**	**9,527,216**	**6,288,153**	**15,815,369**
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	4	355,234	5,316	360,550	273,083	-	273,083
Charitable activities							
Provision and Prevention							
Refuge accommodation	4	4,544,542	1,468,808	6,013,350	4,488,731	1,493,156	5,981,887
Community based advice, advocacy and support	4	4,162,450	2,006,698	6,169,148	4,283,306	1,711,546	5,994,852
Therapeutic	4	233,121	1,993,769	2,226,890	128,982	1,706,075	1,835,057
Children and Young People	4	61,408	425,666	487,074	84,680	427,081	511,761
Other Services	4	43,512	-	43,512	45,771	-	45,771
Partnerships							
Partnerships	4	-	662,653	662,653	24,964	951,771	976,735
Total expenditure		**9,400,267**	**6,562,910**	**15,963,177**	**9,329,517**	**6,289,629**	**15,619,146**
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the year	5	744,816	(87,414)	657,402	197,699	(1,476)	196,223
Transfers between funds		(100,182)	100,182	-	(27,363)	27,363	-
Net movement in funds		**644,634**	**12,768**	**657,402**	**170,336**	**25,887**	**196,223**
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		2,169,603	25,887	2,195,490	1,999,267	-	1,999,267
Total funds carried forward		**2,814,237**	**38,655**	**2,852,892**	**2,169,603**	**25,887**	**2,195,490**

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Notes on pages 48 to 66 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes		2026		2025
Fixed Assets:		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	10a		**960,320**		954,838
Intangible Assets	10b		**13,876**		33,844
			974,196		988,682
Current Assets:					
Debtors	11	**4,512,459**		2,519,760	
Cash at Bank and in hand		**2,025,305**		1,696,223	
		6,537,764		4,215,983	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12a	**4,633,594**		3,009,175	
Net Current Assets			**1,904,170**		1,206,808
Total assets less current liabilities			**2,878,366**		2,195,490
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	17		**25,474**		-
Total Net Assets	14		**2,852,892**		2,195,490
The Funds of the Charity are represented by:					
Unrestricted Income Funds:					
Designated Funds	14	**974,196**		988,683	
General Funds	14	**1,840,041**		1,180,920	
Total Unrestricted Funds			**2,814,237**		2,169,603
Restricted Funds	14		**38,655**		25,887
Total Charity Funds			**2,852,892**		2,195,490

The accompanying notes on pages 48 to 66 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board and authorised for issue on the 30 September 2026 and are signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

27/10/2026

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Abigail Ampofo – Chair

Signed by:

Kerri Hartwell

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27/10/2026

Kerri Hartwell – Treasurer

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	£	2026 £	£	2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net cash flows provided by / (used in) operating activities	**15**		**391,472**		(261,154)
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Interest from investments		**15,106**		22,132	
Purchase of tangible and intangible assets		**(53,990)**		(75,047)	
Net cash flows used in investing activities			**(38,884)**		(52,915)
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Interest paid		**-**		(345)	
Repayments of borrowing		**-**		(64,296)	
Repayments of finance leases		**(23,506)**		-	
Net cash flows used in financing activities			**(23,506)**		(64,641)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			**329,082**		(378,710)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			**1,696,223**		2,074,933
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			**2,025,305**		1,696,223

Analysis of cash and changes in net debt

	1 April 2025	Cash flows	31 March 2026
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash in hand	30,453	2,680	**33,133**
Cash in bank	763,126	70,899	**834,025**
Immediate notice deposits	902,644	255,503	**1,158,147**
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**1,696,223**	**329,082**	**2,025,305**

Notes to the accounts

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information
Solace Women's Aid is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address is 6th floor, 9 Appold Street, London EC2A 2AP.

b) Basis of preparation
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 (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The presentation currency of the Charity is British Pounds Sterling. The amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

c) Key judgements and assumptions
In the application of the company's accounting policies, trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis and actual results may differ from these estimates.

d) Public benefit entity
The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

e) Going concern
The trustees have considered the principal risks of the charity and the potential financial impact of these risks materialising in a range of adverse and worst-case scenarios. The detailed cash flow forecast and the adequacy of cash resources under these scenarios have been reviewed by trustees. Based on this detailed scrutiny, the trustees have concluded that there is reasonable expectation that the charity is able to meet its obligations as they fall due for at least 12 months following approval of the financial statements. Accordingly, the financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

f) Income
Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis once the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants – whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants – is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for performance related or other conditions of income recognition have been met.

g) Donations of gifts, services and facilities
Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised. The trustees' annual report describes their contributions in more detail.

h) Financial instruments
Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument to meet the requirements of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102. Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, where there is a legally enforceable right to set off
the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

i) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

j) Fund accounting
Restricted funds are accounted for in accordance with the express or implied wishes of donors in so far as these are intended to be binding on the charity. Expenditure which meets the grant/contract criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes which are not subject to any special restrictions and are classed as unrestricted within the General Fund.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

k) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party; it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose;

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services and other charitable activities undertaken. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

l) Allocation of support costs
Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each

activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity are provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure based on costs incurred with the publicity event.

m) Operating leases
Rentals under operating lease charges are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

n) Finance leases
The charity has entered into finance lease arrangements in respect of assets used in the delivery of its charitable activities. Assets held under finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful economic lives.

o) Tangible fixed assets
Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000 or groups of similar assets purchased in bulk exceeds £7,500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

- Freehold land and buildings are carried at cost.
- Where fixed assets have been revalued, any excess between the revalued amount and the historic cost of the asset is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its life.
- Freehold land
  Not depreciated
- Freehold buildings *(2% on cost)*
- Leasehold property
  Over the life of the lease
- Office equipment, fixtures and fittings and play area *(25% on cost)*
- IT Hardware *(33% on cost)*

p) Intangible assets
Computer software costs are capitalised when direct expenditure enhances or extends the performance of the software beyond its specifications and can be reliably measured as a capital improvement. These costs are amortised using a straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of three to five years.

q) Stocks
Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In general,, cost is determined on a first in, first out basis.

r) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Specific provision is made where it is probable that a debt is unlikely to be recovered but where Solace continues to actively chase for recovery.

s) Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

t) Creditors
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present or constructive obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due. Provisions are made for obligations when there is a legal or other obligation as a result of past events. It is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made for the provision based on the expected settlement amount.

u) Pensions
Solace Women's Aid operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions. It provides a contribution at 3% of annual basic pay for those staff who have joined the scheme. The pension charge recorded in these accounts is the amount of contributions payable in the accounting year.

v) MOPAC Partnership funds
Solace coordinates the monthly payments on behalf of MOPAC and the SV Alliance Partners; in line with clause 8 and schedule 4 of the contract. Solace acts as agent in respect of MOPAC funding. As the trustees have no discretion over the application of these funds, the related receipts and payments are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities. Funds held at the year end amounted to £1,837,044 (2025: £nil) and are included within creditors (note 12a).

2 Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	**2026 Total £**	2025 Total £
Individuals	215,327	-	**215,327**	206,463
Community fundraising and events	9,580	-	**9,580**	9,948
Corporates	158,173	-	**158,173**	38,029
Trust and Foundations	99,500	-	**99,500**	47,000
Legacies	-	1,573	**1,573**	21,891
other	(1,324)	-	**(1,324)**	1,583
Donated services	53,385	-	**53,385**	50,072
	534,641	**1,573**	**536,214**	374,986

3a Income from charitable activities

Refuge Accommodation	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	**2026 Total £**	2025 Total £
Local Boroughs	1,671,587	80,390	1,751,977	1,670,481
Core Rents	3,151,743	-	3,151,743	3,145,080
Personal Charges	158,275	-	158,275	136,001
MOPAC	-	657,865	657,865	569,039
London Councils via Ashiana (note 3b)	-	272,048	272,048	272,048
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	-	182,138	182,138	219,383
REFUGE	-	102,972	102,972	125,556
Greater London Authority	-	87,540	87,540	62,173
Hollick Foundation	-	10,050	10,050	6,377
Gallaher	-	50,000	50,000	55,000
The Youth Endowment Fund	-	-	-	81,557
London Community Foundation (MOPAC PIE)	-	-	-	14,000
BBC Children in Need	-	20,000	20,000	-
Other	35,276	-	35,276	10,075
Sub-total for Refuge Accommodation	**5,016,881**	**1,463,003**	**6,479,884**	6,366,770

Prior year income from charitable Refuge Accommodation activities included £4,881,655 attributable to unrestricted activities and £1,485,115 to restricted activities.

3a Income from charitable activities (continued)

Community based advice, advocacy and support	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2026 Total**	2025 Total
	£	£	**£**	£
Local Boroughs	4,264,147	106,752	**4,370,899**	4,052,873
Southall Black Sisters	-	-	**-**	148,950
Women and Girls Network	-	193,679	**193,679**	195,432
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)	-	1,035,701	**1,035,701**	883,004
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Emigrant Support Programme (this grant restricted to Irish Traveller activities)	-	37,750	**37,750**	49,655
Irish Youth Foundation	-	10,000	**10,000**	10,667
Irish Government	-	-	**-**	(1,750)
City Bridge	-	73,917	**73,917**	41,786
Peri-Natal Service	-	12,434	**12,434**	62,171
Vision	-	-	**-**	22,486
Ruby Project (Oak Housing First)	-	300,236	**300,236**	265,611
Department for Science, Innovation and Technology	-	195,504	**195,504**	-
Other	1,385	-	**1,385**	850
Sub-total for Community based advice, advocacy and support	**4,265,532**	**1,965,973**	**6,231,505**	5,731,735

Prior year income from charitable Community based advice, advocacy and support activities included £4,035,631 attributable to unrestricted activities and £1,696,104 to restricted activities.

Therapeutic	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2026 Total**	2025 Total
	£	£	**£**	£
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)	-	1,542,039	**1,542,039**	1,138,777
Local Boroughs	181,482	99,996	**281,478**	223,000
Women and Girls Network	-	233,073	**233,073**	376,618
Tri-borough Angelou	-	53,920	**53,920**	44,300
Counselling Partnership (Healing Project)	-	81,753	**81,753**	40,164
Cloudesley	-	-	**-**	5,832
Sub-total for Therapeutic	**181,482**	**2,010,781**	**2,192,263**	1,828,691

Prior year income from charitable Therapeutic activities included £123,000 attributable to unrestricted activities and £1,705,691 to restricted activities.

3a Income from charitable activities (continued)

Children and Young People	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2026 Total**	2025 Total
	£	£	**£**	£
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)	-	319,027	**319,027**	320,441
Local Boroughs	60,790	-	**60,790**	61,998
Women and Girls Network	-	89,973	**89,973**	89,973
Banham Family Fund	-	-	**-**	16,667
Sub-total for Children and Young People	**60,790**	**409,000**	**469,790**	489,079

Prior year income from charitable Children and Young People activities included £61,998 attributable to unrestricted activities and £427,081 to restricted activities.

Other Services	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2026 Total**	2025 Total
	£	£	**£**	£
External training	63,960	-	**63,960**	45,656
Other	-	-	**-**	4,049
Sub-total for other services	**63,960**	**-**	**63,960**	49,705

Prior year income from charitable other services included £49,705 attributable to unrestricted activities.

Partnerships	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2026 Total**	2025 Total
	£	£	**£**	£
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)	-	417,321	**417,321**	731,258
Greater London Authority	-	207,845	**207,845**	221,013
Sub-total for Partnerships	**-**	**625,166**	**625,166**	952,271

Prior year income from charitable Partnership activities included £952,271 attributable to restricted activities.

Total income from charitable activities	**9,588,645**	**6,473,923**	**16,062,568**	**15,418,251**

Prior year total income from charitable activities included £9,151,989 attributable to unrestricted activities and £6,266,262 to restricted activities.

3b Income from charitable activities

Grant aid of £840,000 was received in 2025/26 from London Councils for the Ascent Specialist Refuge Partnership for Yr 4 Q3. Solace, as a delivery partner, received £272,048 of the grant.

The following table illustrates how money was allocated across the partnership and that it has been used for the purposes outlined in the funding agreement.

	Grant Income	Grant Spent
	£	£
Lead Partner: Ashiana Network	£272,048	£272,048
Delivery Partner: Solace Women's Aid		
Total:	£272,048	£272,048

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	Grant Income	Grant Spent
	£	£
Salaries	£234,147	£239,511
Beneficiary Costs	23,204	18,130
Central Overheads	£14,697	£14,407
	£272,048	**£272,048**

4 Analysis of expenditure

	Cost of raising funds	Refuge accommodation	Community advice, advocacy and support	Therapeutic	Children and Young People	Other services	Partnerships	Support costs	Governance costs	**2026 Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	**£**
Staff (Note 6)	203,790	2,999,988	4,198,280	1,421,568	372,853	23,788	129,010	1,626,655	144,639	**11,120,571**
Partnerships	-	99,876	341,030	74,986	-	-	463,685	-	-	**979,577**
Children and service users	53,941	107,003	154,230	92,230	3,595	393	355	1,787	-	**413,534**
IT and Facilities	16,028	225,737	385,929	66,669	16,722	1,869	13,189	128,974	28,779	**883,896**
Occupancy, Maintenance and Services	7,421	1,888,058	177,708	96,518	15,628	1,375	12,552	8,624	46,045	**2,253,928**
Professional Fees and Other	34,843	23,755	18,686	10,955	103	10,863	7,389	156,748	48,328	**311,670**
	316,023	5,344,417	5,275,863	1,762,926	408,901	38,288	626,180	1,922,788	267,791	**15,963,177**
Support costs	38,382	565,017	790,702	429,686	70,223	4,480	24,298	(1,922,788)	-	-
Governance costs	6,145	103,916	102,583	34,278	7,950	744	12,175	-	(267,791)	-
Total expenditure 2026	**360,550**	**6,013,350**	**6,169,148**	**2,226,890**	**487,074**	**43,512**	**662,653**	-	-	**15,963,177**

Of the total expenditure, £9,400,267 was unrestricted (2025: £9,329,517) and £6,562,910 was restricted (2025: £6,289,629).

4 Analysis of expenditure (continued)

Charity Activities

	Cost of raising funds	Refuge accommodation	Community advice, advocacy and support	Therapeutic	Children and Young People	Other services	Partnerships	Support costs	Governance costs	**2025 Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	**£**
Staff (Note 6)	130,489	2,962,449	4,132,335	1,255,819	382,271	25,962	155,420	1,360,615	103,155	**10,508,515**
Partnerships	-	99,969	278,885	61,954	-	-	761,609	-	-	**1,202,417**
Children and service users	48,010	83,702	211,573	86,515	3,945	-	-	578	-	**434,323**
IT and Facilities	22,381	183,729	231,257	74,755	25,691	2,404	6,154	246,469	20,510	**813,350**
Occupancy, Maintenance and Services	6,762	1,683,538	164,141	59,227	2,431	1,334	4,602	46,463	32,815	**2,001,313**
Professional Fees and Other	34,509	258,976	2,831	435	6,968	9,817	1,480	313,812	30,400	**659,228**
	242,151	5,272,363	5,021,022	1,538,705	421,306	39,517	929,265	1,967,937	186,880	**15,619,146**
Support costs	28,391	644,615	899,054	273,239	83,173	5,649	33,816	(1,967,937)	-	-
Governance costs	2,541	64,909	74,776	23,113	7,282	605	13,654	-	(186,880)	-
Total expenditure 2025	**273,083**	**5,981,887**	**5,994,852**	**1,835,057**	**511,761**	**45,771**	**976,735**	**-**	**-**	**15,619,146**

5 Net (expenditure)/income for the year

		2026	2025
This is stated after charging / crediting:		£	£
Depreciation and amortisation		**124,217**	107,146
Interest payable		**-**	345
Operating lease rentals: (note 16)	Property	**1,164,422**	1,066,951
	Other	**21,768**	20,960
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT):	Audit (statutory audit)	**33,053**	29,985

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:	2026	2025
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**9,118,294**	8,097,546
Social security costs	**1,119,074**	762,773
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**255,902**	225,671
Redundancy and termination payments	**2,246**	(2,992)
Staff training, supervision, travel and volunteer costs	**270,358**	294,254
Sessional counsellors and self employed	**58,840**	365,067
Agency & locum staff	**259,103**	703,164
Other forms of employee benefits	**36,754**	63,032
	11,120,571	10,508,515

Staff costs above have been allocated to expenditure as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Cost of raising funds	**203,790**	130,489
Refuge accommodation	**2,999,988**	2,962,449
Community advice, advocacy and support	**4,198,280**	4,132,335
Therapeutic	**1,421,568**	1,255,819
Children and Young People	**372,853**	382,271
Other services	**23,788**	25,962
Partnerships	**129,010**	155,420
Support and governance	**1,771,294**	1,463,770
	11,120,571	10,508,515

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel (continued)

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding pension costs) during the year between;

	2026	2025
	No.	No.
£60,000 - £69,999	**2**	1
£70,000 - £79,999	**1**	-
£80,000 - £89,999	**-**	1
£90,000 - £99,999	**1**	-

All higher-paid staff are members of the key management personnel.

The total employee benefits paid to the key management personnel (Chief Executive Officer, Director of Services, Director of Business Development, Director of Finance and Business Support and the Director of People & Culture) were £390,571 (2025: £280,632, employee benefits included employer pension contributions, on call payments and employer NI.

Pensions paid in respect of the key management personnel above amounted to £10,916 (2025: £8,239).

No charity trustee received payments for services supplied to the charity (2025: nil).

Reimbursement of travel and other expenses to trustees in 2026 was £316 (2025: nil).

7 Staff numbers

Average number of employees per cost centre:

	2026	2025
Costs of raising funds	**4.7**	2.6
Refuge accommodation	**81.3**	80.9
Community, advice, advocacy and support	**121.6**	120.7
Therapeutic	**39**	34.3
Children and Young People	**12.5**	12.8
Other services	**1.9**	2
Ascent, Crisis and other partnerships	**8.2**	9
Support and Governance	**45.2**	43.8
	314.4	306.1

8 Related Party Transactions

Total donations from three Trustees were £350 (2025: £214 from 3 Trustees).

9 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes

10a Tangible fixed assets

	Play area	Freehold property	Fixtures and fittings	IT Hardware	Head Office	**2026 Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	**£**
Cost or valuation						
At the start of the year	51,908	961,662	396,746	-	148,320	**1,558,636**
Additions in year	-	-	15,688	79,248	-	**94,936**
At the end of the year	51,908	961,662	412,434	79,248	148,320	**1,653,572**
Depreciation						
At the start of the year	51,908	205,213	294,288	-	52,389	**603,798**
Charge for the year	-	11,380	39,850	968	37,256	**89,454**
At the end of the year	51,908	216,593	334,138	968	89,645	**693,252**
Net book value						
At the end of the year	**-**	**745,069**	**78,296**	**78,280**	**58,675**	**960,320**
At the start of the year	-	756,449	102,458	-	95,931	954,838

Land with the value of £480,831 (2025: £480,831) is included within freehold property and is not depreciated. All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes. IT Hardware, with a net carrying value of £78,280 for the year, is held under finance leases.

10b Intangible fixed assets

	Software
	£
Cost or valuation	
At the start of the year	**417,883**
Additions in year	**14,795**
At the end of the year	**432,678**
Amortisation	
At the start of the year	**384,039**
Charge for the year	**34,763**
At the end of the year	**418,802**
Net book value	
At the end of the year	**13,876**
At the start of the year	33,844 .

11 Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Amounts due from Local Authorities and government agencies	**3,420,448**	1,892,647
Provision against bad debt	**(244,157)**	(301,838)
Other debtors	**17,647**	137,076
Prepayments	**168,354**	152,734
Accrued income	**1,150,167**	639,141
	4,512,459	2,519,760

12a Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade creditors	**461,795**	417,856
Other creditors	**248,607**	189,218
Funds held on behalf of clients	**67,141**	116,801
Taxation and social security	**322,146**	274,825
Provision (see note 12b)	**250,000**	250,000
Amounts due under finance leases	**30,268**	-
Accruals	**748,591**	787,807
Deferred income (see note 12c)	**668,002**	972,668
MOPAC Partnership funds (12d)	**1,837,044**	-
	4,633,594	3,009,175

12b Provision

	2026	2025
	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	**250,000**	250,000
Balance at the end of the year	**250,000**	250,000

The provision at the balance sheet date was the estimated settlement cost relating to the exit of one of our services. The timing of the settlement has not yet been agreed with the funder.

12c Deferred Income

Deferred income comprises income received in advance on contracts and projects which are delivered in the following year:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	**972,668**	1,102,601
Amount released to income in the year	**(2,701,967)**	(1,102,601)
Amount deferred in the year	**2,397,301**	972,668
Balance at the end of the year	**668,002**	972,668

12d MOPAC Partnership funds

Solace co-ordinates the monthly payments on behalf of MOPAC and the SV Alliance Partners; in line with clause 8 and schedule 4 of the contract. Solace acts as agent in respect of MOPAC funding. As the trustees have no discretion over the application of these funds, the related receipts and payments are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities. Funds held at the year end amounted to £1,837,044 (2025: £nil) and are included within creditors (note 12a).

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	**2026 Total funds**
	£	£	£	**£**
Tangible fixed assets	-	960,320	-	**960,320**
Intangible fixed assets	-	13,876	-	**13,876**
Net current assets	1,865,515	-	38,655	**1,904,170**
Finance lease obligations falling due after one year	(25,474)	-	-	**(25,474)**
Net assets at the end of the year	**1,840,041**	**974,196**	**38,655**	**2,852,892**

	General unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2025 Total funds
	£	£	£	**£**
Tangible fixed assets	-	954,838	-	**954,838**
Intangible fixed assets	-	33,845	-	**33,845**
Net current assets	1,180,920	-	25,887	**1,206,807**
Net assets at the end of the year	**1,180,920**	**988,683**	**25,887**	**2,195,490**

14 Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year	Income	Expenditure & Losses	Gains & Transfers	At the end of the year
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds:					
Fundraising	21,891	1,573	(5,316)	-	18,148
Provision and Prevention:					
Refuge service	-	1,463,003	(1,468,808)	5,805	-
Community advice, advocacy & support	-	1,965,973	(2,006,698)	44,221	3,496
Therapeutic	3,496	2,010,781	(1,993,769)	(3,497)	17,011
Children and Young People	-	409,000	(425,666)	16,666	-
Partnership Work:					
Partnerships	500	625,166	(662,653)	36,987	-
Total restricted funds	**25,887**	**6,475,496**	**(6,562,910)**	**100,182**	**38,655**
Unrestricted Funds:					
Designated funds: Capital	988,683	-	(124,218)	109,731	974,196
General Funds:	1,180,920	10,145,083	(9,276,049)	(209,913)	1,840,041
Total Unrestricted funds	**2,169,603**	**10,145,083**	**(9,400,267)**	**(100,182)**	**2,814,237**
Total Funds	**2,195,490**	**16,620,579**	**(15,963,177)**	**-**	**2,852,892**

14a Movements in funds (prior year – 2025)

Movements in funds (prior year 2025)	At the start of the year	Income	Expenditure & losses	Gains & Transfers	At the end of the year
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds:					
Fundraising	-	21,891	-	-	21,891
Provision and Prevention:					
Refuge services	-	1,485,115	(1,493,156)	8,041	-
Community advice, advocacy & support	-	1,696,104	(1,711,546)	15,442	-
Therapeutic	-	1,705,691	(1,706,075)	3,880	3,496
Children and Young People	-	427,081	(427,081)	-	-
Partnership Work:					
Partnerships	-	952,271	(951,771)	-	500
Total restricted funds	-	6,288,153	(6,289,629)	27,363	25,887
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds: Capital	1,020,781	-	(107,145)	75,047	988,683
General funds	978,486	9,527,216	(9,222,372)	(102,410)	1,180,920
Total unrestricted funds	1,999,267	9,527,216	(9,329,517)	(27,363)	2,169,603
Total funds	1,999,267	15,815,369	(15,619,146)	-	2,195,490

14b Purposes of restricted and designated funds

Fundraising: Legacy income has been restricted for Mother & Baby Support.

Refuge Services: These funds are (via Ashiana lead partner) for the complex needs refuge in Camden, MHCLG funding for family support and resettlement workers across our London boroughs. The MOPAC Tier 1 Accommodation Funding supported several multiple disadvantage workers at our refuges. The GLA and L&Q Foundation funded the move on accommodation NEST project across three London boroughs. New BBC Children In Need funding supports a family support worker in Bexley.

Community advice, advocacy and support: This fund is for the advice, advocacy and outreach work to survivors of domestic abuse. Women and Girls Network have channelled London Councils funding for our Advice Hub. Other funders include the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Department for Science, Innovation and Technology; Emigrant Support Programme; together with the Irish Youth Foundation for the Irish and Irish Traveller Communities; Trust for London towards the Immigration advice; and MOPAC towards support for users with multiple disadvantages. New funds include the MOPAC funding to support in the recovery from the impact of crime.

Therapeutic: Solace's counselling service is free to residents and service users of the organisation and is accessed through Ascent Counselling and the Pan-London Sexual Violence and Support Service, in collaboration with six other specialist agencies. The funders are MOPAC, Women and Girls Network and Tri-borough Angelou.

Children and Young People (CYP): Our work to provide crisis intervention support to young people in hospital emergency departments is funded by MOPAC and delivered in partnership with London Violence Reduction Units. Women and Girls Network fund our work with young women from the global majority, and other minoritised groups, who have experienced domestic abuse and sexual violence. The Banham Family Fund has funded counselling for children and young people in communities and schools.

Ascent Plus and other partnership: This fund is for the provision of violence against women and girls services delivered through partners. MOPAC has funded the Ascent Plus project. The Greater London Authority has funded our Casa Project, which gives women second-stage accommodation delivered through different partners.

15 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities

	2026	2025
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period	**657,402**	196,223
Interest received	**(15,106)**	(22,132)
Loan interest paid	**-**	345
Depreciation charges	**124,217**	107,146
Increase in debtors	**(1,992,699)**	(636,188)
Increase in creditors	**1,617,658**	93,452
Net cash flows (used in)/provided by operating activities	**391,472**	(261,154)

16 Operating lease commitment

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods.

	Property		**Equipment**	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
Up to one year	**1,150,259**	1,045,084	**9,645**	18,868
Two to Five years	**236,604**	150,219	**21,668**	9,434
	1,386,863	1,195,303	**31,313**	28,302

17 Finance Lease Commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable finance leases is as follows for each of the following periods.

	Equipment	
	2026	2025
	£	£
Up to one year	**30,268**	-
Two to five years	**25,474**	-
Net carrying amount of obligations under finance leases	**55,742**	-

18 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.



“Words cannot express how thankful I am to you for extending your hand in helping me climb out of the ditch, stand firm and see the world anew”

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Professional Advisers Auditors | Moore Kingston Smith LLP Solicitors | Anthony Collins LLP

To protect our service users, names & photos of service users have been changed.

Solace Women’s Aid is a charity registered in England and Wales. Charity number 1082450. Company number 03376716

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Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR