

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023



ALL ABOUT YOUTH



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Registered Charity No:  
1172685



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF TRUSTEES



SYA has had an exciting year as we continue to grow our services and support for all young people in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin. I am thrilled that we have been awarded investment from CMS to rebuild our home in Monkmoor, Shrewsbury, making it fit for the future and providing a modern, exciting and safe space for our young people for generations to come. As they demolish the old building, we will relocate locally through the generous support of the Local Authority and our aim is to be in our new home by May 2024

As the charity matures, so has the board of Trustees. Our aim is to provide the guidance, challenge and support to the SYA senior team to ensure that we, as a charity, continue to go from strength to strength in a sustainable and inclusive way. We are all passionate about providing the right services and support for the young people of Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin giving them the opportunities and chances in life that they deserve. As such, the Board has decided to be Trustee and youth led. We need to enhance our Board and change our processes to reflect the voice of young people and the business. Together we can do great things!

Our focus over the past year, which will continue through 2024 has been to look at what we stand for in terms of our vision, values and behaviours that underpin who we are and what we do to support our staff, volunteers, young people and the local communities in which we operate. We have built the admin support and fund-raising capabilities of the organisation by the recruitment of an Office Manager and a full time Fundraiser. As a Board we have been working through our climate impact and how we can reduce our carbon footprint. We have reviewed and strengthened our employee contracts and policies and involved young people in our strategy and brand development work. We have come into the 21st century with more collaborative working through SharePoint and have joined the local Chamber of Commerce as full members, as we endeavour to make SYA a household name in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin.

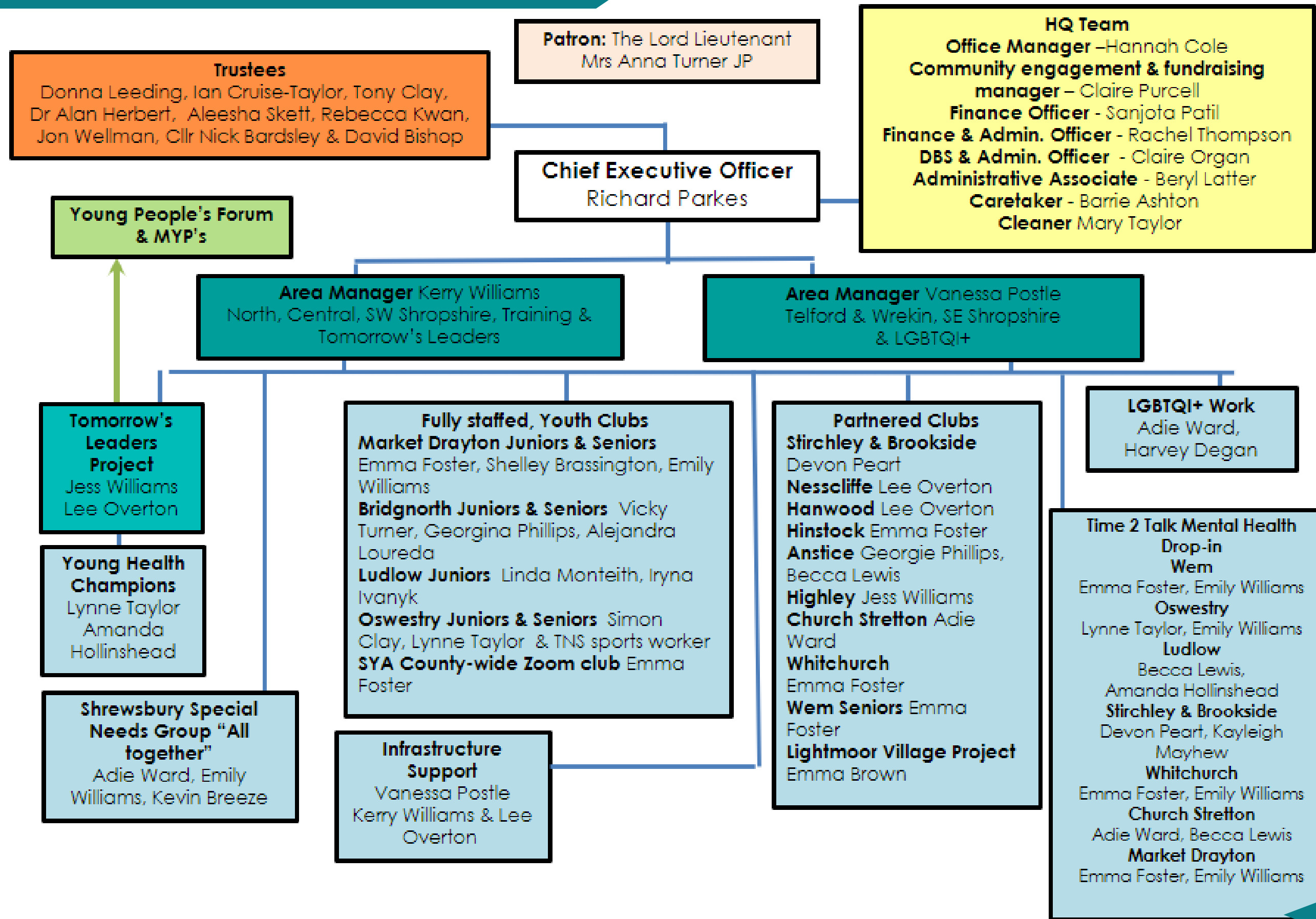
We still have much work to do, and we are looking to build our Trustee Board with expertise in web design and social media, fundraising, finance and innovation. We are trialling the introduction of SYA Ambassadors who can promote and test our new services, feedback the input from our youth clubs, and shine a light on what SYA brings to Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin through their networks. We want to build stronger links with local parish and town councils, Rotary and schools to enable more support for the young people in their communities.

I have been so proud of the significant achievements of our young people over the past year, for example, we now have four young people elected to the Youth Parliament representing Shropshire, the Youth Forum has been working with the National Trust on a project at Attingham Park and several young people have completed their Young Leader training. In addition, SYA has been leading on Mental Health provision through schools and has run the HAF and HAH programmes during the school holidays, post pandemic. This has been a critical service and one we need to continue to grow.

Finally, a huge thank you to our CEO, team and volunteers for going above and beyond and bringing passion and professionalism to everything they do, with the single aim of providing the right support and services in a truly fun and empowering way for our young people. I look forward to working with you all over the next year as we build on our foundations and generate more income to provide even more services.

Donna Leeding - Chair of Trustees

# STAFFING STRUCTURE NOVEMBER 2023



## WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We've supported over **4460 Young People aged 10-17** through affiliated clubs and projects

WE'VE PROVIDED **8.5 HOURS PER WEEK** OF MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCHOOLS

OVER 25 YOUNG PEOPLE ATTEND OUR BESPOKE LGBTQ CLUBS IN SHREWSBURY AND Telford

We've supported **687** Young People through Shropshire Young Farmers

In the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays, we worked with Shropshire Council to provide HAF sessions, and with Telford & Wrekin Co-operative council to provide HHAH sessions. Supporting over 500 Young People!

Young People who attended were provided with a daily hot meal, exercise opportunities, and other activities and games.

We've enabled more than **440** young people with disabilities to enjoy youth activities

More than **590** Young People over the age of 18 took part in SYA supported youth activities

**449** of them with Shropshire Federation of Young Farmers

As well as supporting **1887** Young People through Scouts!

# WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR IN THIS SECTOR

## We've run 12 training courses

Some of these have involved multiple sessions and all of them skill the participants to run safer, better youth clubs.

Courses included:

Safeguarding

Youth Work Level 2 & 3

Child Exploitation and Online Protection

Mental Health First Aid

Young Leaders

First Aid

Young Leaders First Aid

Food Hygiene

Thanks to dedicated Staff and Volunteers, we are able to run and support **296 sessions** of Youth Provision **every week!**

Over 125 staff members have **been employed through SYA and affiliated clubs and projects!**

We've developed **18** Young Leaders across **13** clubs

We've supported over **1399** volunteers! Including **109** volunteers under the age of 18!

We have helped ensure the safe running of cubs and activities by undertaking **224** DBS checks

SOCIAL VALUE GENERATED BY VOLUNTEERS

91,184.5

HOURS CONTRIBUTED BY  
VOLUNTEERS,  
WHICH IS WORTH

£2,704,851.30

This represents a return on  
investment of 5.2



Lightmoor Village volunteers  
Aaron, Susanne, Katie and Amelie



Stirchley & Brookside Volunteer  
Michelle



Hinstock Volunteer  
Heather

## FINANCE: BALANCE SHEET AS OF 31ST MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Permanent	2023	2022
	Note	Funds	Funds	Endowment	Total	Total
		£	£	Fund	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>						
<b>Incoming Resources from generated funds</b>						
Donations and legacies	3	95,594	155,376	-	250,970	79,631
Charitable activities	4	302,079	-	-	302,079	338,756
Other trading activities	5	29,014	-	-	29,014	22,832
Interest income		2,509	-	-	2,509	1,084
JRS Grants		-	-	-	-	3,420
<b>Total Income</b>		429,196	155,376	-	584,572	445,723
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Governance costs	6	1,796	-	-	1,796	3,884
Raising funds		17,555	-	-	17,555	14,600
Charitable activities	7	356,877	156,428	-	513,305	432,667
Separate Material Items	8	28,100	17,983	-	46,083	35,638
Other	9	3,268	1,513	-	4,781	2,649
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		407,596	175,924	-	583,520	489,438
<b>Net incoming resources (resources expended) before revaluations and investment assets disposals</b>		21,600	(20,548)	-	1,052	(43,715)
<b>Gains and losses on revaluations and disposals of investment assets</b>						
(Loss)/Profit on investments sold		-	-	-	-	-
(Loss)/Profit on revaluation of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		21,600	(20,548)	-	1,052	(43,715)
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		263,864	71,064	-	334,928	378,643
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		285,464	50,516	-	335,980	334,928

This is an extract, for full accounting details please see SYA's Annual Accounts filed with the charity



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



At this point, I always add an overview of the state of the youth sector in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and to also outline the wider, as well as emerging, trends for SYA - so here goes:

Covid, obviously, had a huge impact on young people, their youth clubs, youth workers (paid and voluntary) and the communities that support them. As we emerged, the sector began to recover and has continued to do so, but then along came the cost-of-living crisis and again this impacted on young people's resources, mental health and aspirations. The demand for youth services has grown past pre-covid levels in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin. Sadly, in some communities clubs closed and haven't re-opened, but in other areas new clubs have been established where they didn't previously exist.

We have seen considerable growth in Telford & Wrekin, and in our Tomorrow's Leaders Project which offers Young Leaders' training, Young Health Champions, Youth Forums and potential membership of the UK Youth Parliament.

The biggest challenge for the sector is to recruit volunteers and staff (the Scouts also report growing waiting lists) and we are also working in areas where there is a demand for clubs but where communities cannot recruit volunteers to run new clubs. Having done a limited deep dive into the reasons behind the lack of volunteering, it seems that concerns over taking full responsibility for running a club and time commitments are often identified as barriers.

To combat these we offer:

- A partnered approach with communities where they commission us to provide a paid, qualified youth worker to run the club with community volunteers. As these clubs develop, we train the volunteers and support the management committees.
- During 2023 we hope to develop a "Micro Volunteering" place on our website so that people who can't make a regular commitment can volunteer in a much more targeted way. For example, someone could say "I live in Wellington and I can give up one Wednesday night to show young people how to ice a cake but I don't want to travel too far". Clubs in that area would be notified of the opportunity and we would make the connection.

In terms of developing youth work in the County, we have also developed our "Time 2 Talk" mental health drop ins, in secondary schools, this is an expanding area of work with more projects starting as we attract the funding to underpin it.

On a regional and national level, we continue to train youth workers through the Government's Bursary Scheme in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, Stoke and Staffordshire. We contribute to the Regional Youthwork Impact Group, represent the County at Youth Focus West Midlands and contribute to The National Youth Agency (NYA) and UK Youth.

Youth work, nationally, is back in favour with the realisation that cutting services during the years of austerity has led to increasing social issues amongst young people, so over the next few years we can expect more developments. During this year the Government's Bursary Scheme was continued, the first ever National Curriculum for Youth Work was published, and the first and second rounds of the Youth Investment Fund (YIF) were launched. YIF Round 2, for buildings, saw SYA submit a successful bid resulting in an award of £1.8M for a new building. At the time of writing, we are in temporary accommodation whilst our contractors, R1 Construction, demolish and build our new HQ in Upton Lane, Shrewsbury.

We are looking forward to a busy, vibrant and exciting new year and will be here to help youth groups, clubs and projects to start, continue and expand to meet the needs of young people.

Richard Parkes - CEO

# SUPPORTING & FUNDING

