

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS
DISABILITY GROUP**

(Company limited by guarantee no. 06521773
registered charity no. 1127328)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**For the period from incorporation on
3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009**

TUESDAY



AD9D1EG4

A76

27/10/2009

65

COMPANIES HOUSE

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DISABILITY GROUP

(Company limited by guarantee no. 06521773, registered charity no. 1127328)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

CONTENTS

	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Officers' report	2
Reporting accountants' report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the financial statements	9

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DISABILITY GROUP

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

Membership Organisations

Adepta (now part of the Dimensions Group)	National Centre for Young
Aspire	People with Epilepsy (NCYPE)
Brandon Trust	Multiple Sclerosis Society
Camphill Village Trust	Norwood
Canterbury Oast Trust	The National Society for Epilepsy
CARE (now Self Unlimited)	Papworth Trust
Crossroads	Queen Elizabeth's Foundation
Dimensions	RNIB
The Disabilities Trust	RNID
Elizabeth Fitzroy Support	Scope
Guide Dogs	SeeAbility
HFT	Sense
Jewish Care	SignHealth
KeyRing	St. Elizabeth's Centre
Leonard Cheshire Disability	Sue Ryder Care
Livability	TACT (now, Affinity Trust)
MacIntyre	Thomas Pocklington Trust
MCCH	United Response
Mencap	Vitalise

Officers

Bryan Dutton	(Leonard Cheshire Disability)	Chair until resignation on 01.09.08
William Mumford	(MacIntyre)	Chair from 01.09.08
Mary Bishop	(Livability)	Vice Chair from 01.09.08
Graham Faulkner	(NSE)	Vice Chair from 01.09.08
Brian Perowne	(HFT)	Treasurer from 01.09.08
Lucy Hurst-Brown	(Brandon Trust)	Appointed 01.09.08

Secretary

John Adams VODG (Tel: 07917 670 509)

Registered office

21 Eriskay Gardens
Westbury
Wiltshire
BA13 3GH

Reporting accountant

Gotham Erskine LLP
Friendly House
52 - 58 Tabernacle Street
London
EC2A 4NJ

Website:

www.vodg.org.uk

Bankers

NatWest Bank
Westminster Branch
PO Box 3038
57 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0HN

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DISABILITY GROUP

OFFICERS' REPORT

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

The Officers, who act as directors of the Charity for the purposes of company law and trustees for charity law purposes, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Voluntary Organisations Disability Group period ended 31 March 2009. The Officers confirm that the annual report and financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2005)'.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Voluntary Organisations Disability Group (VODG) is a company limited by guarantee (Company number 6521773). It was formed on 3 March 2008 and on 1 April 2008, took over the activities, assets and liabilities of the unincorporated organisation of the same name. It is governed by its Memorandum & Articles of Association and is a Registered Charity (Charity number 1127328, registered 30 December 2008). The Charity is subject to the provisions of charity law as well as company law.

Membership is open to any organisations which are registered Charities and other non-statutory bodies which provide support services to disabled people. Each member organisation holds one vote. The chief officer of each member organisation is committed to attend meetings and vote on its behalf at meetings of the Charity, but may appoint an alternative representative if unable to attend. The day-to day business of the Charity is managed by its Officers who are responsible to and elected by the Charity's member organisations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objects as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association are to promote for the public benefit voluntary sector providers of social care support services to disabled people.

The membership organisations of the VODG work with 700,000 disabled people living throughout the UK – providing services that promote independence, choice and control. VODG members share common values and have a combined annual turnover in excess of £1 billion.

As an umbrella group of voluntary sector providers of social care support to disabled people, the Voluntary Organisations Disability Group (VODG) aims to facilitate and promote an environment in which its membership can provide high quality services based on the prime motivation of promoting the independence of disabled people.

The VODG with the support of its membership subscriptions and a grant from the Big Lottery Fund:

- seeks to address with Government those issues that affect its members' ability to deliver high quality services to disabled people, using the breadth of members' experience and exposure to illustrate issues pragmatically;
- offers Government and other bodies a means by which providers of support services to disabled people can be consulted in a structured way;
- seeks to lead the sector both in terms of the quality of the services that its members provide and through the strength of their coherent voice;
- engages in research to the benefit of its members and disabled people

OFFICERS' REPORT

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2008/09 was a year of considerable progress, achievements included:

- The formalisation of our operating framework, through registration as a company and charity, which introduces a governing structure that is effective and accountable to members.
- The adoption of a three-year plan, which describes a clear vision for the further development of the VODG - and sets out a strategy for achieving that vision.
- The introduction of a new class of Associate Membership - with the aim of recognising the needs of smaller organisations - and widening the constituency base of the VODG. This has the added benefit of further increasing our credibility and influence with government and statutory agencies as our representation extends.
- Steady growth in membership numbers.
- The widening of membership benefits through the introduction of:
 - Occasional seminars between CEO's and sector leaders: During the period under review these have included seminars with David Behan the Department of Health's (DH) Social Care, Local Government and Care Partnerships Director General and with Anne Williams, National Director for Learning Disabilities. Along with attendance at VODG members' meetings by John Bolton, DH Director of Social Care Strategic Finance; Dr. Julien Forder, Senior Research Fellow at PSSRU at the London School of Economics and Professor of the Economics of Social Policy at Kent University; Andrew Cozens CBE, Strategic Adviser for Children, Adults and Health Services at the Improvement and Development Agency; David Walden, Director of Strategy CSCI; Gill Nunn, Director, Futurebuilders England; John Dixon, President ADASS & Director of Adults' Services West Sussex County Council; and Baroness Barbara Young, Chair of the new Care Quality Commission.
 - Ad hoc, topical member meetings; facilitated by the VODG: one such meeting was run in partnership with RNIB and concerned the implications for members arising from the Working Time Directive.
 - Ad hoc, peer group meetings supported by the VODG – an HR VODG Workforce Group now meets regularly.
- Significant progress with the VODG's 'Ordinary Residence' campaign through a Department of Health review and national consultation of current guidance, and successfully establishing the concept of funding 'portability'.
- A national conference hosted by VODG in partnership with Community Care Magazine, 'Tackling the Eligibility Crisis in Adult Services' at which the Parliamentary Secretary of State for care services was the key-note speaker and where the VODG launched its report, 'Shadow Lands', produced in collaboration with the Institute of Public Care Oxford Brookes University.
- The publication of 'Uncertain Funding: Uncertain Futures', the VODG's response to the Government's consultation document, 'The Case for Change – why England needs a new care and support system'.
- The appointment of the VODG's General Secretary as Chair of the Department of Health's Third sector and Social Enterprise Sounding Board.
- Successful application (in partnership with the National Care Forum) to the Department of Health's Strategic Partnership Programme.

OFFICERS' REPORT

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

FUTURE PLANS

The Officers' strategic aim is that the VODG should influence the sector through:

- A combined and expert voice that is authoritative and based on applied experience- reinforced by research on key issues.
- Effective partnerships with central government, key statutory agencies, local government and PCT's.
- Representation, at the highest level, on key consultations.
- Access to sector leaders through seminars, annual dinner, conferences etc.
- Provision of a unique voice: pan disability, not-for-profit, national and collective.
- Unique access to information on people with disabilities who use services, their families and carers, and social care workforce.

To provide members with outstanding information through:

- Email briefings - short summaries of topical issues targeted at members' needs.
- An inside track and advance notice of forthcoming change.
- Benchmarking opportunities.
- Detailed information on key topics.
- Expert advice as appropriate.
- Opportunity to question and meet with key sector leaders.

To provide members with networking opportunities and peer group support through:

- Facilitation of topical discussions suitable for general attendance or specific to CEO's, FD's, Ops Directors, HR, Policy etc.
- Informal networking at the dinners, meetings etc and facilitate introductions between members.

Additionally the VODG plans to:

- Produce a personalisation supplement for service managers – in association with SCIE.
- Work with SCIE to develop an online provider personalisation readiness tool.
- Respond to the Government's Green Paper on long-term funding options for social care.
- Respond to CQC Compliance Guidance consultation and involve members in this process.
- To produce a providers' social care manifesto.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DISABILITY GROUP

OFFICERS' REPORT

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

PUBLIC BENEFIT

When planning the activities for the year, the Officers have sought to promote for the public benefit voluntary sector providers of social care support services to disabled people in particular but not exclusively by:

- (a) liaising between charities, voluntary organisations, government agencies and other groups on relevant issues;
- (b) educating and undertaking research in relation to the provision and financing of social care services and/or other support for disabled people by voluntary and charitable providers;
- (c) identifying needs in the voluntary sector and establishing projects or policies to address them;
- (d) acting as a representative of the voluntary sector in relation to government policies and legislation;
- (e) providing advice and information to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of social care and/or other support services for disabled people by voluntary and charitable providers; With a view to promoting the independence of disabled people who are receiving or who may require social care services and/or other support.

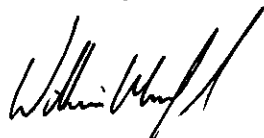
FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the year end the Group's free reserves were in excess of one year's running costs, which the Officers consider adequate for the Group's needs. The Officers envisage that the organisation will agree a formal reserves policy with its members during 2009-10.

PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Officers on 18 September 2009 and signed on its behalf by:



WILLIAM MUMFORD
Chairman

Reporting accountants' report to the members on the unaudited accounts of Voluntary Organisations Disability Group

We report on the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2009 set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Officers and reporting accountants

As described on page 8 the Officers who are the directors of Voluntary Organisations Disability Group for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the Charity is exempt from the requirements for an audit. It is our responsibility to carry out procedures designed to enable us to report our opinion.

Basis of opinion

Our work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants, and so our procedures consisted of comparing the financial statements with the accounting records kept by the Group, and making such limited enquiries of the officers of the Charity as we considered necessary for the purposes of this report. These procedures provide only the assurance expressed in our opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- (a) the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2009 are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the Group under section 221 of the Companies Act 1985;
- (b) having regard only to, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records:
 - i. the financial statements have been drawn up in a manner consistent with the accounting requirements specified in section 249C(6) of the Act; and
 - ii. the Charity satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the financial statements for the year specified in section 249A(4) of the Act as modified by section 249A(5) and did not, at any time within that year, fall within any of the categories of companies not entitled to the exemption specified in section 249B(1).

Gotham Erskine LLP

Gotham Erskine LLP
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
Friendly House
52 - 58 Tabernacle Street
London
EC2A 4NJ

Date:

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DISABILITY GROUP (company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

		Unrestricted	Big Lottery	Total	Memorandum
	Note	Funds	Restricted	Funds	Total
		2009	Fund	2009	Funds
		£	2009	£	2008
			£		£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Grant income - The Big Lottery Fund		-	61,844	61,844	78,258
Member subscriptions		72,784	-	72,784	58,813
Bank interest receivable		4,669	-	4,669	5,738
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		77,453	61,844	139,297	142,809
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Management and staffing	2	-	75,702	75,702	73,482
Information materials		-	12,851	12,851	12,656
Training events		26,838	-	26,838	4,954
Research fees		18,200	-	18,200	6,818
Meetings and events		13,844	-	13,844	8,738
Legal professional and accountancy fees		777	-	777	6,349
Independent examination fee		1,104	-	1,104	1,175
Office and administration		6,908	-	6,908	5,285
Bank charges		128	-	128	114
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		67,799	88,553	156,352	119,571
Net income/(expenditure)		9,654	(26,709)	(17,055)	23,238
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 APRIL 2008		144,633	32,621	177,254	154,016
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2009		£ 154,287	£ 5,912	£ 160,199	£ 177,254

NOTE

Although it was incorporated on 3 March 2008, the new charity, which took over the activities of the unincorporated organisation of the same name, did not start operating until 1 April 2008 and so the results cover a year.

The comparative column, reflecting the results of the unincorporated organisation, is for memorandum purposes only - see Note 4 for an explanation as to how the figures have been derived.

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DISABILITY GROUP

BALANCE SHEET As at 31 March 2009

	Notes	Memorandum 2009 £	2008 £
CURRENT ASSETS - Cash at bank		166,109	180,903
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year - accruals		(5,910)	(3,649)
NET CURRENT ASSETS / NET ASSETS		<u>£ 160,199</u>	<u>£ 177,254</u>
FUNDS			
Restricted funds	3	5,912	32,621
Unrestricted fund: General fund	3	154,287	144,633
		<u>£ 160,199</u>	<u>£ 177,254</u>

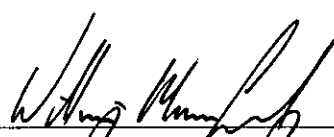

See Note 4 for an explanation of how the comparative figures have been derived.

The Officers are satisfied that the Company is entitled to exemption under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985 and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 249B(2) of the Act.

The Officers acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the Company keeps proper accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies Act 1985; and
- (ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 226 of the Companies Act 1985, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the Company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007). They were approved, and authorised for issue, by the Officers on 18 September 2009 and signed on their behalf by:-

	WILLIAM MUMFORD, Chairman
	BRIAN PEROWNE, Treasurer

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in 2005, applicable accounting standards and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

The effects of events relating to the year ended 31 March 2009 which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Officers has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2009 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Officers in furtherance of the general objects of the Group and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Group for particular purposes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Group is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Subscription income is invoiced and accounted for on a financial year basis.

Resources expended

Expenditure includes non-recoverable VAT and is accounted for as incurred.

2. STAFFING AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The services of a General Secretary (part-time) were purchased under contract from Ebble Associates Ltd; a (full-time) Policy Officer was seconded to the VODG from MacIntyre to whom the related salary costs of £29,686 (covering the year ended March 2009) were reimbursed in full. The organisation's Chair (William Mumford), is the Managing Director of MacIntyre. The organisation considers the payments to have been made on normal business terms and have a formal agreement detailing the terms of the secondment.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DISABILITY GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period from incorporation on 3 March 2008 to 31 March 2009

3. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Carried Forward £
SUMMARY OF FUNDS					
General Funds	144,633	77,453	(67,799)	-	154,287
Restricted Fund:					
The Big Lottery Fund	32,621	61,844	(88,553)	-	5,912
	<u>£ 177,254</u>	<u>£ 139,297</u>	<u>£ (156,352)</u>	<u>£ Nil</u>	<u>£ 160,199</u>

The Big Lottery Fund has provided funding for support - in the form of a General Secretary and a Policy Officer and towards the production costs of information materials..

4. COMPARATIVES

This is the first year that VODG's accounts have been prepared as an incorporated charity. Previously its activities were administered through an unincorporated organisation of the same name which did not have charitable status. The new entity was incorporated on 3 March 2008 and registered as a Charity on 30 December 2008. It had no activities or transactions until 1 April 2008 when it took over the old group's operations, assets and liabilities. The comparatives for the year ended 31 March 2008 are for the old unincorporated organisation.