

Company registration number: 03171880
Charity registration number: 1054154



Women's Aid Federation of England
(A company limited by guarantee)

**Annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2015**

Women's Aid Federation of England

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Women's Aid Federation of England
Reference and administrative details

Charity name Women's Aid Federation of England

Charity registration number 1054154

Company registration number 03171880

Registered office Kings House
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Femi Otitoju, Joint Chair
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Yasmin Khan
Becky Rogerson

Ambassadors Jahmene Douglas
Will Young
Gordon and Tana Ramsay
Bill Ward
Charlie Webster

Patrons Julie Walters
Sarah Brown
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Women's Aid Federation of England
Reference and administrative details

Principal officer	Polly Neate, Chief Executive
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Women's Aid Federation of England

Trustees' report

The Board of Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Reference and administrative information set out on pages 1 and 2 form part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing the management of the charity and delegates this responsibility on a day-to-day basis to the Chief Executive.

The Chief Executive is supported by an Executive Management Team, within an overall staff team of 63 full and part-time staff and one volunteer.

Financial and operational policies, agreed by the Board of Trustees, are also in place, which govern the management of the charity. The business plan is reviewed annually according to an annual planning and consultation cycle. Annual workplans enable the delivery of the core and development objectives, which are approved by the Board of Trustees, and monitoring against these plans forms the basis of quarterly reports to the Trustee meetings.

Connections to wider network

Women's Aid is a federation of over 200 Full Members providing around 300 lifesaving local services to women and children across England. Our network also includes a further 70 local services run by non-members who are engaged with us through the UKRefugesOnline database. The charity also works in partnership with a range of statutory, voluntary, corporate and other bodies to deliver its mission and achieve its objectives.

Membership is based on signing an agreement to support the charity's mission, aims and objectives. There are three membership categories:

Full Members: Organisations that deliver direct services

Associate Members: Other supporting organisations

Individual Members: Who support the work of Women's Aid

Women's Aid local member services provide a range of refuge and community-based services to combat domestic violence including sexual violence in intimate partner relationships. Members work to national standards for service delivery, including the Women's Aid National Quality Standards which cover all aspects of service delivery, as well as using model policies and procedures developed by Women's Aid.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable objects

The principal activity of the charity is to promote the protection of women and children who have suffered from, or are exposed to, gender based violence, including the preservation and protection of their mental and physical health, the relief of need and the promotion of research and education concerning gender based violence.

Vision

A world where every woman's right to equality and freedom from violence is unquestioned.

Purpose

Women's Aid exists to use its expertise, knowledge and influence to raise the status of women to a level where violence against them is no longer legitimised or tolerated.

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Mission

For 40 years, **Women's Aid's** mission has been to lead in preventing and ending domestic and sexual violence and in advocating and ensuring the safety of abused women and children. There are three key aims to our long term strategy:

- To improve the **protection** available to abused women and children by ensuring that their needs and experiences inform developments in law, policy and practice.
- To work towards the **prevention** of gender based violence through public awareness and education.
- To ensure the **provision** of high quality services for abused women and children.

In 2014/15, the medium term mission agreed by the Board of Trustees was to 'Establish Women's Aid as the leading authority working to end violence against women and girls in their relationships'. This included a strategy to:

- Continually improve our understanding of survivors' needs and circumstances and innovate to meet those needs better.
- Represent and support our members internationally, nationally, regionally and locally.
- Place centre stage politically and in public opinion the ending of violence against women and girls in their relationships.
- Establish Women's Aid as a sustainable organisation with the ability to grow and become a successful fundraising organisation.

ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST OBJECTIVES SET FOR 2014/15

STRATEGIC AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Throughout the year, Women's Aid has consulted with domestic violence survivors and domestic violence services to get their views on government policy and new policy developments through online forums, surveys, group meetings and the Women's Aid Annual National Conference. This has informed Women's Aid's policy development, political engagement strategies and campaigning and influencing work which has been very successful in 2014/15.

In 2014/15 Women's Aid worked with various stakeholder groups through contributing to high level regular meetings.

Women's Aid is a member of:

- The Inter Ministerial Group on Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) led by the Home Secretary
- The Home Office VAWG Stakeholder Group
- The Ministry of Justice Female Offenders Advisory Group
- The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) VAWG External Consultation Group
- The Home Office Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme and Domestic Violence Protection Orders Steering Group
- National Oversight Group on police response to domestic violence - set up by the Home Secretary following the publication of the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) inquiry report;

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- HMIC Reference Group for follow up to their review into police response to domestic violence (commissioned by the Home Secretary)

All Party-Parliamentary Group on Domestic and Sexual Violence (APPG)

Women's Aid continued to provide the Secretariat for the All Party-Parliamentary Group on Domestic and Sexual Violence throughout 2014/2015. The APPG held three successful meetings in 2014/15 around work with perpetrators of domestic violence and the issues that specialist domestic violence services are facing around funding and commissioning.

The APPG conducted an in-depth Inquiry into *The Changing Landscape of Domestic and Sexual Violence Services*, in partnership with Rape Crisis England and Wales, from September 2014 – March 2015. Almost 70 organisations and professionals and over 100 survivors of domestic violence submitted written evidence to the Inquiry, this was supplemented by an oral evidence session which took place in Parliament. The Inquiry report launched in February 2015 and made a series of recommendations to Government and commissioners which will be followed up by the APPG throughout 2015/16.

Policy campaigns and lobbying

As well as continuing to develop policy and deliver high-level influencing work on a range of issues over the last year, Women's Aid has also undertaken the following major political campaigns and projects:

The SOS: Save Refuges, Save Lives campaign launched in September 2014 calling on the Government to protect the national network of domestic violence refuges and to exploring a new model of sustainable funding. The campaign led to a £10 million fund being created by the Government for specialist refuges facing a crisis as well as ongoing discussions around a longer-term funding solution.

- The campaign worked with online petition website 38 Degrees to launch a petition which attracted over 39,000 signatures. It was handed in to Downing Street on 20 November 2014 during a candlelit vigil we organised which was also joined by workers and residents of refuges from around the country. This SOS campaign was the subject of numerous debates and questions in Parliament and led to the development of a Women's Refuges (Eligibility and Provision) Private Members Bill.

Women's Aid partnered with the Sara Charlton Charitable Foundation and Paladin to run the Domestic Violence Law Reform Campaign which called on the Government to criminalise coercive control, psychological abuse and patterns of controlling behaviour. This campaign led to the Government launching a consultation on creating a new offence and the subsequent criminalisation of coercive and controlling behaviour through the Serious Crime Act which received Royal Assent on 8 March 2015. This crime will come into force in 2015.

- We have continued to support the joint campaign for statutory relationships and sex education in schools.

Women's Aid supported the calls for Revenge Porn to be criminalised and provided expert analysis of survivors of domestic violence experiences of revenge porn and made recommendations to Government.

- The campaign asking the Government to ratify the Istanbul Convention has continued through 2014/15. Although the Convention has not yet been ratified Women's Aid has been keeping political pressure on the Government and had a letter printed in The Times which was supported by over 30 organisations.

- Throughout 2014/15 Women's Aid was successful in campaigning for the widening of the legal aid evidence gateway which the Ministry of Justice reviewed and widened in April 2014.

After playing a key role in the HMIC inspections of police force handling of domestic violence in 2013/14 and the follow up work mandated by the Home Secretary, Women's Aid has been key to developing the police's on-going response to domestic violence, particularly through our work on developing training on coercive control and inputting the views and experiences of survivors into HMIC work.

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Development of a Femicide Census

The Femicide Census, launched in February 2015, is the UK's first census on women killed by men. This ground breaking project will be an important tool, enabling us to monitor fatal male violence against women and providing valuable data to help reduce the number of women killed by men. It was developed in partnership between Women's Aid, Karen Ingala Smith, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP and Deloitte.

The Census includes a wide range of information about women who have been killed by fatal male violence, the perpetrators and the incident of murder itself, including the date, names, police force area, and information about children, recorded motive and the weapon.

Information which is currently in the Femicide Census was initially from a set of names that had been collected by Karen Ingala Smith in her blog Counting Dead Women since January 2012. She searched the web for news of women who had been killed by men. This data had been gathered from publicly available sources, primarily press articles.

The Femicide Census will

- provide a clearer picture of domestic homicides in the UK by age/ethnic origin/ relationship/ profession/region/outcome;
- provide a clearer picture of men's fatal violence against women that is not committed by a partner or ex-partner;
- allow us to utilise the information to create advocacy tools to provide concrete data on domestic violence homicides;
- provide data when NGOs working to end domestic violence against women is providing expert evidence on domestic homicides in civil cases or before the Coroners court;
- allow us to draw comparisons and parallels between cases and identifying where there is the potential for a systemic argument against the State for failing to protect the Right to Life; and
- provide a resource for academics researching femicides.

The Femicide Census was launched at a conference in February 2015, further detail of which can be found in the next section. The Census is a powerful tool we can use to monitor male violence against women and work to reduce the number of women killed by men.

Collaborative Working

Women's Aid continues to work in partnership with other organisations and in 2014/15 carried out the following collaborative working, including:

- Working in partnership with Welsh Women's Aid and Rights of Women on Legal Aid reform to widen the legal aid gateway for domestic violence survivors.
- Publishing joint research with the TUC on women's experiences of financial abuse.
- Working with Girlguiding in hosting a joint Parliamentary event in the Speaker's House on What matters to Women and Girls in the General Election 2015. The event featured keynote speeches from Radio One DJ Gemma Cairney and the Rt Hon John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House.
- Providing expert input to the activities of the End Violence Against Women Coalition (EVAW) of which Women's Aid is a member.
- Working with the PSHE Association in their campaign to make PSHE Education statutory.

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Conferences & Events

Women's Aid Annual National Conference took place at Aston University on 2nd and 3rd July 2014. Over 170 professionals from Women's Aid member organisations and others working with domestic and sexual violence survivors from across the UK attended the conference to take part in debates, plenary and workshop sessions on a wide range of issues. The first day of conference, entitled Needs, Barriers, Innovation, focused on identifying the future needs of survivors, the barriers to addressing domestic violence and the commissioning and service delivery models for the future that could meet those needs and tackle the barriers. Conference highlights of the first day included keynote speeches by Norman Baker MP, the then Minister for Crime Prevention and the Director of Public Prosecutions, Alison Saunders. The second day, entitled Focusing on the Solutions, discussed the future of domestic violence services as well as the future of the Women's Aid movement itself discussing our new strategy and structure for success. Domestic violence survivors were also given the opportunity to put the Criminal Justice System on the spot, questioning experts including Vera Baird QC, PCC for Northumberland, Zoe Billingham, from HMIC and Nottinghamshire Police Supt. Helen Chamberlain.

Our **40th birthday photo exhibition** was officially launched at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP on 5th November 2014. The exhibition was a celebration of 40 years of lifesaving work and the many people that have been an integral part of helping abused women and children who are living with domestic violence. The exhibition remained at the Freshfields' offices for a week and then moved to the Centrespace Gallery in Bristol and finally to the Pankhurst Centre in Manchester. Previous to the official launch, the exhibition had its debut in Upper Waiting Hall of the House of Commons.

On **25th November 2014 a parliamentary reception** was held in the Palace of Westminster as part of the celebrations of our 40th anniversary year. We were joined by over 240 parliamentarians, key celebrity supporters, key figures in the Women's Aid movement, survivors of domestic violence and other influential supporters. The reception was hosted by Bridget Phillipson MP, Secretary of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic & Sexual Violence, and speakers included Home Secretary Theresa May MP; Charlotte Kneer, survivor of domestic violence and Manager of Reigate and Banstead Women's Aid and Yasmin Khan, Women's Aid Board Member and Chief Executive of a Women's Aid member service, Staying Put, based in Bradford.

As part of the ongoing Football United Against Domestic Violence campaign, the Women's Aid Football United All-Stars lined up against the Parliamentary Football Team to play the first **Football United cup match** on 2 December 2014. The match took place at Perks Field in Kensington Gardens and was refereed by Ex-Premier League match official Dermot Gallagher. The All-Stars team, managed by Football United Ambassador and Soccer AM presenter Max Rushden, included Angus Deayton, Ben Shephard and Jordan Stevens from Rizzle Kicks, and the creative teams of Engine and WRCS. They played an astounding game, beating the Parliamentarians 4-0. The Parliamentary team, including Steve Rotherham MP, Clive Betts MP, Karl McCartney MP, and Gavin Barwell MP generously donated £10,000 to Women's Aid, as their charity partner for this year.

On 9 December 2014 a **40th birthday party** was held at the Club at The Ivy where around 100 guests enjoyed entertainment from our Children and Young People's Ambassador, Jahméne Douglas and DJ Gemma Cairney; an auction and speeches from guests including domestic violence survivor, Mandy Woods. The evening was hosted by Duncan Bannatyne and Women's Aid Ambassador, Charlie Webster.

On 12 February 2015 we held an event, hosted by Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP to **launch the new Femicide census**. Over 150 professionals, survivors and families of femicide victims attended to hear an introduction to the census as well as learn about some of the perspectives on femicide and how it can be prevented in the future. Speakers included: Karen Ingala Smith, CEO of nia and developer of the Femicide Census; Dr Aisha K. Gill, Associate Professor in Criminology at University of Roehampton; Julie Warren-Sykes, mother of femicide victim; Vera Baird, Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria and Frank Mullane, Director of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse.

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S POLICY AND SERVICES

The voices of children and young people are a fundamental aspect of our work. To further this, Women's Aid continued to work with our **Young People's Advisory Panel**, which allows young people the opportunity to be closely involved in the development of future campaigns.

In October 2014 we supported some members of the Young People's Advisory Panel to give informal evidence to the Joint Committee on Human Rights for their inquiry into violence against women and girls. The Committee was very impressed with the young people and included many of their views and points in its final report.

We also provided support to members, local specialist support services, Local Authorities and educational institutions with information and advice on a cross-section of topics relating to children, young people and their experiences of domestic violence, alongside statistics, policy information and research.

The Hideout website continues to be an important source of information for children and young people, with over 42,000 visitors during the year. Professionals also use the site for their own needs and as a tool to discuss healthy relationships with the young people they work with.

ICAP Safer Futures Project

In 2014, funding from ICAP enabled the launch of Safer Futures, a national project that aims to build networks between local schools, specialist domestic violence services and Local Authorities to ensure that respectful relationships education is delivered responsibly and effectively in schools across the country. Since the two year project started in July 2014, 13 Safer Futures workshops have been held across the country, with around 180 domestic violence professionals attending. These workshops consisted of scoping existing work taking place in schools, identifying gaps, building networks, briefing on educational resources and good practice, and recruiting Schools Advocates to act as local champions for prevention work in schools. School Advocates have been provided with a resource pack with top tips in engaging and supporting schools to tackle domestic violence and abuse.

Training on domestic violence has been delivered to schools through the Safer Futures project. This has included training 80 school staff in Essex coordinated by the Essex Healthy Schools Advisor, a lecture to 120 school staff at a Safeguarding Day in Warrington and a training session with primary and secondary school staff through Ealing Healthy Schools Project. The need for prevention work in schools has been promoted at a variety of national and local conferences and events including the Public Policy Symposium on Domestic Violence to an audience of 150 professionals, a presentation at the Safe in Sussex Conference to 180 professionals, a talk at the Government Knowledge third annual Children and Young People's Conference to 90 professionals, a workshop at the Integrate National Conference to 45 professionals, and a workshop to 30 National Union of Teachers (NUT) representatives at the Hackney NUT conference.

We were delighted this year that the Expect Respect Toolkit was awarded the PSHE Association Quality Mark and has been promoted to over 5,000 of their members.

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PREVENTION

RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND ITS IMPACT

Media work to increase public awareness

The media and communications team continued to provide a high quality, professional service to raise awareness of Women's Aid and the critical services that we and our members provide nationally as well as a direct line for journalists and professionals looking for opinions and further information on the issue of violence against women.

- Women's Aid has featured in national, regional and online media throughout the year –with at least two appearances in national media each month. Women's Aid statistics are also used very widely, meaning our impact is much broader than our media mentions would suggest;

- Women's Aid has briefed and informed national, regional and local media, worked with journalists across the country and issued more than 50 Women's Aid generated press releases and blogs throughout the year;

- Women's Aid has nurtured and increased 'followers' on our social media channels, reached 31,345 Twitter followers, more than 12,353 Facebook 'likers', and 462 YouTube subscribers;

- Women's Aid has featured on programmes including Newsnight, Panorama, Sky Sunrise, BBC Breakfast, BBC News, Channel 4 News, ITV News and Channel 5 News, in magazines including Cosmopolitan, Glamour, Fabulous and OK!, on radio including Woman's Hour on Radio 4, Five Live and on numerous online publications, including The International Business Times;

- Women's Aid has also featured in national papers including The Guardian, The Independent, The Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Mirror and The Sun. We have increased our coverage in national newspapers significantly again over the past 12 months;

- Various departments have worked with other organisations to raise awareness and gain support to improve provision of domestic violence services (the SOS campaign) and improve protection in the law (the Domestic Violence Law Reform Campaign in partnership with Paladin and The Sara Charlton Charitable Trust and improving access to Legal Aid). Particularly heightened campaign and lobbying activity work was carried out during the international campaign of 16 days of Action on Violence Against Women from 25 November 2014 alongside bursts of targeted activity throughout the year to coincide with the best timing for key stakeholder engagement and support;

- Women's Aid has continued to work to publicise the Freephone 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline and manage requests to use the number in various local and national media (run in partnership with Refuge);

- Along with Avon and Refuge, Women's Aid launched the Wall of Silence campaign aimed at breaking the taboo of domestic violence and encouraging women who experience domestic violence to speak out.

Football United

Women's Aid's Football United against Domestic Violence campaign was launched on 10 June 2014 at the Houses of Parliament at an event hosted by Justin Tomlinson MP and sponsored by BT Sport and the Premier League. The event brought together Parliamentarians, the media and key stakeholders in the footballing community to support the FUADV campaign and its aims and objectives to work with national footballing bodies, sports media, football clubs, the police, players and fans to send a clear message that domestic violence is always unacceptable and to call out sexist behaviour that can underpin violence towards women and girls.

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The launch was well supported and Women's Aid built on the commitment shown at the launch event to develop the campaign by working closely with a number of organisations including Kick it Out, the Premier League and the Football Supporters' Federation.

This campaign is in response to reports of increased reporting of domestic violence following World Cup games, and the campaign was launched at the time of the 2014 World Cup to tie this in. The campaign will run in two phases, from 2014 until the Euros in 2016 and then from 2016 to the next World Cup in 2018.

The campaign objectives are to:

Motivate - encouraging football audiences (male and female) to take action now, signpost to help and create public awareness;

Educate - to achieve long-term change through working with young people/working with clubs on workplace policies/training.

As mentioned within the events section, Women's Aid hosted a football match between their 'Football United Against Domestic Violence' team and the Parliamentary Football Team and work continued with multiple stakeholders and organisations throughout the year to build on the campaign and its deliverables into 2015/16.

Women's Aid are also working with Bristol University to develop a new piece of research in relation to football and domestic violence, and are supporting human rights campaign Equally Ours to create a Football United awareness raising short film that clubs can use which will be launched in April/May 2015.

'Look At Me' Interactive Outdoor Advertising Campaign

In a UK first, Women's Aid launched an interactive billboard-sized digital screen, created and developed by creative agency WRCS, that urged people to pay attention to the issue of domestic violence. The engagement-activated advert responds to passers-by to demonstrate how we can all make tangible changes in the fight against domestic violence.

The digital screen showed a woman's face covered in bruises alongside the simple request: 'Look at me'. Those who look at the image will be recognised by the screen's facial recognition technology and will be able to see themselves on a live feed that runs along the bottom of the screen.

The billboard was shot by famed photographer Rankin. The campaign was conceptualised by creative agency WRCS, and was entered into Ocean's annual Art of Outdoor Digital Competition. Women's Aid received the Interactive Category First Prize for the campaign, winning premium space across Ocean's network of outdoor advertising billboards. It premiered on 5 March 2015 at The Screen at Canary Wharf in London and then rolled out to the The Screen at New Street in Birmingham and Eat Street at Westfield London on 7 and 8 March 2015.

The initiative was supported on Channel 4 with a specially introduced 30 second prime time TV spot during the centre break of brand new drama Indian Summers on Sunday, March 8 and was repeated at 7.20pm the following day in Channel 4 News' ad break.

We are extremely grateful to creative agency WCRS and Rankin for donating their time to create this impactful campaign that will raise awareness of domestic violence, as well as funds for Women's Aid.

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Wall of Silence

Women's Aid worked with Avon and Glamour magazine alongside our member organisation Refuge to launch the Wall of Silence campaign which aims to bring everyone in society together to take a stand not only against domestic violence but the fact that we are not talking enough about a crime that kills two women in the UK every week. People were encouraged to take a *Shhhh Selfie* and upload it to Twitter or Instagram with a hashtag #WallOfSilence and Avon would donate £1 for every Shhhh Selfie uploaded. The campaign page can be found here: <http://www.avon.uk.com/PRSuite/20141027-wall-of-silence.page>. Avon UK launched its Speak Out against Domestic Violence campaign in 2009 and has raised more than £1.5 million for charity partners in that time. Avon UK continued to be the primary Women's Aid corporate supporter in 2014, raising much needed funds to support the Women's Aid Survivor's Forum and training bursaries for local domestic violence services to access quality domestic abuse training.

Christmas Appeal 2014

Over the 2014 Christmas period Women's Aid ran a postal appeal, based around a survivor's experience of finally fleeing her abuser at Christmas time. The case study that we used for the appeal highlighted the damaging effects of coercive control, rather than focusing as much on the physical abuse, as we knew this was going to be a big focus for Women's Aid in the year ahead. 2014 was the first year that we trialled donor segmentation, to encourage donors to increase their donation from previous gifts to Women's Aid and sign up to give a regular gift, this was hugely successful with nearly every donor giving more than they previously had and some donors signing up to give a regular gift, we also noticed an increase in donor reactivation. The appeal raised £14,379 (including a generous individual donation of £10,000).

PROVISION

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE - 0808 2000 247

Women's Aid has continued to provide a package of lifeline services to women and children experiencing domestic violence. The 24 hour Freephone National Domestic Violence Helpline (NDVHL) run in partnership with Refuge, provides a safe and confidential service to survivors and their supporters. In the year April 2014 to March 2015 the NDVHL received 180,064 calls. Demand for the service, from both survivors and professionals supporting them, continues to exceed the resources available, with the NDVHL able to respond to only 68% of callers. In addition the NDVHL responded to 3,181 emails.

The NDVHL website has received 171,196 visitors this year.

Particular achievements to note during the last year include:

- 11,484 women and their children have been supported to access refuge accommodation,
- Risk assessments have been carried out with all survivors calling and tailored safety plans provided,
- 21,701 professionals, family and friends of survivors were provided with advice and information to enable them to better support survivors.

The NDVHL continues to extend its partnership arrangements to include the Women and Girls Network and Croydon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre for delivery of Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines across London, as part of the Ascent London Consortium.

We are extremely grateful for the continued substantial financial support from the Home Office, Comic Relief and London Councils. However, funding for the NDVHL remains a continual challenge and a review of the model of delivery to maximise the financial efficiency and value for money of services is underway.

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The Survivors' Forum, which provides a safe online space to enable survivors to share their experiences, receive and offer peer support and receive accurate information from a trained moderator, grows in popularity year on year. Forum members post messages on a huge range of topics and the users themselves testify to the value of the service provided;

"I can log in feeling great and leave feeling great, or I can log in feeling scared and vulnerable, and leave feeling so much stronger and with a clearer head and a plan of action in mind."

Women's Aid has continued to work in partnership with **Netmums**, the online community for parents with over a million members, to provide specialist domestic and sexual violence support for the 'Netmums Coffee House Chat' message board.

In 2014, with support from Comic Relief, the NDVHL was able to commission the services of Cordis Bright, a skilled research and consultancy organisation, to independently evaluate the service. Cordis Bright has worked collaboratively, and very much as a critical friend, to review and offer an objective and fresh perspective on the NDVHL business model, the result of which is an improvement action plan.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

Women's Aid undertook an intensive programme of **Member Consultations** in the Autumn of 2014 delivered by Polly Neate, Chief Executive, and Beverley Pass, Joint Chair of the Board, with input from the Membership team. The purpose of the consultations was to collect views from our members on three main areas of our work; promoting the sustainability of services; evidencing quality of member services and raising the national profile of Women's Aid. Feedback was positive on the achievements in all three areas and members contributed views and ideas on a range of proposals for taking the work forward in these areas. Members particularly valued Women's Aid's clear strategic impact on government and policy at a national level. They also appreciated the tools for demonstrating their own impact locally in the form of the Quality Standards and the development of the On Track outcomes framework and database.

In the spring of 2015 we organised six **Regional Network meetings** in the South East, South West, London, West Midlands, East Midlands and North West. These meetings were designed to re-establish the regional networks that had existed previously. Regional Co-ordinators volunteered to sustain the networks between annual meetings with the Women's Aid Membership and Policy teams and the networks are experimenting with using the online tool, Yammer, to share skills, experience and news on commissioning and other developments.

We have continued to roll out the Women's Aid Federation of England **National Quality Standards**. During the year six Quality Assessment Panels were held, reviewing a total of 25 applications, of which 21 were awarded the quality mark and four were referred to the Capacity Building team for further support and service improvement to enable them to meet the standards. Independent assessors were recruited and have been conducting the assessments since January 2015. Following a successful first year the Standards are being reviewed in consultation with survivors, member services who had been through an assessment, Women's Aid staff teams, sector partners and the team of assessors.

Women's Aid has continued to develop the '**On Track' Outcomes Framework** and database for enabling member services to evidence the impact of their services to commissioners. Seven organisations have been trained in the paper and online tools and are piloting the computerised database. Fifty organisations are signed up to implement the final product when it is available in the autumn of 2015.

Imkaan and Women's Aid Capacity Building Project

The Imkaan and Women's Aid Capacity Building Project, established in 2012 to address survival and sustainability issues in the independent women's VAWG services sector, has continued to deliver capacity building and sustainability work to independent women's VAWG services and has been involved in some significant national initiatives during the last year. The project has delivered individual capacity building support with funding, tendering and sustainability issues to 42 Imkaan and Women's Aid member organisations and has supported the building of partnerships and consortia of VAWG services in eight local areas.

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The project has made contact with a range of commissioners and delivered advice and presentations on good practice in domestic violence commissioning in ten local or county authorities. In the autumn of 2014 the project staff delivered six **National Commissioning Workshops** in partnership with the Home Office, staff from Rape Crisis England and Wales, Respect and CAADA, and survivors. These gave commissioners and providers a chance to understand each other's priorities and engage proactively with the challenges facing both groups in and meeting the needs of survivors in the current commissioning environment.

The project has achieved positive results in supporting services to tender successfully for continuing funding and to engage with local commissioners. A number of organisations supported attributed successful outcomes in safeguarding existing services or securing funding for new services directly to the technical support provided by the Capacity Building Project during the tendering process.

In December 2014 the project responded to a crisis in capacity for the independent specialist women's refuge sector when the government released a **£10 million emergency fund for refuge provision** with a very tight deadline for bids of 16 January 2015 with the proviso that the bids were submitted by local authorities in partnership with specialist providers. The Department of Communities and Local Government used a short version of the Women's Aid National Quality Standards as the criteria for assessing bids, which was a considerable endorsement of the standards from government. Lloyds Bank Foundation donated £40k to Women's Aid to source consultants and allocate them to independent services to support them to submit bids. Over the Christmas break we contacted 106 services and organised consultant support to 48 organisations leading to 43 members being involved in successful bids and drawing down nearly £5 million from the fund.

Change that Lasts

During 2014/15, in partnership with local services and key national stakeholders from many related fields, Women's Aid has reviewed current approaches to tackling domestic violence and the systems in place and, as a result, identified the need to develop, publish and promote a comprehensive, coordinated, cross-sector model of delivery that ensures that all victims receive a positive response.

Women's Aid is in the process of developing a needs-led model to respond to domestic violence, called Change that Lasts, which has been evidenced as far more effective than a risk-led approach, both in terms of increased safety and wellbeing, and cost effectiveness. Change that Lasts constitutes a fundamental shift in the way agencies view and respond to survivors experiencing domestic abuse. The aim of the model is to provide a framework that facilitates the shortest, and/or most effective route to safety, freedom and independence for each survivor based on their individual situation and the resources available to them.

We are using our 40 years of experience and national federation of over 220 organisations, to develop this response. We are listening and responding to the real-life needs of survivors to create a response that is realistic and will have long-term impact.

RESEARCH TO INFORM POLICY AND PRACTICE

Women's Aid carried out the Annual Survey 2014 – our survey of domestic violence services in England.

Key findings included:

- 110 responding refuge services supported 6,163 women and 6,665 children in 2013/14.
- 109 responding non-refuge/community-based services supported 74,500 women and 13,701 children in 2013/14.
- In 2013/14, nearly a third (31%) of referrals to refuge in 2013/14 were turned away because of lack of space (n=20,736 referrals received, data provided by 115 services).
- 37% of respondents were running services without dedicated funding (data provided by 132 services).
- Of these respondents (n=49), 65% (32), of were running services on reserves and 24% (12) were running services on a voluntary basis.

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- 42% of responding specialist children and young people's services reported having difficulties in placing children living in refuge in schools in 2013/14 (data provided by 90 services), and 44% of responding services reported encountering problems in accessing mental health services for children and young people (data provided by 90 services).
- On just one day in 2014 in refuge services: 112 women and their 84 children were turned away from refuge because they could not be accommodated (data provided by 140 refuges).
- In just one week in 2014 in outreach services: 369 women were turned away from outreach services in the community because of a lack of capacity (data provided by 87 services).

During 2014 Women's Aid undertook research into survivors' experiences of financial abuse and its relationship with other types of abuse. This research included survivors experiences of financial abuse and an exploration of the potential impact of Universal Credit on them. A report of the research findings was published in March 2015 and supported by the Trades Union Congress (TUC). Women's Aid is working with organisations such as Citizen's Advice to develop practical suggestions for the financial sector when dealing with financial abuse.

Women's Aid was a partner in European-funded research into the experiences of disabled women experiencing abuse and the services, undertaken by Leeds and Glasgow Universities with representatives from the domestic violence and disability sectors, which ended in early 2015.

We also conducted interviews to explore the impact of different service commissioning decisions on women and children experiencing domestic violence. These interviews were with professional representatives from domestic violence services in two geographical areas of England where there has been service changes or closures as a result of local authority commissioning decisions. We will publish our findings in 2015.

INFORMATION SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS, DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICES AND THE PUBLIC

UKRefugesOnline (UKROL)

UKRefugesOnline (UKROL) is an online directory and vacancy management system for around 460 domestic and sexual abuse services across the UK.

UKROL is a unique, secure system enabling the sharing of public and confidential contact information and referrals between specialist domestic and sexual violence service providers.

The project is delivered in partnership with Women's Aid Federation of Northern Ireland, Scottish Women's Aid and Welsh Women's Aid. Women's Aid works constantly to ensure that the information contained on the directory is updated and provides training to new and existing services as required.

The UKROL system has been used to collect additional data from London refuges on women applying to access refuge accommodation in London and this has enabled us to build a picture of the movement of women around the region and identify gaps in provision.

A revised Joint Venture Agreement has been approved and signed by all members. This agreement is in place for the duration of the current funding arrangements and covers the UKROL database across the four national partners of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

During the year we have also maintained the **Gold Book Online**, an online directory of domestic and sexual abuse services available by subscription to professionals working with survivors of domestic violence across the UK.

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International work

Women's Aid is a UK Focal Point for Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE) and in 2014 supported WAVE to become a new legal entity to meet EU funding regulations. Hilary Fisher (Director of Policy, Voice and Membership) was appointed as WAVE Vice President in March 2015 and Women's Aid became the lead UK representative on the WAVE Coordinating Committee (WAVE CoCo).

On 18 September 2014 Women's Aid's Capacity Building Manager delivered a presentation on the Women's Aid Federation of England National Quality Standards at the annual conference of the **European Network of Policewomen** in Barcelona, Spain. The presentation was well received and led to an interesting discussion on the importance of women-only spaces and of addressing emotional and welfare needs as well as immediate physical safety in responding to survivors of domestic violence.

In November 2014, the Chief Executive and the Director of Policy, Voice and Membership, presented Women's Aid's work on Standards and Data collection at the WAVE 20th Anniversary Annual Conference in Vienna, which generated significant interest. The Women's Aid National Quality Standards have subsequently been shared with WAVE to assist with their projects supporting the development of services for domestic violence survivors and their children in Eastern Europe.

Safe is the UK's only dedicated journal on domestic abuse. Issued quarterly by Women's Aid, *Safe* supports effective responses to reduce domestic violence, by reflecting the current issues and developments in the field. Each issue is packed with practical initiatives, research reviews, new strategies, policy development and national and international news.

Women's Aid newsletters

Women's Aid provides two monthly newsletters for the public. **The Violence Against Women and Girls newsletter** focusses on campaigns and news affecting the sector. It is primarily aimed at people who work in the domestic and sexual violence sector, or who have an interest in developments in campaigning and policy. It currently goes out to 6,118 subscribers.

The Supporter Newsletter keeps supporters up to date with the latest fundraising opportunities and successes, fundraising campaigns, and public awareness campaigns from Women's Aid. It is delivered to 10,018 subscribers.

In addition Women's Aid has introduced a **monthly e-bulletin** exclusively for our Full Members which is sent out mid-month. This compliments the usual VAWG newsletter and contains information relevant specifically to our member services.

Women's Aid website

www.womensaid.org.uk is a vital information service for thousands of survivors, professionals, researchers and members of the public. The Women's Aid website has seen an increase in visitors this year with 1,928,409 visits (21% increase) and 1,263,065 unique visitors (28% increase) over the year. This equates to 5,219,314 page-views in total. This reflects our increased profile

Women's Aid continues to regularly update the **Members' Area** of the Women's Aid Website with information on Women's Aid's campaigning and lobbying work; updates for members from the Women against Violence Europe (WAVE) network; research projects Women's Aid takes part in; fundraising opportunities Women's Aid hears about which may benefit our members and a new look Members' Noticeboard containing other relevant information and requests for feedback. Use of the area has increased significantly, with page-views within the locked area doubling from 11,171 vs 5,466.

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The Survivor's Forum remains by far the most popular section of site. It had 2,041 new members, bringing total members to 8,196 (up from 6,155 on the 1 April 2014) and monthly posts average 3,535, ranging from 2,675 in the quietest month to almost 5,000 after Christmas period. The Survivors' Forum provides a safe, anonymous environment for women affected by domestic violence to speak out about their experiences and seek help and support, and has a dedicated moderator to provide professional support and advice.

Another very popular section of the website is the **Survivors' Handbook**, which provides simple and accessible information on every aspect of seeking help and support. It also reassures women that they are not alone or to blame for the violence.

Social Media

Women's Aid has had a very successful year engaging a wider audience on social media. The number of people liking our **Facebook** page has risen from 9,293 to 12,353.

On **Twitter** the number of people following Women's Aid has risen from 22,049 to 31,345.

WOMEN'S AID NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Women's Aid National Accredited Training (UK-wide)

The National qualifications for Tackling and Preventing Domestic and Sexual Violence/Abuse continued to be delivered throughout the year.

The Diploma units were developed further and introduced in the latter part of the year. Two courses were delivered and 16 people completed the courses.

Six certificate courses were completed with one being held in Jersey, where the staff team was trained. In total, 47 people completed and will be awarded the Domestic Abuse Prevention Advocate (DAPA) title.

Two Award courses were completed, with 12 people completing the course. Assessments and marking of papers for the courses is an essential part of running these qualifications. For the courses run in 2014/15, 272 papers were marked, taking an average of 1.5 hours each; these were then reviewed and internally verified before being subject to external verification visits.

The National Training Centre carried out a second large piece of work to cross reference the learning of those who completed the pilot units for the qualifications so that they could now be awarded the National Certificate and Diploma. The cross referencing was accepted by NOCN, thereby ensuring that 20 people from the pilot were awarded the Certificate and also that the first set of National Diplomas could be awarded to seven of that initial group of learners. The Diploma Certificates will be awarded at a formal ceremony in May 2015.

In total there are now 262 professionals registered as DAPA's on the Women's Aid Register of Qualified Practitioners.

The National Training Centre Manager completed a further verification award and NOCN has awarded her an Advanced AIV award, which means that she will now be able to sign off the award of all certificates electronically. This will ensure that the award of future certificates will be a much simpler and smoother process.

Bespoke Training

Bespoke training requests are usually designed around the specific needs of the work being carried out by the contracting organisation. The following were undertaken during the year:

South Shropshire Domestic Violence Services: Two training deliveries to Housing Support workers on the impacts of domestic abuse and how to use the DASH model for risk assessment.

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National Advertising Benevolent Society training: Domestic abuse awareness training, safety planning and risk assessment.

Children's Society, Torquay: The Impact of Domestic Violence/Abuse on Children & Young People delivered to a variety of local children's workers.

West Mercia Women's Aid: Gender Awareness in supporting survivors of domestic abuse.

International work

United Nations Development Programme - Integrated Response to Violence against Women in Serbia.

Developing a National Domestic Violence Helpline in Belgrade

The work involved the preparation of the training and materials for two training days for their SOS helpline service provision with the focus on the following issues:

- Establishing a network of SOS helpline service providers (process, advantages and challenges of providing service through the network of organisations);
- Principles upon which SOS helpline for women survivors of violence are based;
- Organisational structure and functioning of the network of service providers;
- Cooperation with the State institutions;
- Database structure of the national SOS helpline for women survivors of violence.

The preparation and delivery was carried out by Bianca Petkova, Lead Training Officer and Lisa Johnson, Manager of Direct Services.

Women's Aid activities

The National Training Centre also assessed three organisations for accreditation of the Women's Aid National Quality Standards. The National Training Centre Manager also contributes to the Internal Advisory Group for the new Change that Lasts model.

Police and Crime Commissioner Requests

As a consequence of meetings carried out by the Chief Executive and the National Training Centre Manager after Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary' (HMIC) inspection last year, the PCCs in two force areas requested bespoke work from the training centre.

South Yorkshire constabulary requested survivor focus groups to be arranged and facilitated by the training centre and for a written report and recommendations to be produced. This was to inform any training needs of the force.

Devon and Cornwall constabulary requested a Training Needs Analysis to be carried out.

Both sets of work were completed successfully and recommendations were given to the forces.

Facilitators' training

The facilitators' training for running specialist programmes continues to be popular. All facilitators' courses are delivered in view of particular contexts of work, and where needed, are adapted appropriately (for example the Power to Change for women in prison).

Running and Managing Survivor Support Groups, using The Power to Change Programme

This course aims to ensure that facilitators are equipped with a woman-centred, feminist approach to group work with survivors and are able to use the Power to Change programme effectively. There were six deliveries throughout the year.

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You and me Mum

This course trains facilitators to run support groups for survivors of domestic abuse where the abuse has impacted on their children and their relationship with the children, again there were six deliveries throughout the year.

Helping Hands

This course trains facilitators to run groups for children with experiences of domestic abuse helping children to articulate their experiences and use protective behaviours. There were five deliveries.

Over 150 professionals were trained to facilitate a variation of programmes throughout the year. Professionals included: Refuge workers; other domestic abuse workers; Children Workers; Therapists and Counsellors; Prison officers; Social Workers and Teachers. The National Training Centre would like to thank Northern Ireland Women's Aid for giving permission to Women's Aid Training Centre to deliver their Helping Hands and You and Me Mum Programmes in England and for their continued support throughout the year.

Other work

HMIC

Due to the success of the survivor focus groups that Women's Aid carried out for HMIC last year, the National Training Centre were asked to repeat this work, as part of their inspection of the forces throughout 2014/15. This work started in March and will continue into May 2015. Two members of the training team were accepted to carry out HMIC Peer Inspections of the police force areas. They will be trained in May 2015 and start the work shortly after this.

Home Office

The National Training Centre contributed to the meetings that the Home Office carried out for feedback on Domestic violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) and the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Claire's Law). They also attended and contributed to the task groups following HMIC's inspection of the forces, sitting on the group for managing serial perpetrators, and in particular worked on the definitions for repeat and serial perpetrators.

College of Policing (CoP)

As a result of the HMIC recommendations made in 2014, the CoP worked with Safe Lives and others to develop a training package for domestic abuse for a force pilot scheme. The National Training Centre Manager was accepted as an associate trainer for the CoP and was trained in March 2015 to facilitate the roll out of the training pilot. The pilot will start in April 2015, when over 1,000 First Response officers, 200 Coaches and Supervisors will be trained.

Kering Foundation

Women's Aid signed a two year Partnership Agreement in 2014 with the Kering Foundation. Part of the agreement included training for their corporate partners in the UK to address domestic abuse in the workplace. This work started in the latter part of the year when the NTC developed and delivered training for HR managers within the Puma group, which also included the development of work based policies and procedures. The training was very well received and such was their enthusiasm, it has resulted in further training deliveries being planned for July, September and October 2015 for other corporate partners.

Local Government Association (LGA)

As a result of amendments to the Care Act, Research in Practice for Adults (RiPfA) ran seminars and workshops. The NTC co-facilitated some of the domestic abuse workshops with a researcher from RiPfA. The workshops aimed to increase practitioner and manager confidence in recognising, and then working with, people with care and support needs who are experiencing domestic abuse, leading to better outcomes for this client group. The workshops were extremely successful, which resulted in RiPfA asking the NTC to deliver two further events with them in 2015.

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College of Social Work

The National Training Centre was part of the College of Social Work working party group to look at an alternative approach to the response given to survivors and children when experiencing domestic abuse. This work involved consultancy on new guidelines for Social Workers.

Criminalisation of Coercive control

The coercive strategies that perpetrators use and the impact of coercive control on survivors and children has always been embedded through all the training that the NTC delivers. With the forthcoming criminalisation of coercive control, we recognise that practitioners in the statutory and voluntary sector services, will need a different approach in order to recognise and support survivors. The National Training Centre has been working to introduce the new legislation into the national qualification, which involves more emphasis on coercion and added emphasis of the needs led approach that we have always taught. We are also developing specific training on the subject matter in readiness for the new legislation.

MAINTAINING THE CHARITY AS FIT FOR PURPOSE

The 2014/15 financial year was one of continued investment in transformational change for Women's Aid, in which the Business Plan, developed by the Board of Trustees and Women's Aid team continued to be implemented. Investment in income generation activities continue to show gradual positive results, as does the increased support for member services. The changes implemented are ensuring that the organisation far better meets the needs of its members during what are very challenging times for the whole sector, both nationally and locally.

Following a recruitment drive in 2013/14, Women's Aid's largely new Board of Trustees has become a well-functioning governing group, with the new structure of sub committees reflecting the three directorates within Women's Aid, enabling increased scrutiny and guidance.

How our strategic aims and charitable activities deliver public benefit

As set out above, our strategic aims focus on protection, prevention and provision with regard to gender based violence and all our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

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Public Benefit	Activity	Strategic Aim
Provision of information and support available to the general public	National Domestic Violence Helpline (freephone number available to the public)	Provision
	Online UK-wide Domestic Abuse Directory	Provision
	UKROL – providing up to date information to the public on vacancies within local services	Provision
	Survivors' Handbook	Provision
	Website services and information for the general public (adults and children)	Provision
	Online Survivors' Forum and Netmums message board	Provision
	The Hideout message board forum for children and young people	Provision
Raising public awareness of violence against women and children and of services available to survivors	Children's and Young People's Policy and Services	Protection
	Various campaigns	Provision
	Regular newsletters and publications	Prevention
	Work with the media	Prevention
Ongoing provision of information and advice to the national network of domestic and sexual violence services and measures to improve the standard of services received by the general public	Safer Futures project	Prevention
	Core training, learning areas benchmarked against the National Occupational Standards	Provision
	Delivering a National Accredited training course	Provision
	Delivering an annual national conference and other topic specific conferences and training opportunities	Provision
	Saving Our Services - Campaigning to save and maintain provision of specialist domestic and sexual violence services for abused women and children	Provision
Seeking and representing the public's views and enabling these to influence the development of law, policy and practice	Policy development work and responses to policy consultations	Protection
	Policy campaigns	Protection
	Children's and Young People's Policy and Services	Protection
	Research to inform policy and practice	Provision

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The Board of Trustees has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Trustees have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

KEY TASKS FOR 2015/16

During 2015/16, Women's Aid will deliver on the following objectives in line with the refreshed objectives and business plan:

Key target audiences understand coercive control, its impact and the diverse experience of survivors

- Raise awareness of experience of coercive control through a national campaign;
- Establish Survivors Panels regionally and nationally to inform Women's Aid work and policy responses, and to guide decision making by statutory agencies;
- Support the implementation of legislation on coercive control and review its effectiveness;
- Continue with the Football United Against Domestic Violence campaign to give a mainly male audience a greater understanding of coercive control and their role in achieving change;
- Provide evidence based briefings using new research, to inform the public and decision-makers about domestic violence and coercive control.

Legislation and policy framework strengthened to protect survivors, their children and the specialist services supporting them

- Improve support for survivors through the Women's Aid Survivors' Forum and other digital channels;
- Build on the SOS Campaign and associated lobbying, campaigning and influencing activity to promote the need for specialist services and for a solution to the funding crisis;
- Develop the Femicide Census to increase and strengthen data collection, and produce briefings to disseminate key findings, including through media;
- Develop a research strategy with survivors at its heart, and build Women's Aid's research and evaluation capacity.

More effective state, private and specialist sector response to domestic violence and abuse

- Deliver the Women's Aid qualifications: Award, Certificate and Diploma and continue to grow the register of qualified DAPAs;
- Develop the Change that Lasts model, cross sector response to domestic violence, working with partners both inside and outside the sector;
- Support member services to demonstrate the value and impact of specialist service provision through national service standards, On Tracks data collection, capacity building support and communication with commissioners;
- Continue work with local members and schools to improve work with children and young people on healthy relationships and hold a national Safer Futures conference;
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Women's Aid by streamlining internal processes, improving fundraising activity and strengthening external communication through an improved website.

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Women's Aid is committed to undertaking the above activities to the best of our ability and subject to the availability of appropriate funding.

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2014/15

The charity's total income amounted to £2,572,485 (2014: £2,591,055). This includes a valuation for generously donated services and facilities of £351,194 (2014: £228,771). We are pleased to report that the improved income levels of 2013/14 continued into 2014/15. Underlying income excluding donated services and facilities was £2,221,291 (2014:£2,362,284). Total expenditure for the year amounted to £2,769,929 (2014: £2,502,528). Underlying expenditure, excluding the value of donated goods and services, was £2,418,735 (2014: £2,273,757).

The charity's assets are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations on a fund by fund basis.

The charity began the year with a planned deficit budget of £293,834 funded by restricted funds brought forward allocated to specific project activity. The charity's performance during the year exceeded overall budgetary expectation with improved cost control procedures continuing to contribute some specific budget savings throughout the year and a lower than planned budget deficit resulting in better than forecast total reserves carried forward.

Principal funding sources and activities

Women's Aid continued to benefit from a wide range of funding sources during 2014/5 and a summary of our principal funders (those that amount to more than 5% of total income) is set out below:

Funder	% of Total income	Projects supported by funding
Home Office	10%	National Domestic Violence Helpline (run in partnership with Refuge)
London Councils	10%	Pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines and coordinated access to refuge provision
Department for Communities and Local Government	6%	UKROL
Comic Relief	7%	National Domestic Violence Helpline Capacity Building Project
Avon Cosmetics UK Limited	5%	Survivors Forum National Training Centre Bursaries

The total value of donated services and facilities during the year amounted to £351,194 (2014: £228,771) - see note 2 of the accounts for more information.

Legacies and bequests totalling £393,090 (2014:£717,496) amounted to 15% of total income (2014:28%).

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Income in Support of Key Objectives

A summary of income in support of key projects and activities, shown as a proportion of total income during the year is set out below and accounted for 41% of total income:

24-hour National Domestic Violence	22%
UKROL	7%
Capacity Building Project	7%
Survivors Forum	5%

A further 10% of our income was self-generated from earned income consisting of National Training Centre course fees and income from our annual conference, membership fees, sales of publications and merchandise as well as advertising space. Women's Aid remains committed to increasing funding from these valuable sources.

Support for Key Activities

Expenditure on the projects highlighted in the section above accounted for 38% of total expenditure.

In addition, several projects and core activities were supported by restricted funds brought forward and unrestricted reserves in 2014/15, as set out in note 17.

Fundraising Performance

Despite facing a continued challenging funding environment, Women's Aid has been able to maintain a consistent level of fundraising throughout 2014/15, with a total of £2,570,491 being raised through statutory and voluntary income. We are enormously grateful to all those organisations and individuals who have supported our work over the course of the year, and remain committed to working with our existing funders to deliver effective solutions to the problem of domestic violence against women and children.

Support from committed members of the public has continued to grow at a critical time, and we thank the large numbers of individuals who have loyally supported our work through making regular donations, responding to appeals, taking part in sponsored events, organising fundraisers, speaking out on their own social media and within their networks about the importance of challenging domestic violence and the harmful behaviours that harbour its existence. The effort and enthusiasm that the general public has shown for supporting Women's Aid and women and child survivors of domestic violence, even in the face of their own challenges, means that we are able to continue saving lives and building safe and happy futures.

Special thanks are also extended to our long-standing corporate supporter Avon UK who since 2009 are business leaders in challenging the taboo of domestic violence and to Comic Relief who have enabled both our Capacity Building program and the Helpline to support local specialist domestic violence services through competitive tendering and local authority budget cuts as well as survivors and professionals in the sector. Thank you also to the Home Office, the Department of Communities and Local Government and to London Councils for their ongoing commitment to the National Domestic Violence Helpline and to The Lloyds Bank Foundation, The Garfield Weston Foundation and The Volant Trust for their support of our national Capacity Building work as well as to ICAP whose funding has enabled Women's Aid to nationally support schools to educate young people about domestic violence and healthy relationships.

Finally, we would also like to make special mention in memory of Ms Pauline Sands whose legacy enabled Women's Aid to engage with policy makers and key influencers throughout the year in our unfunded campaigning and lobbying work which helped achieve many of the successes noted in this report.

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Investment policy

Under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity may invest monies of Women's Aid not immediately required for its own purposes in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit. The level of the charity's reserves is such that investment is limited to short term markets rather than any longer term strategy, although other options continue to be explored. Over the past year we have continued to take a prudent view in terms of the security of the charity's reserves rather than pursuing the highest return. The investment policy is being kept under review to take account of investment opportunities whilst still maintaining a low-risk strategy.

Investment performance

Returns on short term markets during 2014/15 have continued to be low but secure. Income earned from investments amounted to £1,994 (2014: £6,650).

Reserves

The total balance of funds at 31 March 2015 amounts to £1,203,579 (2014: £1,401,023). This includes £373,327 of restricted funds that can only be used for specified purposes (2014: £557,732). The balance of unrestricted funds at 31 March 2015 was £830,252 (2014: 843,291). Of these unrestricted funds, free reserves (calculated as total unrestricted funds, less designated funds and tangible fixed assets) amounted to £804,081 (2014: £839,104).

The Board of Trustees considers that the state of the charity's affairs is satisfactory, and that the charitable company is well situated to carry out its objectives in the future.

Reserves policy

The Reserves Policy regarding the charity's free reserves (i.e. funds not designated for other purposes) is to accumulate sufficient reserves to cover the equivalent of 12 months' anticipated resources expended so as to give Women's Aid sufficient funds to continue current activities for a full year in the event of a significant reduction in funding. Such a level of funds would also allow sufficient time to start fundraising to replace lost funding, and potentially to start generating additional unrestricted income by other means.

The current level of free reserves of £804,801 would be sufficient to support general running costs for five months (2014: five months) based on the approved budget for 2015/16. The Board of Trustees has taken the decision not to designate any funds at this time, as the level of free reserves required by the reserves policy has not yet been achieved. It is the objective of the Trustees to continue to build the free reserves over the coming year.

Risk assessment

Women's Aid has completed a full risk assessment review (in line with guidance from NCVO) of all known areas of operation that might expose the charity to significant risks. These include Health and Safety, Employment matters, Security, Disaster Recovery, Media Relations, Financial Operations, and standards of service. Any identified risks pertaining to the delivery of Women's Aid's strategic objectives is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Trustees, and action to mitigate any risks is undertaken wherever possible.

Women's Aid Federation of England
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Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board on 26 June 2015 and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Beverley Pass
Joint Chair

.....

Dickie James
Treasurer

Women's Aid Federation of England

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Women's Aid Federation of England for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the 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 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 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Women's Aid Federation of England

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2015

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £	
Note					
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	1,076,281	5,712	1,081,993	1,298,380
Investment income		1,704	290	1,994	6,650
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
	3	271,673	1,216,825	1,488,498	1,286,025
Total incoming resources		<u>1,349,658</u>	<u>1,222,827</u>	<u>2,572,485</u>	<u>2,591,055</u>
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Costs of generating voluntary income	4	293,690	-	293,690	328,844
Charitable activities	4	1,061,694	1,370,973	2,432,667	2,107,928
Governance costs	4	43,572	-	43,572	65,756
Total resources expended		<u>1,398,956</u>	<u>1,370,973</u>	<u>2,769,929</u>	<u>2,502,528</u>
Net (expenditure)/income before transfers					
		(49,298)	(148,146)	(197,444)	88,527
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds					
		<u>36,259</u>	<u>(36,259)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movements in funds					
		(13,039)	(184,405)	(197,444)	88,527
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward					
		<u>843,291</u>	<u>557,732</u>	<u>1,401,023</u>	<u>1,312,496</u>
Total funds carried forward					
		<u><u>830,252</u></u>	<u><u>373,327</u></u>	<u><u>1,203,579</u></u>	<u><u>1,401,023</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 17 to the financial statements.

The notes on pages 29 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Women's Aid Federation of England (Registration number: 03171880)

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2015

		2015		2014
		£	£	£
	Note			
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	10	26,171		4,187
Current assets				
Stocks and work in progress		14,169	23,962	
Debtors	11	502,086	825,823	
Cash at bank and in hand		886,469	783,187	
		<u>1,402,724</u>	<u>1,632,972</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(225,316)</u>	<u>(236,136)</u>	
Net current assets		<u>1,177,408</u>		<u>1,396,836</u>
Net assets		<u><u>1,203,579</u></u>		<u><u>1,401,023</u></u>
The funds of the charity:				
Restricted funds in surplus		373,327		557,732
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted income funds		<u>830,252</u>		<u>843,291</u>
Total charity funds		<u><u>1,203,579</u></u>		<u><u>1,401,023</u></u>

For the financial year ended 31 March 2014 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Approved by the board on 26 June 2015 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Beverley Pass
Joint Chair

.....
Dickie James
Treasurer

The notes on pages 29 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005)', issued in March 2005, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Companies Act 2006.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund together with a fair allocation of support costs.

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

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

Incoming resources

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Donated services and facilities income is recognised as an incoming resource where the provider of the service has incurred a financial cost. Volunteer time is not included in the financial statements.

Income from legacies is included either when received, or when notification has been received from the estate that payment will be made, conditions associated with payment have been met, and the amount receivable can be quantified.

Grants are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable. Grants received which are clearly specified for a future accounting period are shown as deferred.

Income from the sale of goods and services is recognised to the extent that the goods and services have been provided.

Subscription income is recognised as the benefits to the member are provided. The income is recognised on a pro-rata basis for the period of time covered by the subscription. Amounts relating to future periods are deferred.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... *continued*

Resources expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

The costs of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in raising funds for the charitable work.

Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable. Depreciation of fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund. Where a fixed asset is donated to a charity for its own use, it is treated in a similar way to a restricted grant.

Grants payable are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for payment have been complied with.

The affiliated local women's specialist domestic and sexual violence services are not consolidated in these accounts as they are separate legal entities and subject to their own controls and prepare their own accounts. Grants made to them appear in grants payable.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

Governance costs include the management of the charitable company's assets, organisational management and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs

The support costs, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, are apportioned across the main activities of the charity on the basis of total staff time spent on each of these during the year. The apportionment of support costs is as follows:

Cost of generating funds	13%
Protection	2%
Prevention	16%
Provision	68%

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Telephone system at London premises	33.3% straight line basis
Other equipment	25% straight line basis
Office refurbishment	17 months straight line basis

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. 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.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... *continued*

Stock

Stocks of books are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. A review of stock and sales is made each year and provision made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks.

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the accrual date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the average rate of exchange for the year. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the net incoming resources for the year.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged in the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease duration.

Pensions

The charity makes pension contributions to a group pension scheme or the individual's own pension scheme depending on the status of the employee. 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.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

2 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £
Donations and legacies				
Legacies and bequests	393,090	-	393,090	717,496
Donated services and facilities	351,194	-	351,194	228,771
Other donations	331,997	5,712	337,709	332,529
	1,076,281	5,712	1,081,993	1,278,796
Provision				
Other donations	-	-	-	19,584
	1,076,281	5,712	1,081,993	1,298,380

Legacy income has been accrued where the Charity has been notified that it is entitled to a reasonable estimate of monies. However, the timing of these monies is uncertain as the legacies are subject to the realisation of assets within the legacy estate, which from past experience can take more than a year to be realised.

In addition to the generous financial support received from all our supporters over the last 12 months, we would also like to extend our gratitude to those individuals and organisations who donated products and services to Women's Aid and in particular Freshfields for legal support, research, conference facilities and a range of other services.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £
Protection				
BBC Children in Need	-	(20,487)	(20,487)	50,919
Primary purpose trading	-	70	70	-
	-	(20,417)	(20,417)	50,919
Prevention				
Primary purpose trading	-	907	907	1,667
ICAP	-	-	-	140,000
	-	907	907	141,667
Provision				
Home office - National Domestic Violence Helpline	-	250,000	250,000	250,000
Avon Cosmetics UK Ltd	-	130,251	130,251	48,427
The Body Shop	-	150	150	37
Comic Relief	-	171,732	171,732	80,000
Department for Communities and Local Government	-	150,000	150,000	150,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	30,000	30,000	-
London Councils	-	250,038	250,038	250,038
TUC	-	5,000	5,000	-
The Volant Charitable Trust	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
Other small grants	-	29,737	29,737	14,741
Primary purpose trading	-	14,675	14,675	8,621
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	43,552	43,552	-
The Roddick Foundation	-	50,000	50,000	-
Sara Charlton Foundation	-	11,000	11,000	-
Social Investment Business	-	55,200	55,200	-
Lankelly Chase Foundation	-	15,000	15,000	-
	-	1,236,335	1,236,335	831,864
Unrestricted				
Primary purpose trading	271,673	-	271,673	261,575
	271,673	1,216,825	1,488,498	1,286,025

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

4 Total resources expended

	Costs of generating funds	Protection	Prevention	Provision	Support costs	Governance	Total 2015	Total 2014
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs								
Grants payable	-	-	-	212,831	-	-	212,831	170,836
Employment costs	139,163	22,611	160,274	791,189	343,547	21,929	1,478,713	1,368,033
Production of resources	2,611	1,235	3,038	1,186	-	-	8,070	43,432
Premises and office costs	32,331	3,465	53,705	112,018	28,542	2,815	232,876	286,324
Helpline operating costs	-	-	-	27,377	-	-	27,377	39,771
Training, conference & events	13,329	172	35,804	38,261	201	-	87,767	110,010
Other costs	37,068	3,459	17,648	78,531	31,170	7,462	175,338	220,440
Donated services & facilities	-	-	23,000	320,330	7,864	-	351,194	228,771
Promotion & advertising	6,700	-	5,852	15,996	-	-	28,548	16,691
Audit of the charity's accounts	-	-	-	4,194	-	11,366	15,560	14,713
Consultancy	4,689	-	-	127,354	6,628	-	138,671	353
Depreciation	1,222	199	1,407	6,947	3,209	-	12,984	3,154
	<u>237,113</u>	<u>31,141</u>	<u>300,728</u>	<u>1,736,214</u>	<u>421,161</u>	<u>43,572</u>	<u>2,769,929</u>	<u>2,502,528</u>
Reapportionment of support costs	56,577	8,831	69,367	286,386	(421,161)	-	-	-
	<u><u>293,690</u></u>	<u><u>39,972</u></u>	<u><u>370,095</u></u>	<u><u>2,022,600</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>43,572</u></u>	<u><u>2,769,929</u></u>	<u><u>2,502,528</u></u>

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

5 Grants received and distributed

In accordance with Section 37 of the Local Government Act 1989, £79,202 of the grant from London Councils of £250,038 was used in respect of the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 towards the running costs and salaries of the free phone 24 hour national domestic violence helpline run in partnership with Refuge.

The remaining £170,836 was distributed as follows:

	2015
	£
Refuge	59,090
Women & Girls' Network	60,001
Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre	51,745
	<u>170,836</u>

6 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year (2014: £nil).

During the year Trustees were reimbursed expenses of £2,974 (2014: £3,844). Trustees' expenses represents the reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs to 8 (2014: 11) Trustees relating to attendance at meetings of Trustees.

During the year £889 (2014: £841) was paid in respect of Trustees' indemnity insurance.

7 Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration - audit services	15,560	14,713
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	12,984	3,154
	<u>28,544</u>	<u>17,867</u>

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

8 Employees' remuneration

The average number of full time equivalent persons employed by the charity during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	2015	2014
	No.	No.
Protection	3	3
Prevention	5	4
Provision	20	19
Fundraising	4	4
Support	8	9
	<u>40</u>	<u>39</u>

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Salaries and wages	1,303,405	1,211,822
Employer National Insurance costs	116,270	101,558
Pension contributions	59,038	54,653
	<u>1,478,713</u>	<u>1,368,033</u>

The salaries and wages figure includes £40,156 of redundancy & ex-gratia payments.

Senior employees

During the year, the number of senior employees who received emoluments falling within the following ranges was:

	2015	2014
	No.	No.
£70,001 - £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

During the year, defined contribution pension contributions on behalf of these staff amounted to £5,542 (2014 - £3,197).

9 Taxation

As a charity, Women's Aid Federation of England is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Office refurbishment £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
As at 1 April 2014	-	33,939	33,939
Additions	34,968	-	34,968
As at 31 March 2015	34,968	33,939	68,907
Depreciation			
As at 1 April 2014	-	29,752	29,752
Charge for the year	10,284	2,700	12,984
As at 31 March 2015	10,284	32,452	42,736
Net book value			
As at 31 March 2015	24,684	1,487	26,171
As at 31 March 2014	-	4,187	4,187

11 Debtors

	2015 £	2014 £
Trade debtors	112,303	98,605
Tax on Gift Aid donations	6,143	2,025
Other debtors	3,562	10,772
Prepayments	23,406	14,595
Accrued income	151,676	673,434
Grants due at year end	204,996	26,392
	502,086	825,823

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... *continued*

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2015	2014
	£	£
Trade creditors	122,753	54,300
Taxation and social security	573	-
Other creditors	8,691	7,790
Grants owed at year end	30,306	78,177
Deferred income	37,714	37,481
Accruals	25,279	58,388
	225,316	236,136

13 Members' liability

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

14 Operating lease commitments

As at 31 March 2015 the charity had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Operating leases which expire:

	Land and Buildings		Other	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	100,305	-	1,972	-
Within two and five years	-	98,049	5,561	7,533
	100,305	98,049	7,533	7,533

15 Pension scheme

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the period represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £59,038 (2014 - £54,653).

Contributions totalling £6,604 (2014 - £5,885) were payable to the scheme at the end of the period and are included in creditors.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

16 Related parties

Related party transactions

Women's Aid worked in partnership with Refuge to deliver the Freephone 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline service; Refuge is also a member organisation of Women's Aid. In addition to Refuge, Women's Aid worked in partnership with the Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre and the Women and Girls Network to deliver Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline Services to London.

Six Trustees hold senior positions with member services where there is a small possibility of "Conflict of Interest" and to avoid this the Board ensures the Women's Aid Conflict of Interest Policy is followed at all times.

The Board of Trustees were drawn from member organisations running services to address violence against women and children. These organisations received a small honorarium in recognition of their support for the work of the Board of Trustees. Payments were made to the following organisations:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Your Sanctuary	-	3,325
The Nia Project	-	100
Staying Put	700	200
Staffordshire Women's Aid	650	800
Solace Women's Aid	500	550
Leeds Women's Aid	-	500
Rise	-	600
	<u>1,850</u>	<u>5,975</u>

Reimbursement of expenses was made to the following organisations on behalf of Board Members:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Staffordshire Women's Aid	1,375	732
Your Sanctuary	-	1,033
My Sister's Place	685	431
Leeds Women's Aid	-	433
Staying Put	707	363
Rise	67	289
Solace Women's Aid	-	69
Trustees' expenses paid to individuals	140	494
	<u>2,974</u>	<u>3,844</u>

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

17 Analysis of funds

	At 1 April 2014 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2015 £
General Funds					
Unrestricted income fund	843,291	1,349,658	(1,398,956)	36,259	830,252
Restricted Funds					
Protection	49,578	(18,745)	(35,266)	4,433	-
Prevention	167,906	12,118	(60,871)	(3,338)	115,815
Provision	340,248	1,229,454	(1,274,836)	(37,354)	257,512
	<u>557,732</u>	<u>1,222,827</u>	<u>(1,370,973)</u>	<u>(36,259)</u>	<u>373,327</u>
	<u>1,401,023</u>	<u>2,572,485</u>	<u>(2,769,929)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,203,579</u>

The restricted funds of Protection, Prevention and Provision can be further analysed as follows:

	At 1 April 2014 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2015 £
Protection					
Children's Policy and Services	49,578	(18,745)	(35,266)	4,433	-
	<u>49,578</u>	<u>(18,745)</u>	<u>(35,266)</u>	<u>4,433</u>	<u>-</u>
Prevention					
The Midcounties Co-operative Education Project	2,370	4	-	(2,374)	-
Older Women	26,156	38	-	(500)	25,694
ICAP	139,380	1,076	(50,335)	-	90,121
Domestic Violence Law Reform Campaign	-	11,000	(10,536)	(464)	-
	<u>167,906</u>	<u>12,118</u>	<u>(60,871)</u>	<u>(3,338)</u>	<u>115,815</u>

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

	At 1 April 2014 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2015 £
Provision					
National Domestic Violence Helpline	91,216	566,677	(646,715)	11,000	22,178
UKRefugesonline	(8,999)	180,440	(151,692)	(11,000)	8,749
National Training Centre Bursaries	32,613	20,020	-	(33,385)	19,248
Capacity Building Project	10,000	160,000	(133,933)	-	36,067
Regional Network	150,180	-	(131,038)	(19,142)	-
Survivors' Forum	16,662	124,565	(40,958)	-	100,269
Restricted Reserve for Project Work	48,576	-	-	6,992	55,568
Financial Abuse Research	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Change That Lasts	-	15,000	(20,785)	5,785	-
SOS Campaign: Save Refuges, Save Lives	-	50,000	(44,063)	2,396	8,333
DCLG Emergency Refuge Funding Project	-	43,552	(43,552)	-	-
Football United Campaign	-	9,000	(9,000)	-	-
Impact Readiness Fund	-	55,200	(48,100)	-	7,100
	340,248	1,229,454	(1,274,836)	(37,354)	257,512

Additional contributions towards the cost of these activities were made from Women's Aid's Unrestricted Funds as follows:

National Training Centre	£44,120
Policy Development	£12,936
Public Awareness	£176,420

PURPOSES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

Protection

Children's Policy and Services

Safeguarding children affected by gender based violence by working in partnership with other agencies to support and resource effective children's specialist services, by advocating for effective responses to meet their needs including the development of children's online support services through www.hideout.org.uk, dedicated messageboard and other services.

Prevention

The Midcounties Co-operative Education Project

Production and promotion of 'Can You See Me' education resource, for use in schools to teach about domestic violence in teenage relationships.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... *continued*

Older Women

Supporting the needs of older women by ensuring the development of appropriate resources and access to appropriate support.

ICAP

To support ICAP Safer Futures: Schools Engagement Programme launched in 2014.

Domestic Violence Law Reform Campaign

Campaign calling on the Government to criminalise coercive control, psychological abuse and patterns of controlling behaviour.

Provision

National Domestic Violence Helpline

Providing 24 hour access to help and support through the joint freephone 24 hour National Domestic Violence Helpline run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge.

UKRefugesonline

Co-ordinating and delivering a unique on-line vacancy and information system for access to refuge and outreach services in partnership with the UK-wide network of refuge and outreach services.

National Training Centre Bursaries

Training bursaries for an accredited National Learning & Development Centre, providing a national programme of specialist training to all professionals, and rolling out of the sector specific qualification.

Capacity Building Project (Women's Aid and Imkaan)

The project's aims are to maintain the national network of specialist services for domestic and sexual violence, reverse the impact of negative commissioning practices impacting on the survival and quality of these services and support improvement in the quality of these services.

Regional Network

Programme to re-establish regional networks in 6 regions across England.

Survivors' Forum

Hosting and facilitating a messageboard for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Restricted Reserve for Project Work

Project Reserve to meet key organisational objectives, as required.

Financial Abuse Research

Research and publication of findings of survivors' experience of financial abuse.

Change that Lasts

Developing a strengths and needs-led model to response to domestic violence.

Women's Aid Federation of England

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

..... continued

SOS Campaign: Save Refugees, Save Lives

Campaign to protect the national network of domestic violence refuges and explore a new model of sustainable funding.

DCLG Emergency Refuge Funding project

Supporting member organisations to submit successful bids for the £10 million government fund for emergency refuge provision in January 2015.

Football United Campaign

Sponsorship of Women's Aid's Football United Against Domestic Violence Campaign.

Impact Readiness Fund

In partnership with New Philanthropy Capital supporting local domestic violence services through On Track system.

Transfers between funds

The transfers between funds were as follows:

- £11,000 transferred from the UKRefugesonline project to the National Domestic Violence Helpline to fund the cost of daily vacancy monitoring carried out by Helpline staff.
- £500 transfer from funded project Older Women to our unrestricted funds as contributions towards the cost of our Annual Conference where workshops were run on this issue.
- £33,385 Transfer of various training bursaries funds from the National Training Centre to unrestricted funds as agreed.
- £2,374 Transfer of Mid Counties Cooperative Education Project funds to unrestricted funds as agreed.
- £464 transferred from Domestic Violence and Law Reform Campaign to Reserve for Project Work.
- £19,142 balance transferred back from Regional Network fund to Reserve for Project Work, Change That Lasts, Save Our Services and Children's Policy and Services as agreed.

18 Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £
Tangible assets	26,171	-	26,171	4,187
Current assets	1,029,397	373,327	1,402,724	1,632,972
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(225,316)	-	(225,316)	(236,136)
Net assets	<u>830,252</u>	<u>373,327</u>	<u>1,203,579</u>	<u>1,401,023</u>

Independent auditors' report to the trustees of Women's Aid Federation of England

We have audited the financial statements of Women's Aid Federation of England for the year ended 31 March 2015, set out on pages 27 to 43. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (Effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 26, 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.

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly we have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

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 2015 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 applicable to smaller entities; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

**Independent auditors' report to the trustees of
Women's Aid Federation of England**

..... *continued*

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

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Milsted Langdon LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
One Redcliff Street
Bristol
BS1 6NP

26 June 2015

Milsted Langdon LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006