

# Launchpad Impact Report

For the Year Ending 30 June 2024



Supporting our Veterans

Company Registration Number: 08633047 | Charity Registration Number: 1153185



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## Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Registered charity name</b>	AF&V Launchpad Limited
<b>Charity registration number</b>	1153185
<b>Company registration number</b>	08633047
<b>Registered office</b>	Enterprise House, Harmire Enterprise Park, Barnard Castle, County Durham, DL12 8XT
<b>Our Trustees</b>	Nicolas Tubbs (resigned 30 October 2023) Lucinda Perriam (took over Chair on 30 October 2023) Major Kenneth McMillan MBE (Co-Founder) Lieutenant Colonel Richard Dixon-Warren Dr Philip Mixer QVRM DL Colonel Mark Underhill OBE DL Sarah-Louise McCartney Brigadier Paul Baker OBE (appointed 23 February 2024)
<b>CEO and Co-Founder</b>	Major General David Shaw CBE (retired 31 July 2024)
<b>CEO</b>	Jill Murray BA FCIH (from 1 August 2024)
<b>Manager of Avondale House &amp; Hollyacre House</b>	Phil Thompson
<b>Manager of Speke House</b>	Samantha Jackson
<b>Charity Secretary</b>	Amanda Crompton
<b>Auditors</b>	Streets Audit LLP
<b>Bankers</b>	Co-Operative Bank Royal Bank of Scotland



# Foreword

**I am pleased to report that Launchpad has housed and provided essential support to 162 veterans this year and 720 since inception in 2013, thus aiding a successful transition to civilian life.**



Over the past five years, on average 42% of our residents gained employment and 62% moved on successfully; these are impressive figures as around 85% of our residents came from a homeless background over the same period. This is what Launchpad is all about, giving a helping hand to veterans who need a bit of support at this stage of their lives, so they can then live successful and independent lives thereafter.

Launchpad provides 98 flats for veterans and their partners in three locations, Newcastle upon Tyne, Durham and Liverpool. Occupancy of Launchpad's houses continues to be high and there is no doubt Launchpad helps reduce homelessness among veterans, particularly in the north of England. The Charity benefitted enormously from Op FORTITUDE, the then-Government's initiative to end homelessness among veterans. Launchpad received nearly £650K over two years to help in five areas: psychotherapy support in each house, funds for activities, salary funds for staff in each house to focus on veterans' training and employment and again, salary funds for an independent living coordinator in each house, to ensure alumni of Launchpad can access support if needed.

During 2023, Launchpad celebrated its 10th anniversary in a variety of ways, including a highly successful fundraising dinner, which was well-supported by partner organisations and sponsors. We also celebrated with fundraising activities such as a cycle ride from Rock to the Rock (of Gibraltar), a sponsored golf tournament and a Royal visit, among many activities. It was a fitting event in our tenth year, showing how the Charity has very successfully grown and increased in its capability to help veterans in need. The Royal visit was in May and TRH The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester very kindly visited Avondale House in Newcastle upon Tyne.

I am excited to welcome Jill Murray as our new CEO and would like to personally thank Major General David Shaw, who decided to step down from the charity in July 2024, after serving for ten years. Jill brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience in housing and the mental health sectors and I am confident she will help us to develop the charity further.

I would like to thank the many funding organisations (listed later in the report) and volunteers that have supported Launchpad. Furthermore, corporate organisations have become very involved with each of the houses, providing volunteers to carry out tasks in the houses, providing gifts in kind and donations. I am grateful to our Corporate Fundraising Team for their energetic and dedicated support to Launchpad.

I would like to extend heartfelt thanks from the trustees and the staff of Launchpad to the staff in the many partner organisations with whom Launchpad works and depends upon to provide sustained and beneficial support for the resident veterans. It really is a joint effort. Finally, I must point out how wonderfully dedicated Launchpad's staff are to the charity and to the veterans who reside in our three houses. Their job is frequently challenging, difficult and emotionally draining, however, they also enjoy seeing really positive developments in most of their resident veterans and it is this that drives us all to do as well as we can.

**Lucy Perriam**  
Chair, Trustee and Director



Please consider making a donation by supporting our veterans  
<https://veteranslaunchpad.org.uk/campaigns/support-our-veterans/>

# Achievements and Performance in YE June 2024



Launchpad has looked after over **720** veterans since opening in 2013.

162 veterans lived in Launchpad's three houses this year, **80%** from homelessness or slept rough/sofa surfed, **49%** with mental health problems and **98%** unemployed on arrival.

The statistics that most indicate positive outcomes are that on average, over the last five years, **50%** secured employment during their time with us and **62%** move on successfully.

Key outcome statistics for the year are as follows:



Category	Avondale House	Hollyacre House	Speke House	Total No. (% of whole)
Residents during year	47	23	92	162
Residents at year-end	30	14	38	88
Residents from a homeless background	40	11	78	129 (80%)
Residents gaining employment in the year	15	5	40	60 (37%)
Residents from HMP	1	0	9	10 (6%)
Successful moved on from Launchpad (5-year average)	59/86 (69%)	13/16 (81%)	106/186 (58%)	178/285 (62%)
Employment on move-on (5-year average)	25/86 (29%)	6/16 (38%)	47/183 (26%)	78/285 (27%)



## Resident case study

Adam –  
Hollyacre House

Royal Logistics Corps –  
British Army



Adam always wanted to join the Army - just like his brother. He joined the cadets at 10 years old and found himself in and out of foster care from the ages of 12-16. He signed up to the Adjutant General's Corps at 18, successfully completing phase 1 of training.

Due to circumstances out of his control, he was unable to complete phase 2. In 2002, he re-joined, initially training as a combat medical technician but eventually settling as a movement controller for the Royal Logistics Corps where he completed five years' service.

He spent five months in Iraq and said it was stressful being attacked every night in Basra. Whenever there was downtime, he turned to alcohol to cope with his complex PTSD, which now he realises laid dormant since childhood. It was also in 2005 when he turned trans, transitioning from female to male. He got posted to Germany, but alcohol and his life spiralled out of control and he spent time in hospital before being medically discharged in 2007.

Moving back to the UK, he qualified as a health trainer for the NHS, worked as a supervisor on a recycling initiative at the local authority which he really enjoyed and started a family and fell pregnant with his daughter. He managed to stay off alcohol for a number of years and worked part-time to provide for his daughter.

He is still dry and is determined to put the past behind him. He is working hard on himself and

also giving back to those who may be going through similar experiences.

He said: "I have come this far and I'm proud of myself. I want to give back and help those who may be going through what I've been through. The Armed Forces Outreach Service has been great – I have a lot to thank them for. They helped me to engage with a recovery college for my mental health and they have got me on the waiting list to get trauma treatment."

Adam moved into Launchpad's Hollyacre House in November 2023 and said:

“Launchpad has been brilliant, the house is so peaceful and my support worker, Sharon has been excellent. Trust is a massive thing for me and I felt comfortable and trusted her straight away. She made me feel valued and is very approachable. I like that human interaction.

“Launchpad treats me no differently. They always inspire and encourage me to get involved and I'm looking to continue to do my peer-support. I also volunteer with Rainbow Recovery in Middlesbrough to support and share my experiences with LGBTQIA around alcohol and drugs.”



# Strategy

Launchpad employs five stages of support to its residents, on top of housing and financial advice:

- 1. Reception (own place, benefits, support plan)
- 2. Stabilising (mental health support if needed, psychotherapy)
- 3. Socialising (activities)
- 4. Preparation for employment / independent life (education and training)
- 5. Independent living (monitored by Independent Living Coordinator (ILC))



All this is to enable veterans to move on from Launchpad after a couple of years or so and thereafter to live independent and contented lives in whichever community they choose.

## Service Delivery

Launchpad provides veterans with accommodation (their own refurbished, one bedroom flat) and communal facilities, for which they pay rent, either using housing benefit, income or savings, in the majority of cases for up to two years. Each veteran is assessed on arrival and a specific developmental plan is put in place. It will take into account the individual's health, wellbeing and ambitions.

Working with other organisations, Launchpad provides welfare and mental health support, as well as signposting to experts, as necessary; then Launchpad helps the veterans acquire jobs, via training if necessary, and permanent housing.

One of the major benefits of living in one of the Launchpad houses is the ability for veterans to mix with individuals who have been through similar experiences while in the military; they usually feel part of a team again and can help and support one another. Through a mix of voluntary social events and physical activities, many referred to as diversionary activities, the veterans gain confidence and social skills.

We work with many other agencies and charities to provide support to our residents including, at the appropriate time, training and employment, followed by housing advice. When the veteran is ready, or when he or she decides, we help them move on to independent living. The charity uses the Outcomes Star, Support Plans and Risk Assessment tools to monitor veterans' development.



# Jill Murray appointed as Launchpad's new CEO

We are delighted Jill Murray has been appointed as our new CEO.

She joins Launchpad after current CEO and Co-Founder, Major General David Shaw announced his decision to step down after serving for ten years.

Jill is no stranger to Launchpad and was instrumental in helping to form the charity. In 2012, she had a vision to start a homeless veterans project and invited David Shaw and Ken McMillan to Byker to discuss her plans. With support from Newcastle City Council, she applied for and successfully secured £250,000 grant funding from the Armed Forces Community Covenant.

At this time, Jill was Chief Executive of Byker Community Trust (BCT) Housing Association, who owned the Grade II\* Byker Estate in Newcastle upon Tyne, and her Board agreed to prioritise the refurbishment of Avondale House which was then a vacant sheltered housing accommodation scheme for older people. The plan was to refurbish the facility into a homeless veterans' scheme for former serving military personnel who were struggling with the transition from the military to civilian life and to tackle veterans' homelessness by helping to reduce the city council's waiting list.

She brings with her over 43 years' experience working within the housing sector including nine years as chief executive of BCT.

Commenting on her appointment, Jill said:

“ Home is the place where everything begins, when you have a safe home, you then have a foundation and launchpad to build a fulfilling and successful life. This is why I'm delighted to be appointed the new CEO of this wonderful homeless charity, and especially because of my instrumental involvement in the initial setting up of the veterans housing project in Byker back in 2012. Supporting our UK Armed Forces' veterans, especially those who need housing and support to help them transition successfully into civilian life, has always been important to me.



“ I have admired how Launchpad has grown over the last ten years and is now recognised nationally as a key charity in supporting veterans. I'm pleased to be taking over the reins from David and I'm looking forward to working with the staff who all do an amazing job assisting the residents. ”

Jill replaces David Shaw who will continue in his role as CEO and founder of the Veterans' Foundation, as well as co-founder of the Veterans' Lottery.

He said: “As co-founder of this wonderful charity, I'm extremely proud of what we've achieved in the last ten years. We have supported over 700 veterans who have needed our help while they struggled with the transition into civilian life. I'd like to congratulate Jill on her appointment and thank the trustees and staff, the staff particularly for the dedication and commitment they have shown to our residents. Although my focus now lies with the Veterans' Foundation, Launchpad will forever be close to my heart.”





## House Management

Each house is run by a manager, a deputy manager and staff to cover operations, facilities, welfare, mental health, activities, training and employment, and alumni care. The manager of Avondale House also manages Hollyacre House. The number of staff for the three houses comprised 22 full-time and 3 part-time employees.

## Fundraising

Launchpad has engaged individual contractors to raise corporate donations. This has had a major impact, particularly through gifts-in-kind and volunteering from some well-established names such as: Esh Construction, BAE Systems, EQUANS, AstraZeneca, ASDA, Morrisons, Tesco, Bell Group, BITA, B&Q, John Turner Construction and others. See more on pages 10 & 11 of this report.

Capitale continues to raise funds very successfully through grant applications.

## Community Project

### Litter Picking

Once a month, we pick litter around the local area. Speke House provided funding for litter pickers and bag holders. The local church donates refuse bags for us to use. On average, 8 residents join us on our rounds. We use this opportunity to let residents in our community know who we are and where we are from. Feedback is always positive and any new veterans that have joined us will have the chance to explore the area where they live.

We have a good relationship with All Saints Church. We have pledged to tidy their memorial site and litter pick in their grounds once a month.

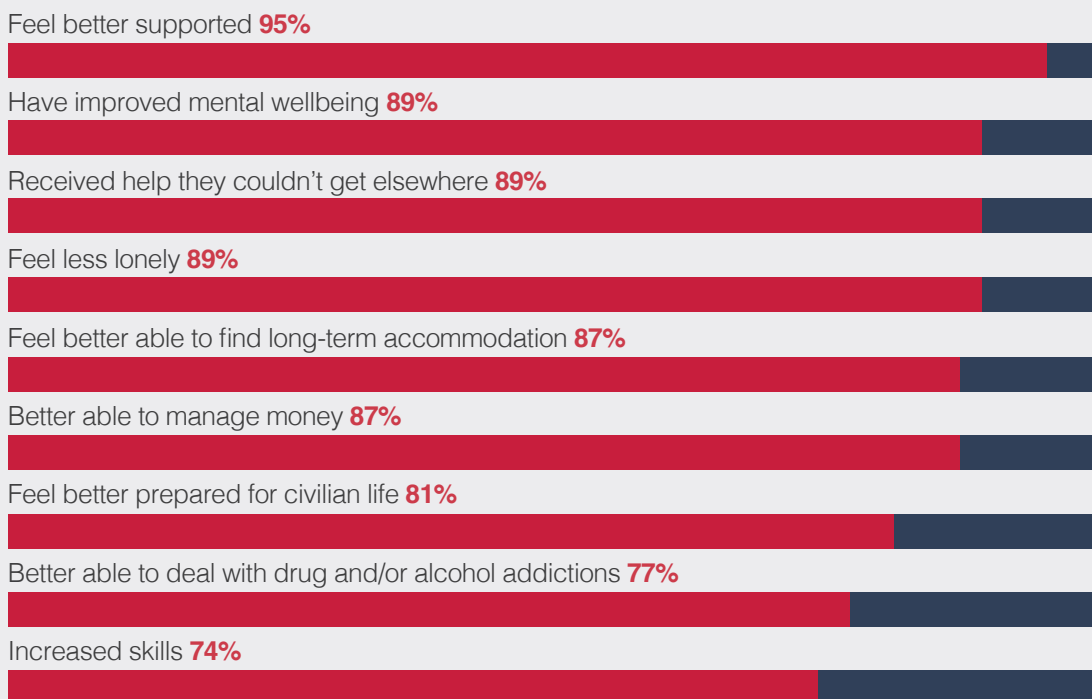
This is a well-received activity and any of our residents can participate, no matter what their abilities.





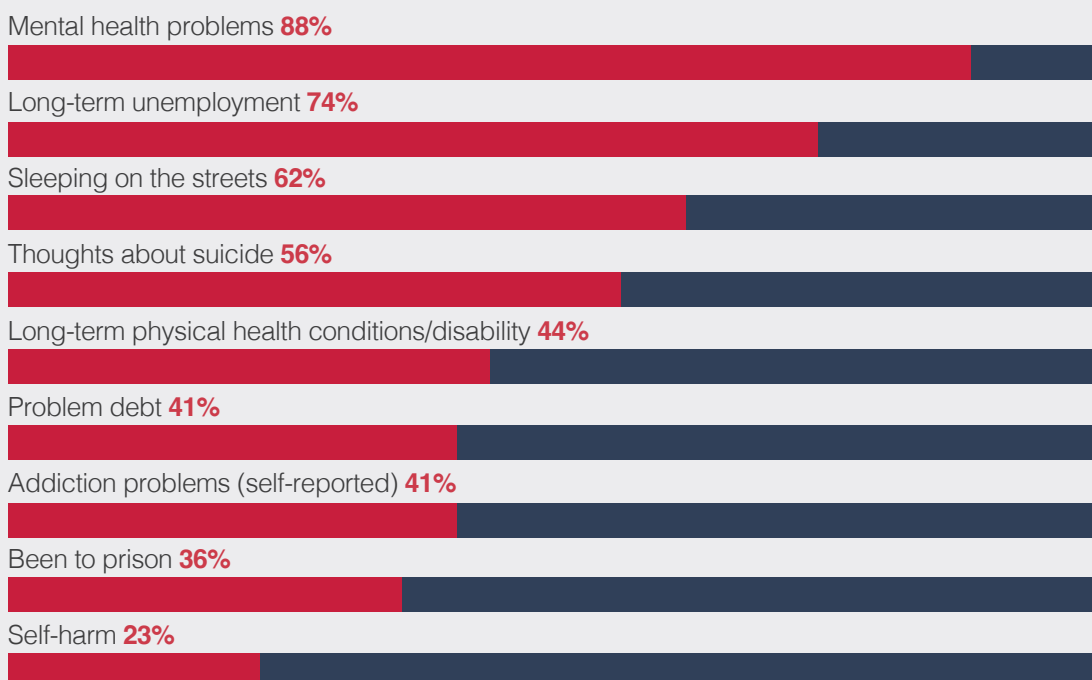
We use in-depth, annual resident surveys to track progress across a wide range of measures including skills, employability, self-confidence, and optimism. In our 2024 evaluation of 40 veterans supported by Launchpad, veterans reported the following outcomes:

## Outcomes reported by veterans at Launchpad in 2024



We also ask veterans to tell us about their experiences before coming to Launchpad. The veterans responding to our annual survey in 2024 reported the following experiences:

## Challenges reported by veterans at Launchpad in 2024





## Our fundraising activities 2023-2024\*

\*The following fundraising activities cover the period to October 2024

**Our two Business Development Managers have continued to form unique partnerships with various corporate partners, who have supported Launchpad by offering training, jobs, activities, and skills development for residents in all three houses.**



## Sponsor a veteran's flat

OPS Training and Bearded Men Adventures were the first two companies to sign up to our 'Sponsor a veteran's flat' campaign. For a donation of £1,000 per annum, it not only helps make the flat feel welcoming and homely for existing and new residents – it also contributes towards the refurbishment costs and upkeep of the flat.

The average cost (to the charity) to turn around a void flat for a new resident is £2,000. This includes the costs for removals and disposal of old furniture and items, re-decorating, fixing electrics and lighting and ensuring all relevant safety checks and certificates are re-issued.



# Annual Charity Golf Day

Following the successful inaugural Launchpad charity golf day in 2023, we organised another golf event in October 2024 at the stunning Vale of Llangollen Golf Club in Wales. This year, 19 teams competed and The Wild Thang were crowned 2024 champions. The event raised £4,300 for the charity.



- Kier Construction volunteered their services to provide a sub-base at Hollyacre House. The base will be used for a new greenhouse thanks to funding from the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund via the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland.
- AstraZeneca continues to offer volunteer days spent working on the garden and allotment at Speke House.
- Staff from Ryder Architecture and Hydrock donated Christmas presents to up to fifty residents at Avondale House and Hollyacre House. The gifts were funded through money raised at this year's Oktoberfest event, held in October. Launchpad was one of three North East charities to benefit from all money raised on the evening, which amounted to £10,000. Hydrock nominated Launchpad as their designated charity to benefit.
- Veteran Craig Thomas cycled 480 miles of the La Route des Grandes Alpes. He started his journey from Thonon-Les-Bains in Lake Geneva and cycled to St Laurent du Var in Nice, France. He raised over £1,000 for Launchpad.
- Global engineering company Atkins Realis brought together businesses, charitable organisations, and community leaders in Liverpool to explore how collaboration can drive meaningful social outcomes. They donated 50 tote bags filled with essential items that will help Speke House veterans to give them the best possible start on their journey to independent living.

# Armed Forces Dinner

In October, we also held our annual Armed Forces Dinner at the Discovery Museum in Newcastle upon Tyne. 170 guests celebrated at a glittering black-tie event and over £11,500 was raised on the evening.

In addition to the three fundraising events highlighted, the following are some other highlights throughout the year:



# Working in Partnership

Launchpad depends on partner organisations to effect the holistic support we bring to the residents. Key partners, whom we would like to thank for their excellent work are as follows:

Avondale House	
Welfare	We Are with You, Unique Fitness, RBL, SSAFA, ABF, CRISIS Skylight, Plumber Court, WWTW, Project Nova, OT Placements, Northumbria University, Newcastle City Council, Northern Learning Trust, Newcastle Veterans Cycle Hub, Gateshead Walking Club, DWP, Food Banks, Local Grant scheme's, Turn to Us, Greggs Trust, Crisis Support Scheme, SIS: Newcastle City Council.
Mental Health	Op Courage, MIND, Combat Stress, Veterans at Ease, TILS, Anxious Minds, Talking Therapies, Mental Health Concern, Samaritans, NHS Community Mental Health Team, Plummer Court, Humankind, Head Start, NTAR: Integrated Drug & Alcohol service, Crisis team, Samaritans, James' Place.
Diversionary Activities	St Michaels Community Centre, St Michaels Church, Byker Primary School, Karbon Homes/Byker Community Trust, gardening activities, walking, veterans breakfast club, boxing, go-karting, crafts, gym, Beamish visits, painting & decorating activity, Battle Back residential activity centre.
Training/Employment	CRISIS Skylight, Newcastle Rail Network, Amazon, RE:GEN, Newcastle University, Sunderland University, People Plus, Building Heroes, RMF Group, Northern Learning Trust, North East Councils.
Education and Training	Walker HIVE, Northumberland University, Lifeworks, Bell Group (P&D), Learning Curve, CRISIS Skylight, Re-Co-Co, Newcastle University, Sunderland University, SAVANT, Northern Learning Trust, Multiply.
Housing	Gateshead Council, AFOS (Northumberland, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Durham, Gateshead), HAC, Private Landlords, My Space, Changing Lives, Riverside, Veterans Gateway, Shelter, Byker Community Trust/Karbon Homes, Places for People, Johnny Johnson Housing, Gentoo, Your Homes Newcastle, South Tyneside Homes, Gateshead Housing, Anchor Housing, Thirteen Group.
Others	Money Matters, Veterans UK, CAB, SSAFA, RBL, ABF, EE, National Energy, Neighborhood Police, GP's, Dentists, Local Health centers, Newcastle Law Centre, Local Community Centers, Newcastle Carers, Health and Social Care Direct Safeguarding Team, Armed Forces Forums each of the LA's.





Speke House	
Welfare	Addaction, Veterans Welfare, RBL, Everton in the Community, Tom Harrison House, Rise, Project Nova, Carpenters Arms, Integrated Recovery Services, WWTW, Veterans Aid, Social Services, Sanctuary.
Mental Health	Talk Liverpool, Moss House, CHATS, Local GP /CPN support, Op Courage, PTSD UK, John Lucas- Therapist, Mindset matters, Combat Stress, Life Ways, NHS crisis team, Andy's Man Club.
Diversionsary Activities	Everton in the Community, Battle Back residential activity centre, LFC Foundation, Cat Zero, Bearded Men, CFO, Mission Motorsport, Dutch Farm/YMCA, Donkey Sanctuary, fishing club, Calmer Waters, breakfast club, Air-fix Model Club, cycling club, cooking club, allotment & gardening club.
Training/Employment	Speke Training and Education Centre, DWP, Sovini Group, Liverpool in Work, Inside Connections, Veterans into Logistics, Equans, Training Solutions, Skill Force, Skill boot camp, FTW Training, ALT Valley Communiversity. Building Heroes, Speke Hall, Seascope, CE3, Catch 22, NWA Academy, FTW, Job Skilla, Training & Employment Services, OPS, Ingeus, Veterans Job Board, WWTW, Life Works, High Ground.
Education and Training	South Liverpool Homes, Property Pool Plus, CC Housing, Riverside, Anchor, Liverpool Mutual Homes, Tarus, Housing 21, Op Fortitude, Private Landlords.
Housing	Warrior Programme, B&Q Neighbourly, local councillors, AstraZeneca, Morrisons, Tesco, Asda, Royal Navy, Probation & Community payback service, All Saints Church & Local neighbourhood. Ladies Fellowship group.
Others	Addaction, Veterans Welfare, RBL, Everton in the Community, Tom Harrison House, Rise, Project Nova, Carpenters Arms, Integrated Recovery Services, WWTW, Veterans Aid, Social Services, Sanctuary.



Hollyacre House	
Welfare	WWTW, Project Nova, Live Well NE, RBL, SSAFA, ABF, East Durham Veterans, Sunderland University OT Placements, Age UK, DCC Social Worker, NHS Health Squad, H4H, WWTW, Gym 24 Sacriston.
Mental Health	On Site Psychotherapist, Sunderland University OT Placements, Chester-Le-Street Mental Health Clinic, Anxious Minds, Veterans at Ease, VTILS, NHS Veterans Mental Health Complex Treatment Services, GP Secondary Mental Health, Tees, Esk and Wear Valley Foundation NHS Trust, CRISIS, H4H, WWTW, OP Courage.
Diversionsary Activities	Battle Back residential activity centre, The Old Church Sacriston, Breathing Space, Men's Shed Witton Gilbert, Battle Zone, NHS Trust Durham & Darlington, DCC Health Squad, Durham & Darlington NHS Trust, Combined Veterans England Football Club.
Training/Employment	ESH Group, RFEA, BAE, EQUANS, RE:GEN Group, Orange Box, Kier Construction, H4H, WWTW, NE County Council Employment and Training Coordinator.
Education and Training	Learning Curve, Northern Learning Trust, Woodshed Sacriston, NE Councils Education/ Colleges Durham Learn/Multiply, Northern Learning Trust, Orange Box, RE COCO College.
Housing	AFOS, Durham Key Options (19 Housing Providers), Home Group, Anchor Housing.



# Resident case study

Deane –  
Speke House

Grenadier Guards –  
British Army



At the age of 16, Deane joined the Army in 1975 and served with the Grenadier Guards.

He worked his way through the ranks and became a Sergeant in 1987. When his service came to an end, he decided to leave the Army, get married and set up home.

His mental health was affected by his time served in Northern Ireland and he was later diagnosed with PTSD. Prior to his diagnosis, he sought help from his GP and said: “I just wanted someone to tell me what was wrong, the feelings and emotions that PTSD gave me had frightened me.”

Unfortunately, due to the severity of his PTSD, his marriage broke down and he ended up homeless.

He was sleeping rough in a tent in the woods for a couple of months, but it was his daughter who reached out to Op FORTITUDE who then referred him to Launchpad’s Speke House in Liverpool. He said: “I had no idea of who could help me or who to reach out to, it was an emotional event, being homeless and then hearing a caring voice on the phone.”

Deane has made great strides in his mental health recovery and it has taken him time to understand the depths of his PTSD and is working extremely hard to control this. He engaged well with all of the activities in and out of the house and is always keen to help staff with

any projects. He said: “I embrace Speke House and all that it has to offer and I am now 90% better than I have ever been. From the games of bingo and days out to talking to Kate, it all helps for me.”

We are delighted to report that Deane moved out of Speke House in May 2024 and is now living independently with Anchor Housing in Cumbria

He said:

“With the help of the resettlement team at Speke House and the Management Team from Anchor Housing, I was given an unbelievable offer of an apartment with Anchor Housing. This time, I arrived with a car full of stuff that I had received through the Royal British Legion. Anchor Housing helped find furniture and other much-needed items with help of local charities.

“So now, I have a fantastic apartment in the most beautiful county in England - how different is that from sleeping on a Dominos Pizza box in Edinburgh.

“I mustn’t forget to mention Beau. Anchor actively encourages pet companions and my forever companion came into my life.”



# TRH The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester visit Avondale House

Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester visited Launchpad's Avondale House in May to meet staff, residents and partners and have a tour of the house.

During their visit, they met resident Tony Pallister who moved into Avondale House in August 2023 after he became unemployed and homeless.



Tony served in the Coldstream Guards between 2007 and 2009 and his duties included Guard



Duty at Buckingham Palace, St James's Palace and the Tower of London. He was part of the last march from Chelsea Barracks to Buckingham Palace for the changing of the guard and in 2007, he was involved in the Trooping of the Colour and the state opening of the Houses of Parliament.

David Shaw, CEO of Launchpad, said:

“ It was our pleasure to welcome Their Royal Highnesses to Avondale House to learn more about Launchpad and the work we do to support our UK Armed Forces' veterans who have experienced homelessness. It was nice for our staff, partners and residents to meet TRH The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and to talk to them about their experiences and support they have received from us.”





## Partner Profile: OPS Training

OPS Wind/Training, based in Liverpool, delivers safety training for onshore/offshore wind farms, rope access and crane training.

The company is a gold award holder of the Armed Forces Covenant, demonstrating its commitment and support to the UK Armed Forces' community.

In the last 12 months, OPS Training has been a great supporter to Launchpad. They were the very first company to back our new fundraising campaign by sponsoring a veterans' flat at Launchpad's Speke House and were also our main event sponsors at our annual charity golf day in October 2024.

Gary Paterson, Training Center Manager from OPS Training, said: "As a military veteran myself, I am aware that not everything goes to plan once leaving the armed forces. Coming from an environment where your daily routine, accommodation, bills are organised for you, to

suddenly finding yourself in need of employment and accommodation and maybe your family, paying utility bills, the list goes on and this can lead to tremendous pressure that can possibly lead to complications down the line.

“Having a charity like Launchpad plays an essential role in supporting Armed Forces Veterans, addressing their unique challenges and ensuring they receive the care and assistance they deserve after their service.”

“Launchpad provides a crucial safety net for veterans, who often face a range of difficulties as they transition to civilian life by addressing healthcare needs, providing financial and employment assistance and housing. The work of Launchpad not only aids veterans but also strengthens communities by working with other Armed Forces Covenant members and that's why OPS Wind/Training is excited to be supporting this charity.”



# Financial Review

Income for the year totalled **£1,655,221** (2023: £1,272,873) which included restricted grant income of £601,916 (2023: £276,084) less restricted deduction to rents of £6,719 (2023 £7,408) for heating grants and unrestricted income of £1,060,024 (2023: £1,004,197) arising from rents, service charges, bank interest and donations.

Expenditure for the year totalled **£1,589,384** (2023: £1,287,843) of which £493,587 (2023: £229,039) was restricted expenditure, leaving unrestricted expenditure of £1,095,797 (2023: £1,058,804).

There was an overall **surplus of £65,837** for the year (2023: deficit of £14,970).

Net assets at 30th June 2024 totalled **£1,482,792** (2023: £1,416,955). This included fixed assets of £1,044,939, debtors of £73,982, cash at bank of £700,872, short-term liabilities of £113,769 and long-term liabilities of £223,232.

Reserves held at 30 June 2024 totalled **£1,482,792** (2023 £1,416,955) made up of Unrestricted Funds £1,237,953 (2023 £1,273,726) and Restricted Funds £244,839 (2023 £143,229).

Launchpad's principal sources of income (over £10,000) in the last year have been:

- Rental income: £459,101
- Service charge income: £495,338
- Sponsorship and fundraising events £27,347
- Grant income £604,371  
most of which was from the following:
  - Army Benevolent Fund
  - The Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation
  - The Veterans' Foundation
  - Queen Mary's Roehampton Trust
  - The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust
  - The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington
  - Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity

We express our thanks to those funding organisations who have supported Launchpad. All expenditure has been used to sustain the activities of the charity, according to its objects. Funding goes to pay rent on Avondale House (to Karbon Homes), salaries, running costs, capital expenditure and veterans' activities. We have yet to build up sufficient reserves to require investment objectives, other than to maximise bank interest.

## Reserves Policy

Our aim is to build up sufficient reserves to cover the following:

- Unforeseen emergency (e.g. repairs)
- Temporary staff costs
- Income ceased, or halted unexpectedly
- Short-term cover between grants
- Closure - Redundancy £88,500, 2 months running costs £266,000

This currently amounts to **£498,000**. Actual reserves excluding fixed assets were £466,000 at 30 June 2024. The Reserves Policy is reviewed from time to time.

### Future Plans

Plans for next year, include continuing to deliver Op FORTITUDE, enhancing the service provided to veterans and playing a part in reducing homelessness among veterans across UK.

# Statement of Financial Activities

(including income and expenditure account)

Year Ended 30 June 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	<b>30.6.24</b> Total funds	30.6.23 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	57,505	601,916	<b>659,421</b>	472,998
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Avondale House	410,215	(6,719)	<b>403,496</b>	262,951
Speke House	386,120	-	<b>386,120</b>	352,488
Hollyacre House	185,451	-	<b>185,451</b>	158,214
Investment income	15,212	-	<b>15,212</b>	10,357
Other income	5,521	-	<b>5,521</b>	15,865
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,060,024</b>	<b>595,197</b>	<b>1,655,221</b>	<b>1,272,873</b>
<b>Expenditure on Charitable activities</b>				
Avondale House	429,022	192,773	<b>621,795</b>	499,524
Speke House	472,639	219,823	<b>692,462</b>	530,693
Hollyacre House	194,136	80,991	<b>275,127</b>	257,626
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1,095,797</b>	<b>493,587</b>	<b>1,589,384</b>	<b>1,287,843</b>
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>	<b>(35,773)</b>	<b>101,610</b>	<b>65,837</b>	<b>(14,970)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	1,273,726	143,229	<b>1,416,955</b>	1,431,925
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,237,953</b>	<b>244,839</b>	<b>1,482,792</b>	<b>1,416,955</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.



# Statement of Financial Position

## Year Ended 30 June 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	<b>30.6.24</b> <b>Total funds</b>	30.6.23  Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Tangible assets	1,044,939	-	<b>1,044,939</b>	1,078,599
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors	73,982	-	<b>73,982</b>	59,144
Cash at bank and in hand	456,033	244,839	<b>700,872</b>	607,168
	530,015	244,839	<b>774,854</b>	666,312
<b>Creditors</b>				
Amounts falling due within one year	(113,769)	-	<b>(113,769)</b>	(97,025)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	416,246	244,839	<b>661,085</b>	569,287
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>	1,461,185	244,839	<b>1,706,024</b>	1,647,886
<b>Creditors</b>				
Amounts falling due after more than one year	(223,232)	-	<b>(223,232)</b>	(230,931)
<b>Net Assets</b>	1,237,953	244,839	<b>1,482,792</b>	1,416,955
<b>Fund</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<b>1,237,953</b>	1,273,726
Restricted funds			<b>244,839</b>	143,229
<b>Total funds</b>			<b>1,482,792</b>	1,416,955

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