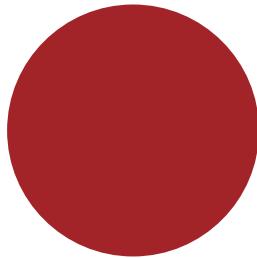




ADKC Annual Report 2025



Contents

Trustees, Staff, Volunteers and Funders Information	1
Chair's Report	2
Chief Executive's Report	3
Treasurer's Report	4
Disability Connect and Disability Connections Project	5
Counselling Service	6
Independent Lives Project	7
Information and Advice Service	8
Voice Of Experience Project	10
Volunteer Project	11
Access Group	12
ADKC Groups	14
Massage Therapy	15
Finances	16/17
Contact Details	Back Cover



Executive Committee

Stephanie Vaz
Jean Davis
Bello Abubakar
Adrian Berrill-Cox
Sandip Sodha
Yamina Sari
Samuel Game
Deborah Graves
June Martin

Chair
Vice Chair
Treasurer

Members of Staff

Jamie Renton
Jenny Hurst
Marian O'Donoghue
Carla Camillieri
Simone Galloway
Glenda Joseph
Mariya Stoeva
Mary Ann Mallet
Theresa McGrady
Hannah Roques
Naima Mouhda
Simone Stewart
Beverley Powell
Michele Johnson

Chief Executive
Independent Lives Project Coordinator
Information and Advice Officer
Legal Advice Project Coordinator
Disability Connect Project Coordinator
Personal Development Officer
Access Group Coordinator
Volunteer Project Coordinator
Voice of Experience Project Coordinator
Youth Peer Support Project Coordinator
Trainee Legal Advice Worker
Trainee Legal Advice Worker
Office Administrator
Cleaner

LIST OF FUNDERS 2024-2025

We would like to thank:

Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
National Lottery Community Fund
Lloyds Bank Foundation
City Bridge Trust
Trust for London
London Funders Propel Funding
Kensington and Chelsea Social Council

Access to Work

The Ronald Miller Foundation
DE Group
Individual Donors



Chair's Report

Steph Vaz

ADKC is more than an organisation. We are a community. A community of disabled people supporting and advocating for each other.

There are many amazing organisations supporting local residents, but what makes ADKC unique is that we are run by disabled people for disabled people. Together, our trustees, members, volunteers and staff work to create real change in our borough and beyond.

This year, maybe even more than ever, it has felt as though disabled people have had to fight to get our voices heard. That has made the need for our empowered ADKC community even greater. At ADKC, we take the time to celebrate who we are, our skills, our achievements and the impact we make every day. These things are rarely acknowledged in wider society, but they are at the heart of what we do.

It is an honour to act as Chair for such an incredible

organisation. I am deeply grateful to our brilliant Vice Chair, Jean Davis, whose knowledge and dedication are second to none, and to all our trustees, staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to further our aims.

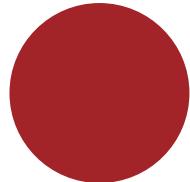
And most of all, thank you to our members. Your support, ideas and energy keep ADKC moving forward. Your impact goes far beyond our organisation through campaigning, sharing experiences and giving feedback that helps shape services for disabled people everywhere.

Finally, we remember the members and past trustees we have lost this year. Their legacy and love for ADKC continue to inspire us.

As we look ahead to the new year, I know we will face whatever comes together with strength, unity and the same commitment that makes ADKC such a vital part of our community.



“..what makes ADKC unique is that we are run by disabled people for disabled people.”





Chief Executive's Report

Jamie Renton

This year, as always, has been both a positive and demanding one for ADKC. As we strive to maintain and develop our services in an increasingly challenging economic climate for organisations such as ours.

“At a time when the demand for our services is greater than ever, the resources required to keep them going are becoming increasingly harder to find.”

At a time when the demand for our services is greater than ever, the resources required to keep them going are becoming increasingly harder to find. It is however worth noting that we are fortunate in having a local authority which continues to support us.

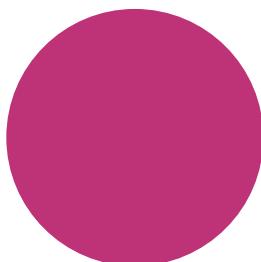
We also continue to push forward with our key aim of making sure that the voice of local disabled people is heard. Trying to develop and maintain the partnerships with decision makers and service providers needed for this to happen. Again, we should recognise the support of our local authority.

Kensington and Chelsea Council has historically had something of a reputation for being risk adverse and paternalistic. However, we've seen signs over the past

year or so that things are really changing. With a shift towards working with us and listening to the needs of local disabled people. We very much welcome the potential for partnership and co-production we hope to see as a result.

Next year ADKC will celebrate our 45th anniversary. We've come a long way since 1981. But there is still so much to do. We face many uphill struggles, both as an organisation and a community of local disabled people.

Lucky for us then that ADKC is made up of an amazing team of people. And I'd like to thank our staff team, trustees, volunteers, partners, supporters and (above all else) you, our members, for all of your support and ideas. You are the beating heart of our organisation.



Treasurer's Report

Bello Abubakar

I would like to thank our new Independent Examiner, Laura Parfitt-Marr FMAAT, for undertaking the examination of the accounts 2024-2025.

Thanks must also be extended to all our funders, who are listed separately elsewhere in this report. Without their support this organisation could not exist.

Our total funds have increased last financial year and so have the expenditure.

We are applying for funding from many diverse sources, extending the existing funding and seem to be having considerable success in our efforts.

We are running a very successful Counselling Service and will continue, funding permitted, to support our members in

these challenging times. We continue to support our members via the online meetings, support sessions and telephone consultations. We are running groups and games activities for our members, which are taking place in the centre, as well as via Zoom.

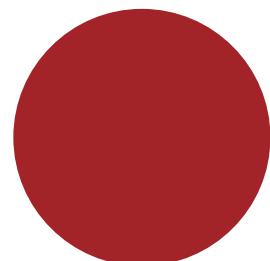
The centre based activities have good attendance, as do the hybrid sessions.

I am confident that staff will continue to do their best to improve the fortunes of Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea, regardless of the challenges which we are still facing.

We congratulate all for their efforts in the past year.



“We are applying for funding from many diverse sources, extending existing funding and seem to be having considerable success in our efforts.”





Member Feedback

"I got in touch with ADKC because I've got a fibromyalgia and arthritis. I felt so alone and isolated, and lost friends.

They put me in touch with Simone. She calls me every week, and has been a great support to me. I look forward to her calls. She is always welcoming and understanding and friendly to talk to and suddenly I didn't feel so alone. Simone did not rush me to come to ADKC Latimer Road. She came to see me in Earls Court.

Gradually, even though I get very anxious about travelling, I did with Simone's support, manage to come to ADKC to see Simone. I felt at ease with her, she listened to problems I was having where I live and my health problems."

Sharon

"You are very good, very supportive and very helpful. Whatever your advice, I find helpful. After talking with you, I feel a sense of relief, especially when I am particularly stressed and all over the place. You are a good listener. Also, in terms of confidentiality, I feel comfortable speaking with you."

Disability Connect & Disability Connections Projects

Simone Galloway

The aim of the project is to connect with disabled people who are socially isolated, giving emotional support and encouragement to decrease isolation, help them feel more connected and improve all-round wellbeing. This is done by giving space for conversation and providing a listening ear, plus, encouraging participation in online and outside activities in the community.

In addition, connecting clients to the relevant internal or external projects/resources regarding other issues that they may be facing.

"I find the Disability Connect service, which Simone runs, very useful, it benefits me a lot because I get overwhelmed and can't seem to do what I should do, but Simone will step in and suggest an activity or just start looking up an activity with which to take my mind away from the challenges I am facing. It helps knowing that I have someone else to give 'the kick up the bum' that I need. With regards to the listening ear service she provides, she really listens so well, even without me saying, she gives me the validation that I need. For example, to take a break. It also helps me knowing that she has been on this journey. It is really valuable knowing that I can contact her when I am truly overwhelmed and that she will encourage me to take steps to look after my wellbeing." Anonymous

"Dear Simone, Thank you for your compassionate presence and for being a listening ear during some of the most challenging moments I faced this past year. I appreciate you taking the time to introduce me to meditation and visualisation. Your empathy and support gave me renewed hope and reminded me that light can still be found, even in the darkest of times. Best, Maria"

With regards to meditation, I find it helpful because it's given me space to slow down, my brain kind of relaxes and I reconnect with myself. Also, it helps me manage my stress and provides positive affirmations to help me appreciate my day and express self-love. I have learned a lot from meditation.

From day one, you have been a great supporter, not only now, but from the first time I met you at ADKC. You have never changed, you've been amazing, help more and more and are doing a great job, thank you so much Simone."

Yamina

Counselling Service

Simone Galloway

The counselling service continues to run well. We still have two counsellors and are therefore still only taking on staff referrals due to a limited number of spaces.

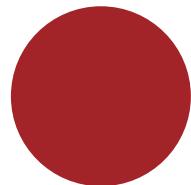
Eleven people received counselling this year. Of the eleven, the majority felt that the counselling had a positive effect and made general comments such as: being matched with a counsellor they had known

for a long time, greatly enhanced their comfort and ability to connect during sessions; the counsellor was deeply understanding, genuine, and skilled; they provided firm but kind guidance helping them to feel supported.

The service was well received overall, with some clients expressing a desire for more long-term counselling sessions.



“the counsellor was deeply understanding, genuine and skilled...”





“the project started developing national contacts for future influence work...”

Independent Lives Kensington and Chelsea

Jenny Hurst

The project has continued to run monthly peer support sessions for people using care and support services - including Personal Budgets, Direct Payments and Personal Health Budgets.

While having to work remotely, for health reasons, the project coordinator has continued to provide general information and some casework support.

The project also started to inform people about wider opportunities, including information about training

and support sessions run by other organisations, and consultation and engagement opportunities.

During the year until 31st March, the project started developing national contacts for future influence work, and we have been keeping members updated about changes that could affect people who need support to lead an independent life. We strive to restart co-production with the council in 2025.

Member Feedback

“Thank you so very much indeed for your kind telephone call yesterday! As I said you and your team are life savers! Today, carer Eta was even earlier. So, then asked to return to our agreed time. I would not have asked her but for our telecom yesterday. Again, thank you to all of you, you in particular, as after all these years you are still present when we call for your help! No one is like you! With gratitude ...”



Advice and Casework Project

Carla Camilleri

The Advice and Casework Project has evolved this year, combining the Information and Advice role with the previously named Legal Advice Team, to strengthen our advice work.

This year our long-time colleague, Marian, left the ADKC team and her years of experience will be greatly missed. Following Marian's departure, Simone, one of our Trainee Legal Advice Workers, moved into the Information and Advice Officer role. Her progression and development has been fantastic and she has hit the ground running in her new position. We have recently recruited a new member of the team who is joining us as our newest Trainee Legal Advice Worker.

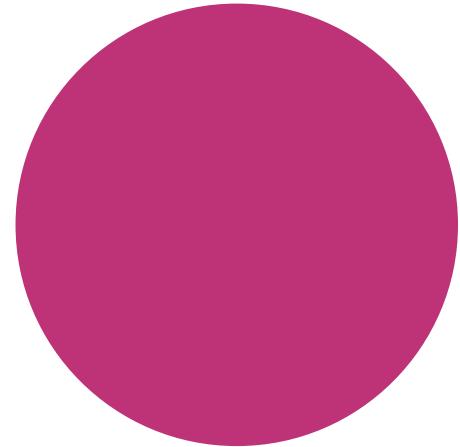
This year we have taken on more enquiries than ever before. These have included accessible housing issues, disrepair, PIP and Universal Credit issues, accessible transport cases, Equality Act issues and many more. Our service has grown

and with it, we have had to adjust to the changing issues impacting on the lives of our members. The cost of living crisis continues to mount pressure on people and proposed benefit cuts caused a great deal of stress to many this year.

There has been a surge in Welfare Benefit issues, resulting in large part from the Universal Credit Managed Migration programme, which has forced people on older, legacy benefits, to transition to Universal Credit.

As ever, the shortage of quality, accessible housing is another issue which remains an enormous concern and housing matters make up a significant portion of enquiries received.

We expect demand for our services to remain high and, as always, our message is that if you think you might need support, particularly with changes to disability benefits, please come and speak to us.

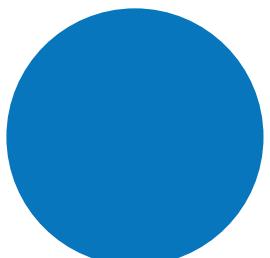


“We expect demand for our services to remain high... if you think you need support, please come and speak to us”

Member Feedback

“I had an interview by somebody acting on behalf of PIP to review my application and today had a call to say that they will award me the full amount backdated to May. I can't thank you enough for your help and guidance. You came to my aid when I was at my lowest point. Thanks again for your help.”

“I wanted to let you know that I have heard back from PIP, and they are giving me the enhanced rate!! VERY happy! Thank you for your help!!”



Voice of Experience

Theresa McGrady

The Voice of Experience project gives a greater voice to local disabled people, who utilise their lived-experience expertise to help shape and improve service delivery, to increase inclusion and develop services to better meet their needs.

By having the opportunity to speak directly to service leaders & decision makers, Members help to change attitudes and ways of working. There continues to be a change in approach coming from key local services, who often reach out to us to start the conversation.

The Voice of Experience group is hybrid and meets twice a month, on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Guests this year included:

- Kensington & Chelsea Council
- Various health-related organisations: NHS/NW London Integrated Care Board, Patient Transport, HQIP/SUN (Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership's Service User Network), Age UK in K&C, and the local Healthwatch.
- Policy Connect
- London Fire Brigade
- ADKC colleagues
- Met Police
- Local Jobcentre
- GLA/Equality and Fairness, Communities and Social Policy team.



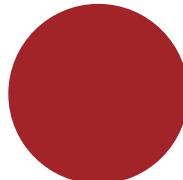
Other areas of work this year:

- Continuing to develop the Resources guide – covering topics such as disability rights info, benefits, grants & other support, transport, health & wellbeing, arts/leisure, education, employment, housing, active citizenship.
- The regular 'Have Your Say' newsletter – with a variety of external opportunities for Members to get involved with. This helps ensure that the views & experiences of disabled people are not left out of other local, regional or national consultations, thereby helping to keep disabled people's needs as part of the bigger picture.

Member Feedback

"Thank you so very much for this excellently organised meeting and for so very useful and extremely pleasant conversation with all the guests! I would also like to say a big thanks to the staff who are facilitating."

These opportunities include surveys, forums, focus groups, campaigns and other events.





“As ever, we are always on the lookout for new volunteers and eternally grateful to the ones working with us on this project.”

Volunteer Project

Mary Ann Mallet

This year the Volunteer project had over 100 referrals, ranging from shopping and prescription collections to visiting visually impaired members requiring administrative assistance. We also accompanied members on social outings including a busking session!

other staff members when they require assistance, they are very welcome and their help much appreciated. As ever, we are always on the lookout for new volunteers and eternally grateful to the ones working with us on this project.

There is also a small coterie of members coming into the office helping Beverley and

Member Feedback

“Your project is a great idea and has helped me a lot when I needed assistance. The volunteers are always helpful and friendly”



ADKC Access Project and Access Group

Mariya Stoeva

During the past year, we have continued to run our regular Access Group meetings, where members support each other and met up with different decision makers from a wide range of local services.

Also continuing to provide access visits to local venues providing advice on how they can become more accessible. Some of our successful campaigns and activities have included:

- Access visit to the Al Manaar Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre
- Helping to launch the new Accessibility Tool ReachDeck

on the Council's corporate website, which allows users to translate the site into different languages and includes access features such as text expansion and text-to-speech functionality

- Utility Works equipment trials held at ADKC, where we evaluated new ramps and smart technology-enabled temporary traffic lights with representatives from Council's Network Managers, TfL, utility companies and equipment providers.
- We took part in consultations with ComCab/Taxicard services, London Fire Brigade, and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust services.



Member Feedback

"Thank you, Mariya, for your commitment and efforts at ADKC' The Access Group brought us together to bring us closer to a future where accessibility is a reality for everyone. I am also grateful for the support you have shown me during challenging times." Maria Maleki (Access Group member)

"The Access Group is a supportive network, a community with smart, kind and resilient people, whose aim is to vocalise disabled people's needs, and concerns. Bringing our issues to the forefront, tackling discrimination by educating the public and establishments, on how to improve, and include their services for all users." Karisse Mutombo (Access Group member)





ADKC Groups

Happy Group

The aim of this group is to celebrate the positive things in life. Local disabled people meet every month for a chat, a cup of tea and have fun and laughter playing accessible board games, participating in drama / creative writing workshops or visiting places of interest.

Trauma Workshop

Originally established in 2017, in response to the Grenfell Tower fire, this weekly meeting supports the mental health of disabled people affected by trauma. The group provides a safe and confidential space to share experiences, guided by a qualified and experienced counsellor. Members come together to support one another, talk openly, and receive the emotional care they need to navigate the challenges they face.



ADKC PEG (Positive Empowerment Group)

The Positive Empowerment Group is a well-established and highly successful monthly gathering. It is a peer support and counselling group run by and for local disabled people. Recently the group has branched out to explore creative, cultural and artistic expression in order to develop members' confidence and potential.

Personal Development Group

This monthly workshop offers members one-to-one support to explore and develop their skills and interests. It is closely linked with the Independent Living Project, where members are encouraged to set personal goals and work towards achieving them. Many members have proudly celebrated their successes and milestones, which are regularly featured in the ADKC newsletter, Newsflash, and showcased at our AGM.

Member Feedback

"I am a victim of a crime. It happened at about 12.25 hours on Wednesday 2025. I had no idea what to do but Simone and Jenny sprang to mind as it was too traumatic and crucially a first. Both Jenny and Simone have details of what happened to me. I still live with the trauma.

The reason for this email is to let you know that in general ADKC focus in the main of needs of your members. Challenging issues to do with the council.

I called Jenny who over the years have that extra special disposition of one who listens and handles issues with great sensitivity and the utmost care and crucially one felt over the years that one can trust her actions

Simone in equal terms. I was not prepared for what happened to and thought that I had our all guard rails in place to avoid any close.

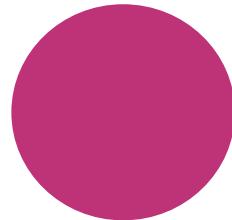
These two ladies practically saved my life. I shall not forget their actions for the rest of my life. I wanted to bring this to your attention and to those that are crucial to the running of this great organisation. With gratitude." Karisse Mutombo

Massage Therapy Service

Member Feedback

"As a person affected by the Grenfell fire, I have to say what a godsend ADKC has been to me. The massages with Lucy have done and are doing the world to my well being. Staff are lovely and welcoming. They are full of resources. We need this place, I, need this place and I dread to think if the place was ever to close down. I rely on their services for my well being. " Sylvia M

ADKC's longstanding Massage Therapy Service remains as popular as ever. Our trained and highly experienced therapist offers a range of massage therapies to our members, the costs of which are subsidised by ADKC.



Statement of Financial Activities

Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	8	2	2
Total Fixed Assets		<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors	9	14,140	11,932
Cash at bank and in hand		320,621	252,402
Total Current Assets		<u>334,761</u>	<u>264,334</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(48,627)	(35,168)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>(48,627)</u>	<u>(35,168)</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>286,136</u>	<u>229,168</u>
Total Net Assets or Liabilities		<u>286,136</u>	<u>229,168</u>
Funds of the Charity	13&14		
Restricted Funds		91,090	56,497
Designated Funds		48,079	48,079
Unrestricted Funds		146,967	124,592
Total Funds		<u>286,136</u>	<u>229,168</u>

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have 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 responsibilities 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 small companies regime.

Balance Sheet

Company Number 3040329

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income					
Trading Activities	3b	1,546	300.00	1,846	2,402
Charitable activities	3	186,789	264,978	451,767	343,182
Donations		2,650	-	2,650	1,990
Investments		4,685	-	4,685	1,702
Total		195,670	265,278	460,948	349,276
Expenditure					
Raising funds	4	1,718		1,718	1,674
Charitable activities	5	163,526	238,736	402,262	357,599
Total		165,244	238,736	403,980	359,273
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		30,426	26,542	56,968	- 9,997
Transfers between funds		- 8,051	8,051		-
Net movement in funds		22,375	34,593	56,968	(9,997)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		172,671	56,497	229,168	239,165
Total funds carried forward:		195,046	91,090	286,136	229,168

The charitable company has no recognised gains or losses other than those included above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.

There is no difference between the surplus shown above and their historical cost equivalents.

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.



Contact Details

Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea is an organisation run by and for disabled people.

Find us at:

ADKC Centre
Whitstable House
Silchester Road,
LONDON W10 6SB.

Call us:

020 8960 8888/07553 370074

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ADKCCENTRE/

X/Twitter: www.twitter.com/adkc2

Instagram: [@actiondisabilitykc](https://www.instagram.com/@actiondisabilitykc)

www.adkc.org.uk

Registered Charity 1045769
Company Number 3040329
Registered in the United Kingdom.

