



Sickle Cell & Thalassaemia Support Project

Annual Report

2024-2025



Company No: 3575079
Charity No: 1077687

sctsp.org.uk



Chairman's Remarks

I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the achievements and challenges faced over the past financial year. We have successfully continued to provide services to meet the needs of the community, with an emphasis on outreach work, organising activities, and engaging directly with families. Despite the increasing challenges in the voluntary sector due to funding constraints, we have made continued difference to affected families and individuals. Collaboration with service providers at district and regional levels has been a key strategy to offer more structured and integrated services. I want express my gratitude and appreciation to all supporters for their valuable contributions. - Clarence Crosdale

About Us

The Sickle Cell & Thalassaemia Support Project (SCTSP) is a community organisation supporting individuals and families living with Sickle cell and Thalassaemia blood disorders across Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley and surrounding areas.

We aim to:

- Provide specialist information, advice and practical support
- Deliver wellbeing and community activities that improve quality of life
- Raise awareness among health professionals and the wider public
- Empower families and young people to thrive despite the challenges of long-term conditions

Our work includes direct one-to-one counselling as part of the NHS Sickle Cell & Thalassaemia Screening Programme, group activities and wider health and wellbeing programmes.

Our Impact

From April 2024 to March 2025, we received and processed 717 unusual blood results.

	Wolverhampton	Walsall	Dudley
Antenatal	202	158	118
Neonatal	134	105	

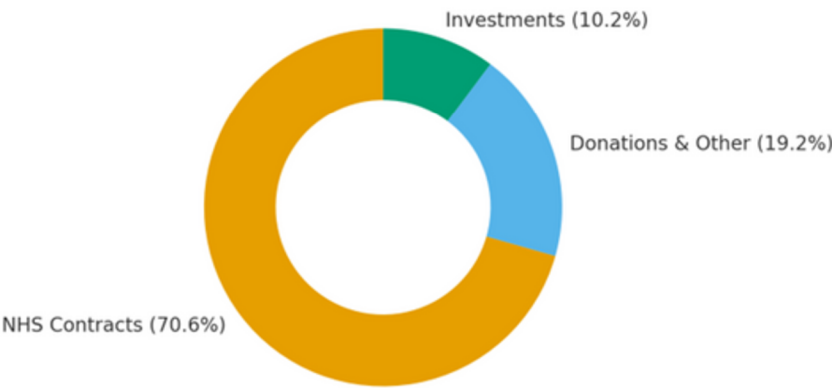
To learn more about this process, please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/pregnancy> and search for screening for sickle. We have supported service users with their health plans and we have worked with schools to provide a new or reviewed care plan for children. We have also supported many affected adults, children and their families with their wellbeing through multiple activities and events.

Number of Sickle Cell & Thalassaemia Clients:
165 Adults, 173 Children

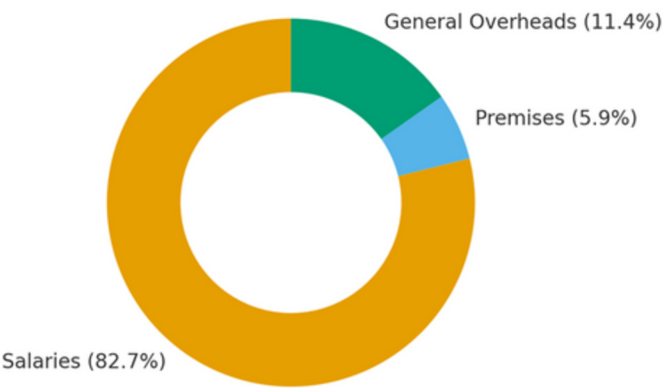
Areas of support:
Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley and the surrounding areas.

Finances

Income Breakdown 2024-25



Expenditure Breakdown 2024-25



Young Person & Family Engagement

This year, we were proud to deliver a wide range of opportunities for young people to learn, connect and thrive. Our annual Sports Day featured football, archery and badminton, while our VR Workshops gave young people a chance to explore the world virtually and reflect on their experiences of NHS care.

In February 2025 many families came together at our Move, Stretch & Dance Workshop, enjoying a day of movement and fun. Families also benefitted from special events such as the Collins Aerospace Family Fun Day, where children enjoyed rides, activities and face painting.

"The kids had an absolute blast playing with other kids present and they can't stop talking about how much fun they had. Thank you all for having us." - Parent in Walsall



Community Support & Keeping Warm

In February 2025, we delivered the Winter Warm Project in partnership with National Grid and Act On Energy, distributing warm packs, conducting home visits and sharing practical advice on energy efficiency.

At Christmas, we ran donation events in Wolverhampton and Walsall, distributing food, toiletries and children's clothing with the help of volunteers from Collins Aerospace. Families also received baby clothes, toys and home essentials throughout the winter to help them stay warm and well.

"In general these items have not only met our immediate needs, but also brought a sense of security and hope. We are grateful and we thank you all for putting smiles on our faces." - Parent in Wolverhampton



Health & Wellbeing Support

In November 2024, we launched our Wellbeing Support Programme, offering families free support directly from the project.

This included:

- Support to live a healthier lifestyle through nutrition, physical activity, mental wellbeing and sleep
- Support for adults and young people to understand how to manage their emotions
- Emotional regulation and coping strategies for children and young people

Alongside this, our free massage service proved to be very popular with adults affected by Sickle cell. This was introduced following feedback at our AGM. Many patients found the sessions to be a great relief from pain and stress. Due to the popularity, we extended this programme through to March 2025.

"I found the massage session extremely beneficial, especially for my stress levels, relaxation and also took away the awful headache, shoulder and neck pain/tension that I woke up with this morning"- Adult in Wolverhampton

In December 2024, parents caring for children with Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia also benefitted from a Stress and Relaxation Workshop, where they were able to learn practical self-care tools and strategies.

Shaping Healthcare Services

We were commissioned by NHS England to carry out research into patient experiences of unplanned and emergency care. Through drop-in sessions, surveys and group events, we gathered meaningful insights that will help shape better care pathways nationally.

In addition, opportunities were created for young people to have a direct influence on the future of healthcare through the planned Youth Forum at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.



Awareness & Advocacy

In September 2024, we marked National Sickle Cell Awareness Month with educational talks, workplace training and a feature on #TheVoiceBox radio show.

During Black History Month in October 2024, we were proud to take part in events, including guest speaking at Holy Trinity Church and hosting our own event in Dudley, where families also received free Winter Warm Packs as part of the National Grid- Staying Warm This Winter project.

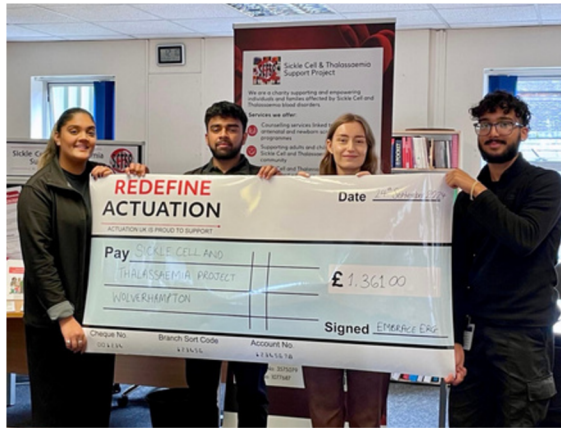
Our specialist nurses and community counsellors represented the project in hospitals and community spaces throughout the year, including raising awareness at Walsall Manor Hospital. At the same time, we continued to engage with NHS England and wider research partners.

Partnerships & Fundraising

Our work this year was strengthened by the generous contributions and involvement of our partners. Collins Aerospace supported us in numerous ways, inviting young people to their Olympics event, hosting STEM workshops, family days, and raising £1,361 through the Tough Mudder Challenge.

West Bromwich Building Society donated £600 towards our hardship fund and local fundraising during Black History Month also provided additional resources for families in need.

National Grid also supported us to keep families warm and healthy through workshops and winter warm packs. The aim of this was to provide advice and essential items to keep homes warm and reduce the cost of energy bills.



Acknowledgements

We extend our gratitude to our staff, board members, volunteers, funders and community partners for their commitment and support. Most importantly, we thank the families we support. Your strength, resilience and feedback continue to inspire our work and shape everything we do.

Our Supporters

