DOORSTEP

England & Wales · Charity number 1007692

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	02476922
Registered	1992-01-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	13a Broadhurst Gardens London NW6 3QX
Phone	020 7372 0413
Email	vicky@doorsteplondon.com
Website	www.doorsteplondon.com

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF POVERTY AND DISTRESS AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN CAMDEN AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, IN PARTICULAR THOSE WHO ARE HOMELESS OR LIVING IN TEMPORARY ACCOMODATION.

Activities: The relief of poverty and distress and the advancement of education of persons resident in Camden and the surrounding area in particular those who are homeless or living in temporary accommodation.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing
- **Who:** Children/young People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CAMDEN AND THE SURROUNDING AREA
- Camden

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£147,988	£130,114	-	-
2024-03-31	£165,226	£144,879	-	-
2023-03-31	£202,728	£211,713	-	-
2022-03-31	£155,548	£136,779	-	-
2021-03-31	£212,636	£134,476	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ali Farkhanda Jabeen	Chair	2023-03-06
Jessica Reddel		2023-03-06
Judith Trounson		2024-06-04
Rakesh Vithalani		2024-06-04
Reena Malharkar		2023-10-30
Roger John Alan Burgess		2024-09-17
Tsedey Yilala		2022-09-26

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DOORSTEP

England & Wales - Charity number 1007692

Accounts

Doorstep

"Opening doors for homeless families"



Clacton on Sea

Annual Report 2025 and Accounts 2024-2025

Director's Report

2025 opened with excitement and recognition for Doorstep when we were invited to meet the King and Queen at a celebration honouring Muslim women's achievements and marking the start of Ramadan. The event was hosted by a restaurant who had generously donated Iftar meals to our families in previous years. It was a privilege to attend with some of the families we support, and to witness the King and Queen helping to pack boxes of food that were later donated to our families and to key workers.

It was also a year when the number of children living in temporary accommodation, both in Camden and nationally, reached an all-time high. Doorstep's expertise—after more than forty years of supporting homeless families—and, even more importantly, the insight of families with lived experience, were increasingly sought to help shape planning and policy to tackle the crisis head on. We were invited to speak to the full council about what life is like for families and children in temporary accommodation, and we contributed to research by the Centre for Homelessness Impact as well as to the development of Camden's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025–2030.

While we welcome the publication of the government's National Plan to End Homelessness and the issues it seeks to address, it will take time before the promised investment in affordable and social housing translates into meaningful change. In the meantime, with no measures in place to reduce rents or make housing more affordable in the current economic climate, it is likely that the number of people experiencing homelessness will continue to rise.

This year we also began the recruitment process for a Play & Youth Lead. Although we did not find the right candidate in the first round, we re-advertised in December and are hopeful that we will have someone in post by March 2026. Once this role is filled, we will begin recruiting for our new Operations Coordinator position, strengthening our capacity to meet growing needs.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our Chair, Ali Jabeen, and to all our trustees—both longstanding and more recently appointed—for their unwavering commitment and guidance. Doorstep remains a small team, but one defined by dedication, compassion, and a deep belief in the potential of every family we support. Together, we work to lessen the profound impact that living in temporary accommodation has on children's health, wellbeing, and future opportunities.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our partners, funders, and donors for recognising the value of our work and standing alongside us. And we remain deeply appreciative of our patron, Victoria Coren Mitchell, for her continued support.

As we look ahead, we do so with optimism and determination. We are excited to see what the coming year will bring, and we remain resolute in our mission to ensure that every family who walks through our doors feels supported, empowered, and hopeful.

Vicky Fox

When it can be anything but temporary – how do we support families living in temporary accommodation? Vicky Fox (CHI Blog December 9th 2025)

For more than 35 years, I've been part of the Doorstep community here in Camden, North London. And in that time, I've watched the number of households in temporary accommodation reach record levels.

Temporary accommodation is meant to provide a valuable safety net for those at risk of homelessness. But, what's meant to be a short-term solution often becomes a long-term reality. This often means raising children in unsuitable, overcrowded spaces for far too long. The strain it puts on families can be immense.

At Doorstep, we're here to make that experience a little more bearable. To offer families not just practical help, but also dignity, joy, and connection. We currently have space for around 50 families in the hostel above our family centre, which means at any given time, there are up to 130 children calling Doorstep their home. While some move on quickly, others spend significant parts of their childhood here. Often uprooted from some of their social or support networks, our focus has always been on creating a space where families can feel safe, supported, and part of a community.

The importance of play

Challenges in temporary accommodation, such as unsuitable living spaces, can limit children's ability to play. We know that play is essential for a child's development, impacting physical, social and emotional growth - particularly in a child's formative years. This was highlighted in CHI's recent Evidence Note, which found that facilitating play and organising social activities can also improve wellbeing and create stronger friendships.

We see the difference that targeted, compassionate support can make. Our programmes are designed to respond to what families tell us they need - from age-appropriate after-school and holiday clubs that give children a chance to play and learn, to celebrations that make every birthday special.

We've also introduced practical services that make everyday life a bit easier: industrial washing facilities, a weekly bazaar offering free clothes, toys, and books, and one-to-one support with complex matters like school applications, benefits, and official paperwork. These things may seem small, but they help reduce stress, build confidence, and create moments of normality and connection.

Over the years, we've adapted to meet changing needs but the core of what families want hasn't changed at all. Every parent I meet simply wants what any of us would: a safe, stable place to call home, and the chance to build a better future for their children.

We know that the long-term solution lies in ensuring families spend as little time as possible in temporary accommodation, and can move quickly into permanent homes. Until that becomes reality, however, we would like to see more evidence highlighting the crucial role of services such as Doorstep, and greater support for them. That way we can help families not just survive, but find moments of happiness, belonging, and hope.

Here are some of the things our clients said about Doorstep:

"We lived in temporary accommodation near Doorstep which had just one room and a kitchen for nearly two years - myself, my husband, our two teenage children, and our eldest daughter who is 23. It was an incredibly difficult time. When we heard about Doorstep, we were so happy, as we were facing many challenges. The organisation helped us with everything from daily needs to more complex matters, and it gave us hope and comfort during a tough period. My children really enjoyed receiving birthday presents, taking part in activities, and simply having a place where they could relax and feel part of a community.

– Iryna, mum of three, went on to volunteer for Doorstep and is now working

"From our very first week as residents, we started using the services at Doorstep. We love the crèche, the outdoor activities, such as the beach trips during the holidays, and the weekly bazaar. The support they provided has been essential for my emotional and mental well-being - I truly felt cared for."

- Ana, mum and Doorstep volunteer



The kids love cooking

Our services

Our services have been developed over the years in direct response to the needs that families have expressed. They run throughout the year with additional seasonal activities and events:

- ★ Opportunities for children and young people to play, learn and develop at our after school club, crèches, Youth Project and drop-ins.
- ★ Joint activities with the partner organisations.
- ★ Regular creative & educational activities for adults.
- ★ Information, support and guidance for parents.
- ★ A programme of special activities and outings during the summer and school holidays.
- ★ A weekly 'bazaar' giving access to free essential goods donated by the wider community.
- ★ Free daily access to laundry facilities.
- ★ Supermarket gift vouchers, hygiene products, healthy snacks and meals

Highlights Through the Year

January- March - In February we were incredibly excited to be invited to meet the King and Queen. Their Majesties helped to fill boxes of delicious food, which were donated by the Darjeeling Express restaurant to our families and key workers. Meeting the Queen, one of Doorstep's children gave a spontaneous curtsy while shaking her hand. The Queen asked : "How long have you been practising that? That's a very good curtsy." Heading back to Doorstep the little girl said to me : *"That was the best day of my life!"*



Picture- The Evening Standard

During half term week Bell Group hired an entire screen for all our children to enjoy a trip to the cinema.

April - June -We ran a programme for the children during the Easter holidays and held a party. All children were given an Easter egg to take home. On June 12th we celebrated Eid with parties for all age groups. Each family received a £50 supermarket voucher and the children received gifts.


Celebrating Eid

July-September- We ran a four week summer programme of activities and outings from July 29th until August 23rd. On site we ran different indoor and outdoor sessions with a mix of fun and educational activities for the different ages. Water fights in the garden on hot days was a particular favourite. Once a week we hired coaches and went to the beach. We visited Clacton on Sea and Southend, where we provided children and parents with entrance to unlimited rides on the pier funfairs. We also went to two award-winning sandy beaches we hadn't visited before at Frinton and Southbourne. Families really enjoyed the trips, spending quality time as a family and making memories.

"*The weather was so beautiful, it was such a beautiful beach. My kids asked me if we could come back to the beach again. My kids enjoyed swimming, digging a hole and pouring water and collecting water from the sea, having lunch and sharing with friends. The children had lots of fun. Thank you so much." FC*

"My children and I enjoyed riding different rides and the weather was good. Thank you for taking my family. If Doorstep did not take me and my three children we would not do anything because we can not afford to do any activities. We would be at home and I have three teenagers which is very expensive if I say we do activities together so I appreciate Doorstep and the people who fund Doorstep to spend money to take families to the seaside." SH



Southbourne Beach

In September we received the welcome news that the installation of WiFi throughout the hostel, which the kids from our Youth Group campaigned for and Camden agreed to in July 2003, was finally going ahead. Not only that but each family would receive a gift of a smart TV, donated by Camden's business partners. We also hosted a consultation meeting at which seventeen families contributed their views for the development of Camden's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030

October - December - We held a Halloween party and three Christmas parties to cater for the different age groups. The Wifi-installation was completed and families received their TVs in time for Christmas. We distributed gifts to 100+ children and every family received a £50 supermarket voucher.

Once again, through the year, we provided every child and young person with a birthday gift and thanks to volunteer bakers at Free Cakes for Kids Camden they all received a beautiful customised cake. Beauty Banks donated toiletries and pre-loved clothing collections were donated by JW3, Village School, Jeannine Manuel school and Southbank International School, as well as many individuals in the wider community.

Some examples of the impact of our work

Case Study 1- Parent

Ana moved into the hostel with her baby daughter in 2023. She made use of Doorstep's services and her daughter attended the creche sessions. Ana was studying and when her daughter became old enough to attend nursery she started volunteering in Doorstep's creches to gain work experience. Eventually she was successful in gaining a full time job as a Nursery Practitioner and Doorstep was able to provide her with a reference. Ana sent the following after securing her job.

I am writing to share with you that I will start to work next week.

I find myself at a loss for words when it comes to expressing my deep gratitude for everything I've experienced alongside you during my time as a volunteer (of course, without forgetting my time living in the hostel). These months have been filled with learning, growth, and, above all, a warm sense of belonging.

Taking on the challenge of caring for and educating the children was, for me, a reconnection with my passion for helping and looking after others. This role, which came at a very special time in my life—when I was returning to the workforce after dedicating four years to motherhood—has been a true source of fulfilment. Even though it's in a field different from my initial training, I've realised how much it has filled me with a unique and joyful sense of purpose.

The care, dedication, and support I've received from each of you not only made the experience smooth and enjoyable but also helped me to regain my confidence and reconnect with my professional essence. Working with the children and being part of such a wonderful team has been fundamental to my new beginning, bringing results I know will stay with me on my journey, both in my career and in my personal life.

You have taught me more than you can imagine, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to be part of something so transformative. My heart is filled with gratitude for every moment shared.

With warmth and eternal thanks- Ana Pereira de Oliveira


Creche Play Session

Case Study 2

Luis is eight years old and is on the autism spectrum. He attends the after school group and holiday programmes. He found it difficult to engage in group activities and to articulate his needs and feelings. If he got upset he would try to open the door and leave. We gave him one to one support and provided him with a quiet space where he could sit. We also encouraged him to go to a staff member to let them know if he was feeling upset. He learned to be able to sit with a team member until he felt able to try and explain what had happened to upset him. Giving him a predictable routine with activities and resources he enjoyed helped him find it easier to engage. He now knows where all the toys and games are and will take a staff member's hand to show them what toy or game he wants to play with. He has gained self confidence in the setting-even correcting staff when his name was misspelt!

Case study 3

Amina is 2 years old and found it very difficult to settle in the creche. Even after an extended settling in period, when Mum stayed with her, she would still become very upset if her Mum tried to leave. She wouldn't make eye contact and wouldn't play or engage with any activities, but just cry even when staff tried to comfort her. We asked Mum to go and sit in another room reassuring Amina that she could go to see her Mum whenever she wanted. Gradually, we progressed to Mum leaving the building for a very short period and coming back. We gradually increased the time. We asked Mum to not go too far away and we promised Amina that if she was upset we would call Mum who would come straight back. We did this over a period of time until Amina learned to trust that her Mum would always come back. She now enjoys playing with the toys and joining in the activities with the other children.



Making miniature gardens

The Bigger Picture-Addressing the crisis

Housing Communities & Local Government Committee- First Report of Session 2024-2025

England's Homeless Children: The Crisis in Temporary Accommodation

This report focuses on the sharp end of England's housing crisis: the rising demand for temporary accommodation provision among families, which is seeing dire outcomes for homeless children and unsustainable cost pressures for some local authorities. Over 164,000 homeless children are currently living in temporary accommodation across England—the highest number on record.

Temporary accommodation is intended to be short-term housing to support vulnerable households with shelter and security when they become homeless, until they can find more settled accommodation. Yet we were concerned to hear cases of temporary accommodation provision which was completely unsuitable for families, with egregious hazards including serious damp and mould, excessive cold, and mice infestations. Temporary accommodation is frequently overcrowded. Older children must share beds with their parents or siblings, and babies do not have space to crawl or learn to walk due to lack of floor space. Some temporary accommodation sourced by local authorities is of such poor quality that it may pose a severe risk to children's health. It is shocking that in the last five years temporary accommodation has been a contributing factor to the deaths of at least 74 children, of whom 58 were under the age of one.

For many families, life in temporary accommodation is far from 'temporary'. Some families are placed in temporary accommodation for years without an offer of a more settled home, due to the chronic shortage of social and affordable housing. This same shortage has led many local authorities to use B&Bs and other accommodation with shared facilities, meaning families are often forced to live out of suitcases, uncertain as to when they may be required to pack up and move without notice. A growing number of families are also being placed in B&Bs for prolonged periods unlawfully, as local authorities are failing to adhere to the statutory six-week limit on such placements. We were alarmed to hear examples of families housed in temporary accommodation sharing communal facilities with strangers with a history of domestic abuse, posing a potential safeguarding risk to children.

Local authorities' monitoring of their temporary accommodation provision is inconsistent and inadequate. There is currently no requirement for local authorities to carry out any inspections of the quality of their temporary accommodation. We recommend that local authorities should be carrying out mandatory inspections of housing before it is first used as temporary accommodation, and whenever new residents are placed in the property.

Rising demand for temporary accommodation has led some local authorities to resort to relocating families, placing them in temporary accommodation 'out-of-area'. Out-of-area placements have a devastating impact on families, leaving them far from their extended family, friends, and support network, and causing disruption to children's education. Some local authorities are falling short of their legal duties with regard to out-of- area temporary accommodation, by failing to notify the host local authority appropriately when placing residents. The Government should introduce a new requirement for local authorities to notify the host authority before they make an out-of-area placement.

The Government must bring about a more joined-up approach between public services to support families experiencing homelessness. Schools, GPs, and other public bodies may be unaware when children in their care become homeless or change school due to a move into temporary accommodation. This prevents schools from offering additional support which homeless children may require. The Government should establish a formalised notification system, so that a child's school and GP are alerted when they move into temporary accommodation. This should be introduced alongside a focus on improving data reporting and sharing between public services, to fully understand the health and educational impacts of temporary accommodation on children.

Temporary accommodation costs are adding to the unprecedented financial strain facing local authorities across the country. Local authorities spent around £2.29 billion on temporary accommodation in 2023/24, while London boroughs alone spend a combined total of £4 million per day on temporary accommodation. Local authorities in Greater Manchester spend over £75 million per year on temporary accommodation rents. Whilst we welcome the Government's decision to increase homelessness funding for 2025/26, including a £192.9 million uplift to the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG), the Government must consider how this funding is allocated to bring about more effective homelessness prevention. The Government should also extend its support for local authorities to acquire their own temporary accommodation stock to reduce reliance on extortionate B&Bs and nightly paid accommodation, and evaluate the link between welfare reforms and homelessness, particularly regarding its decision to re-freeze Local Housing Allowance rates.

In short, there is a crisis in temporary accommodation in England. At its centre are homeless children and their families, who are too often voiceless, out of sight, and stuck in completely unsuitable accommodation. Ultimately, the crisis in temporary accommodation is a symptom of England's wider housing crisis. We reiterate the conclusion of our predecessor committees:that a failure of successive governments over decades to deliver enough new homes is to blame for the current shortage of affordable housing across all tenures. As a long-term solution to the crisis in temporary accommodation, the Government must fulfil its ambition to deliver 1.5 million new homes during this Parliament. However, there is an urgent need for further interventions to support families living in temporary accommodation immediately. We hope that our recommendations will provide effective proposals on how the Government may go further to offer this support, including in its forthcoming strategy on ending homelessness. We believe the Government must publish its strategy on ending homelessness by July 2025—before the

summer recess. This will ensure the Government, homelessness organisations, and local authorities can make meaningful progress towards tackling the crisis in temporary accommodation during this Parliament.


After School Club- Making houses

In response to the above report the government published a plan to end homelessness on December 11th 2025

A summary of the National Plan to End Homelessness

In December 2025, the Government published its National Plan to End Homelessness (the Plan), detailing its strategy to create a better future for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This Plan refers to England since housing and homelessness duties are devolved across the UK.

The Plan's long-term goal is for homelessness to be rare, brief and non-recurring. The Government sets out how it will support councils and public services to shift from crisis to prevention and tackle the most intransigent forms of homelessness. A key mechanism of this plan will involve collaboration across government departments.

The five pillars of the strategy:

1. **Universal Prevention:** Long-term systemic fixes to make homelessness rare.

- **Housing supply:** A 10-year Social and Affordable Homes Programme supported by £2.5 billion in loans and social rent settlement (CPI +1%).
- **Tenancy security:** The *Renters' Rights Act* will abolish "no-fault" evictions and rental bidding.
- **Income support:** Reviewing Local Housing Allowance and creating a Crisis and Resilience Fund to tackle poverty.
- **Allocations policy:** Plans to update social housing allocations guidance, addressing key barriers to fair access to social housing.

2. **Targeted prevention:** Addressing specific high-risk groups.

- A new **"duty to collaborate"** for public services.
- Specific targets to prevent homelessness for those leaving institutions such as care or prison.

3. **Preventing crisis:** Immediate intervention for those at imminent risk.

- **Funding:** £3.5 billion allocated for 2026–2029.
- **Early detection:** Using AI and the Ending Rough Sleeping Risk Assessment Tool to identify at-risk households and prioritise person-centred support.
- **Legal support:** "Know your rights" materials and increased legal aid to help tenants stay in their homes.

4. **Emergency Response (Brief):** Mitigating the impact of active homelessness.

- **Child Welfare:** New duties for councils to notify schools and GPs when a child is in temporary accommodation (TA).
- **Temporary Accommodation reform:** A national target to eliminate the use of B&Bs for families (limiting stay to 6 weeks) and applying the Decent Homes Standard to temporary housing.

5. **Recovery & Stability (Non-recurring):** Making homelessness "non-recurring."

- **Rough Sleeping:** A goal to halve long-term rough sleeping and repeal the Vagrancy Act by Spring 2026.
- **Support Services:** Linking housing with mental health, substance use, and employment support.

Expectations on the Government and partner organisations

1. **Planning and accountability**

- **Local councils:** Must publish a specific **Action Plan** to accompany their local homelessness strategy. This plan must include local targets that align with the national **Outcomes Framework**.
- **Mayors and Regional Leaders:** Are expected to drive high-level coordination and collaboration across their regions. They will receive specific funding to facilitate this multi-agency work.
- **National Oversight:** Progress will be monitored by the **Inter-Ministerial Group**, with formal progress reports published every two years to ensure the strategy stays on track.

2. **Workforce development**

- **Training & Skills:** Organisations will have access to a new **National Workforce Programme**. This provides essential training, specialist housing/homelessness advice, and professional development for frontline staff.
- **Expert Support:** Councils facing severe challenges will receive **targeted expert support** and closer monitoring to help improve their delivery.

3. **Collaboration and engagement**

- **Cross-Sector duty:** Public services, charities, and local authorities are expected to work more closely together, moving away from "siloed" working toward a shared prevention model.

- **Lived experience:** Organisations must incorporate insights from the **Lived Experience Forum and Expert Group** to ensure that services are actually working for those who use them and to help adapt interventions over time.

4. **Data and innovation**

- **Test and learn:** Organisations are encouraged to trial **innovative practices**. Successful local pilots will be rolled out nationally and shared as best practice.
- **Evidence-based decisions:** There is a heavy focus on using **high-quality data** to track outcomes rather than just measuring activities.

Emma Croft, Policy and Research Officer, Campbell Tickell (Blog January 12th 2026)



Christmas party Games

I love coming to Doorstep-the activities, the beaches, the staff, the snacks, the ice creams, the toys-its boring at home. YS-aged 9

Financial Report

The financial statements for Doorstep (or 'the charity') cover the financial year ending 31 March 2025.

The fiscal year 2025 ended in a secure position, with the reserve carried forward being sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The management committee and director recognise the need for, and remain committed to, pursuing multi-year funding both to minimise the risk of disruption to the charity's services, for example in the event of a downturn in one or more areas of external funding

Careful financial and operating records have been kept throughout the financial year ending on 31 March 2025. The accounts for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2025 have been examined by an independent accountancy firm. Detailed records of financial documents are available and may be requested from Doorstep Homeless Families Project, 13A Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3QX.

The Management Committee members are satisfied that Doorstep is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year in accordance with section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The Management Committee members acknowledge their responsibilities for:
1- Ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
2- Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity as at the end of the financial year 2024 and of its profit or loss for the aforementioned financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on 31/08/2025 and were signed on their behalf by the chair, Ali Jabeen.

Ali Jabeen
Chair

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	**Unrestricted Funds £**	**Restricted Funds £**	**Total 2025 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Income From							
Donations and grants	2	136,988	11,000	**147,988**	113,719	51,507	165,226
Total Income		**136,988**	**11,000**	**147,988**	113,719	51,507	165,226
Expenditure on:							
Fundraising	3	4,924	-	**4,924**	4,736	-	4,736
Charitable activities	3	115,190	10,000	**125,190**	88,636	51,507	140,143
Total expenditure		**120,114**	**10,000**	**130,114**	93,372	51,507	144,879
Net income for the year	4	**16,874**	**1,000**	**17,874**	20,347	-	20,347
Net movement in funds	8	**16,874**	**1,000**	**17,874**	20,347	-	20,347
Funds brought forward		162,421	3,000	**165,421**	142,074	3,000	145,074
Total funds carried forward		**179,295**	**4,000**	**183,295**	162,421	3,000	165,421

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

Chair's report

This year has been one of both celebration and transition for Doorstep. We began 2025 with a sense of excitement and recognition, as our Director, Vicky Fox, was honoured to attend a remarkable event marking the start of Ramadan, where she met the King and Queen alongside some of our resident families and their children.

This occasion not only recognised the achievements of Muslim women but also highlighted the generosity of our community, with Iftar meals donated to families and key workers. The joy and pride felt by our families at this event was a testament to the spirit of Doorstep and the wider community.

A significant milestone was achieved in our ongoing commitment to resident wellbeing: the installation of WiFi throughout the hostel, long campaigned for by our Youth Group, was completed. An appeal for televisions for families, to break the tedium of cramped living conditions, resulted in a generous donation of smart TVs, ensuring that every resident now has a television in their room. These meaningful improvements have brought comfort and a sense of normality to many, especially during challenging times. further enhancing the quality of life for our families.

This year also marked a moment of transition as we bid farewell to our longstanding trustee and board member, Lesley Adams, who stood down after seven years of dedicated service. We are deeply grateful for all the support, guidance, and generosity Lesley has shown over the years. Her commitment has helped shape mission and impact, and we wish her all the best for the future.

Throughout the year, Doorstep's expertise and the lived experience of our families have been sought to inform planning and policy, as the number of children living in temporary accommodation reached a staggering 164,000. Our team's dedication, compassion, and belief in every family's potential remain at the heart of our work. We contributed to research, spoke at council meetings, and played a role in shaping Camden's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025–2030. Our services continued to adapt to the needs of families, providing not just practical support but also moments of joy, dignity, and connection.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our amazing director, Vicky Fox and the staff team, as well as our trustees, partners, funders, and donors for their unwavering support. We are especially grateful to our patron, Victoria Coren Mitchell, for her continued encouragement and generosity. Looking ahead, we do so with optimism and determination, committed to ensuring that every family who walks through our doors feels supported, empowered, and hopeful. At Doorstep, children can enjoy a safe, welcoming space and garden where they can play, have fun, and thrive.

On behalf of the Board, thank you to everyone who has contributed to Doorstep's work this year. Together, we will continue to create lasting positive change for those who need it most.

Ali.F.Jabeen

We give our most sincere and grateful thanks to the following organisations for their support of Doorstep and our families:

Accordion
AKO Foundation
Arriva
Barnett & Sylvia Shine Charity
Beauty Banks
Bell Group
Benevity
Camden Council
Camden Giving
Caravel
Crucible Foundation
Darjeeling Express
Devonshire Hill School
First Give
Fitzdale Trust
Free Cakes for Kids Camden
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust
Jeannine Manuel School
JW3
London Community Foundation
John Lyons Trust
Kajatawa Foundation
McLaren Group
Payne Greenburgh Trust
Philips
Preston Manor High School
Reel Fund
South Hampstead High School
Southbank International School
St Mary's Church
StreetSmart
The American School in London
The Village School
Voluntary Action Camden
Waitrose & Partners
Young Camden Foundation

Also, to the very many kind and generous individuals who donated money, food, toys, clothes, books, and their time.

The Management Committee

Ali Jabeen- Chair

Reena Malharkar-Treasurer

Judith Trounson-Secretary

Jess Reddell

Roger Burgess

Rakesh Vithalani

Lesley Adams Resigned-08/07/2025

Tsedey Yilala

The Staff Team

Vicky Fox - Director

Khadra Mohamed - Children's Worker (part time)

Belkize Banjica - Housekeeping & sessional play support (part time)

Dilly Hira - Children's Worker (part time)

Iryna Hulam- Sessional play support

Volunteers

ASL teachers & Students

Bell Team

Danyal Parvez

Mazin Salih

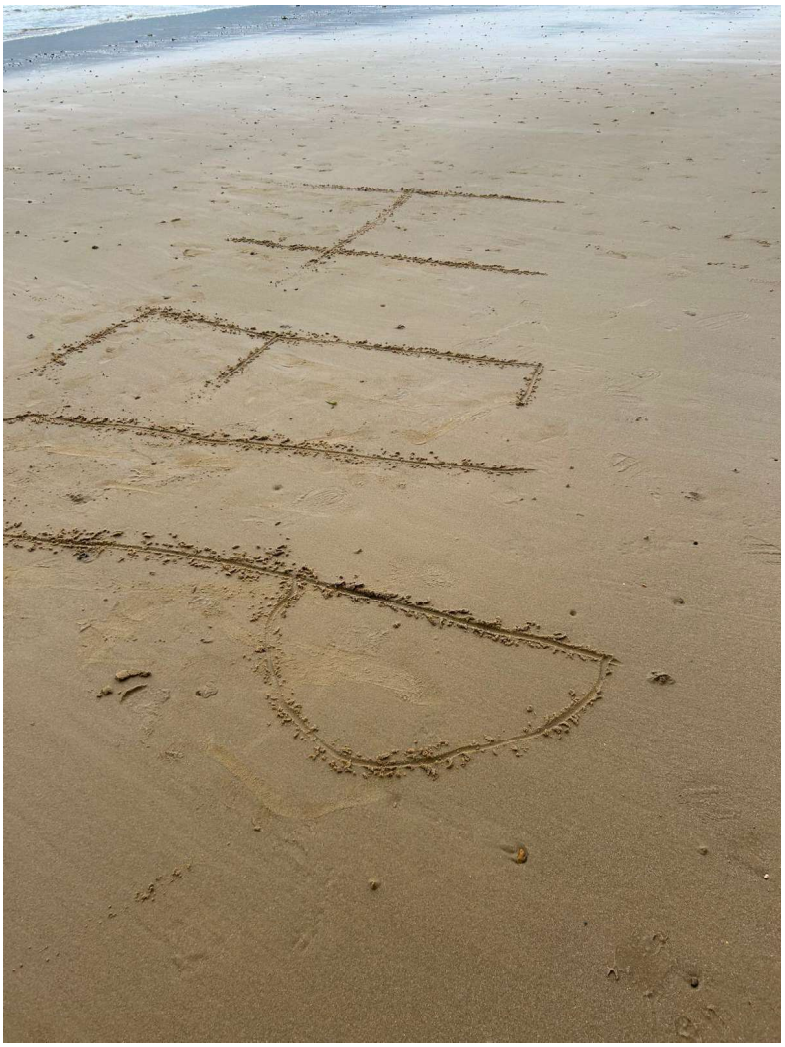
Ana Pereira de Oliveira

Sabah Negash

Our Patron

Victoria Coren-Mitchell

Not forgetting the hundreds of other individuals who took part in occasional projects- we give our sincere thanks to each and every one!



Doorstep Homeless Families Project
13A Broadhurst Gardens
London NW6 3QX

Tel: 0207 372 0413
Email:hello@doorsteplondon.com Website: www.doorsteplondon.com
www.facebook.com/DoorstepLondon
https://twitter.com/doorstep_london
www.instagram.com/doorstep_london

Doorstep is a Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales, No 2476922. Registered Charity No 1007692. Doorstep is funded by Charitable Grants and private donations.

DOORSTEP

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 02476922 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1007692

Accountability Europe Limited
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	Doorstep
Charity registration number	1007692
Company registration number	02476922
Registered office	13a Broadhurst Gardens London NW6 3QX
Directors / Trustees	Ali Jabeen – Chair Tsedey Yilala Jessica Reddel Reena Malharkar – Treasurer Judith Trounson (appointed on 04/06/24) Rakesh Vithalani (appointed on 04/06/24) Roger Burgess (appointed on 17/09/24) Lesley Adams (resigned on 16/07/2025) Celia Carr (resigned on 12/11/2024) Joanne Cunningham (resigned on 19/06/2023)
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB
Independent examiner	Accountability Europe Limited Omnibus Workspace 39-41 North Road London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 16 February 1990, and also registered with the Charity Commissioners.

Appointment, induction & training of Trustees

All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction session they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organization

The charity is organized so that the trustees meet regularly to manage its affairs. There is one full time executive Vicky Fox, who both manages the day-to-day administration of the charity and organizes fundraising initiatives. The sessional staff are employed to run particular service sections or with specific administration or building responsibilities.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:-

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives are "the relief of poverty and distress and the advancement of education of persons resident in Camden and the surrounding area, in particular those who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation". The charity provides a range of support services with the overall aim to improve the quality of life of service users. These include laundry facilities, play opportunities for children and taught courses in areas such as IT and ESOL.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future services. In particular the board of trustees consider how our planned services will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- We have supported 239 different people, 69 families, 86 adults and 147 children and young people. 89% were from Global Majority backgrounds, 67% were women and girls, 53% were single parents. Additional needs among the children and young people include-Autism Spectrum, Tourette, Learning Disability and Severe Allergies. Health issues among adults include Cancer, Mental Health and Mobility.
- We were invited to meet the King and Queen who helped to pack hot food which was donated to our families. This was widely reported in the media, helping to raise Doorstep's profile.
- Our Director was invited to speak to a full council meeting on the experience and impacts for families who are living in temporary accommodation.
- Doorstep's services are viewed as an excellent model for support services for homeless families and are being highlighted by Centre for Homeless Impact in an evidence paper for commissioners, funders and others.
- As well as holding parties and providing the children with gifts, we were able to provide every family with supermarket gift vouchers to celebrate Christmas and Eid.
- We provided 40 families with a refurbished laptop.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income for the year of £147,988 (2024: £165,226) and total expenditure of £130,114 (2024: £144,879) resulting in surplus of £17,874 (2024: surplus of £20,347). Total reserves of £183,295 are carried forward of which £179,295 are unrestricted and £4,000 are restricted.

RESERVES

The present level of reserves is sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The reserves are needed to allow time for re-organisation in the event of a downturn of income in one or more areas of funding, and to provide for unforeseen, and hence unbudgeted, expenditure where this enables the Charity to continue to meet its objectives.

FUTURE PLANS

- We will be appointing and onboarding two new members of staff. A Play & Youth Lead and an Operations Coordinator.
- We will be participating in consultations and contributing to Camden's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030.
- We will be sharing our expertise for research and exploring ongoing collaborations with a number of projects e.g. Migration Research Project and Domestic Abuse programme.
- We will continue to develop and deliver a range of services and activities that promote skills and new experiences and improve the quality of life for adults, young people and children.
- We will continue to prioritise fundraising to support our ongoing work and the financial security of the organisation.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and 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 the 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the reparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on **15 September 2025**
and signed on its behalf by:



.....

Ali Jabeen
(Chair)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

DOORSTEP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



……

Aamer Shehzad FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

Date: **15 September 2025**

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Income From							
Donations and grants	**2**	136,988	11,000	**147,988**	113,719	51,507	165,226
Total Income		**136,988**	**11,000**	**147,988**	113,719	51,507	165,226
Expenditure on:							
Fundraising	**3**	4,924	-	**4,924**	4,736	-	4,736
Charitable activities	**3**	115,190	10,000	**125,190**	88,636	51,507	140,143
Total expenditure		**120,114**	**10,000**	**130,114**	93,372	51,507	144,879
Net income for the year	**4**	**16,874**	**1,000**	**17,874**	20,347	-	20,347
Net movement in funds	**8**	**16,874**	**1,000**	**17,874**	20,347	-	20,347
Funds brought forward		162,421	3,000	**165,421**	142,074	3,000	145,074
Total funds carried forward		**179,295**	**4,000**	**183,295**	162,421	3,000	165,421

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Note		2025 £		2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	**6**		**-**		300
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**221,426**		172,217	
		221,426		172,217	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**7**	**(38,131)**		(7,096)	
Net current assets			**183,295**		165,121
Net assets			**183,295**		165,421
Funds					
Restricted Funds	**8**		**4,000**		3,000
General funds	**8**		**179,295**		162,421
Total charity funds			**183,295**		165,421

For the year ended 31 March 2025 the charitable 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 preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on **15 September 2025**
and signed on its behalf by:



Ali Jabeen (Chair)

Company Registration No. 02476922

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The charitable company is exempted from preparing a cash flow statement due to exemption available to charities with income of less than £500,000.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:
Equipment: 33% Straight line basis

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

a) Costs of raising funds:

It includes the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

b) Expenditure on charitable activities

It includes the costs of delivering services, exhibitions and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charity's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	**Total 2025 £**	Total 2024 £
Donations:				
Donations	21,488	-	**21,488**	42,469
Grants:				
AKO Foundation	33,000	-	**33,000**	35,000
Fitzdale Trust	-	4,000	**4,000**	3,000
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust	2,500	-	**2,500**	20,000
The Kajatawa Foundation	3,000	-	**3,000**	3,000
Crucible Foundation	25,000	-	**25,000**	-
Street Smart	10,000	-	**10,000**	-
BBC Children in Need	-	-	**-**	23,507
Camden Giving	-	2,000	**2,000**	-
John Lyons	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
Evening Standard Dispossessed Fund	-	-	**-**	33,250
Reel Fund	12,000	-	**12,000**	-
London Borough of Camden	30,000	-	**30,000**	-
John Lewis	-	-	**-**	5,000
	136,988	**11,000**	**147,988**	165,226

3 Analysis of expenditure

Current year	**Cost of Fundraising**	**Charitable activities**	**Support costs**	**2025 Total**	2024 Total
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	£
Staff costs	4,924	96,655	-	**101,579**	126,341
Direct costs	-	17,353	-	**17,353**	9,836
Premises costs	-	-	4,413	**4,413**	293
Other office costs	-	-	2,782	**2,782**	4,159
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,087	**3,087**	3,550
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	**600**	600
Depreciation	-	-	300	**300**	100
	4,924	114,008	11,182	**130,114**	144,879
Support costs allocated	-	11,182	(11,182)	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	**4,924**	**125,190**	**-**	**130,114**	144,879

Of the total expenditure, £119,719 was unrestricted (2024: £93,372) and £10,000 was restricted (2024: £51,507)

Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	4,736	121,605	-	126,341
Direct costs	-	9,836	-	9,836
Premises costs	-	-	293	293
Other office costs	-	-	4,159	4,159
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,550	3,550
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	600
Depreciation	-	-	100	100
	4,736	131,441	8,702	144,879
Support costs allocated	-	8,702	(8,702)	-
Total expenditure 2023	4,736	140,143	-	144,879

4 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:	**2025**	2024
	£	£
Depreciation	**300**	100
Independent examiner's fee (excl VAT)	**500**	500

5 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows:	**2025**	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**83,491**	104,998
Social security costs	**1,134**	3,090
Pension costs	**16,954**	18,252
	101,579	126,340

No member of staff received emoluments of more than £60,000 in this year (2024: £nil)

The total employee benefits including employer NIC and pension of the key management personnel were £49,245 (2024: £47,359). During the year there were no redundancy payments.

The trustees of the charitable company were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2024: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year, was as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Number of project staff	**6**	5
	6	5

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
COST	**£**
At start and at the end of the year	**25,714**
DEPRECIATION	
At start of the year	25,414
Charge for the year	300
At the end of the year	**25,714**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2025	**-**
At 31 March 2024	300

7	**Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**	**2025**	2024
		£	£
	Deferred Income	**33,000**	-
	Taxation and social security	**2,205**	4,106
	Accruals	**1,800**	1,640
	Others Creditors	**1,126**	1,350
		38,131	7,096

8	**Movement in funds**	**At 1 April**			**At 31 March**
	Current year	**2024**	**Income**	**Expenditure**	**2025**
	Restricted:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
	John Lewis	-	5,000	5,000	**-**
	Camden Giving	-	2,000	2,000	**-**
	Fitzdale Trust	3,000	4,000	3,000	**4,000**
	Total restricted funds	**3,000**	**11,000**	**10,000**	**4,000**
	Unrestricted Funds:				
	General Funds	162,421	136,988	120,114	**179,295**
	Total unrestricted funds	**162,421**	**136,988**	**120,114**	**179,295**
	Total funds	**165,421**	**147,988**	**130,114**	**183,295**

	Movement in funds	At 1 April			At 31 March
	Prior year	2023	Income	Expenditure	2024
	Restricted:	£	£	£	£
	BBC Children in Need	-	23,507	23,507	-
	Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust	-	20,000	20,000	-
	John Lewis	-	5,000	5,000	-
	Fitzdale Trust	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	Total restricted funds	3,000	51,507	51,507	3,000
	Unrestricted Funds:				
	General Funds	142,074	113,719	93,372	162,421
	Total unrestricted funds	142,074	113,719	93,372	162,421
	Total funds	145,074	165,226	144,879	165,421

9 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2025 £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	**-**
Net current assets	179,295	4,000	**183,295**
Total Funds	**179,295**	**4,000**	**183,295**

Analysis of net assets between funds Prior year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	300	-	300
Net current assets	162,121	3,000	165,121
Total Funds	162,421	3,000	165,421

10 Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member without share capital.

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2025 (2024: none).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. There is no balance due to/from related parties at the end of the year.

DOORSTEP

England & Wales - Charity number 1007692

Accounts

Doorstep

"Opening doors for homeless families"



Annual Report 2024 and Accounts 2023-2024

Director's Report

Last year was exciting and occasionally nail biting. In the fiscal year 2023-2024 we had been looking at a 64k deficit but managed to turn that around and ended with a 19k surplus.

With multi-year sources of funding, for our work with children and young people, ending in October 2023 a funding deficit meant we had staff shortages as we weren't able to offer any job security to recruit. This created some uncertainty about the future and anxiety about being able to maintain services, However, remaining staff have been flexible and with the support of volunteers, services have continued and we can now look to a much more secure future.

We were immensely grateful for a one off grant from the Evening Standard Dispossessed Fund which plugged the hole for 6 months and allowed us to concentrate our efforts on securing longer term/multi year funding. We were successful in securing four sources of multi year funding ranging from 3 to 7 years duration. This meant we were able to start working towards recruitment of the roles that will be needed to start the succession process and to underpin services. We have identified a role of Operations Coordinator and a lead role for work with children and young people. We aim to have these posts filled by April 2025 at the start of the next fiscal year.

Unfortunately, this upturn in funding didn't happen in time to save the unfunded post of Parent Support/Advocate which ended in February 2024. Another casualty of the funding deficit was our Youth Project, which we had to pause in the summer of 2023 due to lack of sufficient staff or funding. Thanks to two generous donations from our patron, Victoria, Coren Mitchell, we were able to restart the Youth Project in February 2024 and maintain it without further interruption.

Similarly, I give thanks to our chair Ali Jabeen and our trustees, both old and new, for their ongoing commitment and support.

The staff team has been small but mighty in continuing to deliver services and I am grateful to my colleagues for their hard work and their dedication to ensure this. We understand the positive difference we can make to families who are going through a difficult time and that is our driving motivation.

We also give sincere gratitude to our funders, who recognise the value of our work, their support has put Doorstep on a much stronger financial footing and given us a more secure future to look forward to.

We are looking forward to the developments in the year ahead with optimism and confidence.

Vicky Fox

Our services

Our services have been developed over the years in direct response to the needs that families have expressed:

- ★ Opportunities for children and young people to play, learn and develop at our after school club, crèches, Youth Project and drop-ins.
- ★ Joint activities with the partner organisations.
- ★ Regular creative & educational activities for adults.
- ★ Information, support and guidance for parents.
- ★ A programme of special activities and outings during the summer and school holidays.
- ★ A weekly 'bazaar' giving access to free essential goods donated by the wider community.
- ★ Free daily access to laundry facilities.
- ★ Supermarket gift vouchers, hygiene products, healthy snacks and meals

The average number of people we have supported over the last three years has been 213 different people, 64 families, 81 adults and 131 children and young people. Of the children and young people additional needs include-Autism Spectrum, Tourettes, Mobility Delay, Verbal Delay and Severe Allergies.

Through the Year

January- March - We created a dragon to celebrate Chinese New Year. We made Valentine's cards, and pancakes. Scaffolding was erected for an extensive programme of external works to commence on the hostel building. The Parent Support/Advocate post was wound down due to lack of funding. We relaunched our Youth Project and maintained all our other services while waiting for the outcome of submitted funding applications to inform future planning. By the end of March we had received confirmation that three sources of multi year funding had been granted, with a fourth still to be decided.



April - June -We received a bulk donation of good quality TVs from a hotel that was upgrading their equipment. We distributed these to families who were very happy to receive them. During the Easter Holidays we ran a programme of activities and distributed a huge amount of chocolates which we won in a competition run by In Kind Direct. We celebrated Eid with a day-long party for all ages. Another successful funding application meant we were able to give each family a £50 supermarket gift card. We also received the welcome news that the fourth bid for multi year funding had been successful.



July-September- We ran our usual programme of activities and outings during the summer holidays from July 29th until August 23rd. We ran different sessions for different ages with a range of age appropriate activities and one themed activity in Science, cooking, art and crafts, sports and games each day.

We had some very hot days when we enjoyed a variety of water games and we ensured a plentiful supply of cold drinks and ice lollies to cool down. At every session children and young people were provided with fruit and a variety of healthy snacks as well as being able to eat or take home what they made in cooking sessions. The Youth Project went go karting, had an evening barbeque and restaurant meal of their choice, as well as joining the family day trips.



The activities mainly took place on our premises and in our gardens. We also took children to parks and once per week we provided a coach for a day trip to the coast for whole families. We visited Clacton on Sea, Southend on Sea, Broadstairs and Stone Bay. We had picnics on the beach, the children dug in the sand, found sea creatures, swam and paddled in the sea. At Clacton and Southend we provided entrance to the pier funfairs. In September we resumed our term timetable. An application for 40 free refurbished laptops was successful and we were able to distribute these to our families.

October - December - The company doing the external works on the building put on a fantastic Halloween party for our kids providing all the refreshments and entertainment which the kids enjoyed very much.



At Christmas we held our usual three parties for the different age groups. One for parents and under fives with a hot meal cooked in house and games for the children. Another for the kids aged 5-11 years with face painting, games, snacks, pizza and treats. The youth group went ice skating and chose chicken and chips as their guilty pleasure meal with snacks and treats. Thanks to the generosity of various schools, businesses, a local church and kind individuals every child and young person received two gifts. Every family received a £50 supermarket gift card.

Throughout the year we provided every child and young person with a birthday gift and thanks to volunteer bakers at Free Cakes for Kids Camden they all received a beautiful customised cake. Beauty Banks donated toiletries and pre-loved clothing collections were donated by IBM, Warner Bros, SOLTs and the Village School who also raised funds for Doorstep.





Some examples of the impact of our work with children and young people

Creche- 0-4 years

Case Study 1

Abdul, 2 years and Fatima, one year are siblings who arrived in London from Syria with no English language. Their mother had only a few words of English. They started to attend Doorstep's services and the children started attending creches. At first Fatima would not let go of her mum even for a few minutes. They became very regular attendees and over time have become confident, engaging and exploring activities at Doorstep. They have also developed their English language skills. Fatima can now use single words whilst engaging in activities and

she imitates staff especially in role play activities. Abdul is now able to use simple sentences (3-4 words) eg; go away, come here, where is Kamal, whilst playing with his friends and staff. He now is able to show awareness of his peers and asks for his friends if they haven't come to creche.

Case Study 2

Ibrahim, aged 3 years, was very fearful of any men entering Doorstep and would hide behind an adult. It appeared he was afraid of men's voices .His mum told us that he was even scared of his adult brother who has a deep voice. Doorstep supported him to build his confidence by making a point of chatting with male visitors and shaking their hands or waving as they came into the premises. Gradually, Ibrahim stopped hiding and would also want to shake hands, wave and say hello. Now he runs to the door when the bell rings and shouts to the creche staff "look a man is here open the door."

After -School Club-4-11 years

Case Study 3

Henrique, aged 10, showed challenging behaviour. He would push other children and use bad language. We reviewed our rules for behaviour with the whole group and gave him some responsibility in the task. This helped him to engage with the rules and own them. He was praised and encouraged when he behaved well. He is now much more well behaved and friendly towards his peers. He doesn't use bad language any more and doesn't push his way into games but waits for his turn when engaging in sports and games.

Case Study 4

Telal arrived recently from Iran with very few basic words in English e.g hello, goodbye. He was buddied with another boy of the same age and we observed them managing to communicate, using hand signs or miming things. Telal soon learned more words and would repeat what others said. One member of Doorstep's staff was once in the same situation, arriving in England with no English and she explained that to him. He likes to sit with her doing art and crafts. The other children have welcomed him and do their best to include him. His confidence has grown and he is not afraid to participate in games even if he still has limited English and understanding. His language skills are constantly growing.

Youth Project-12-18 years

Case Study 5

Sayed, aged 12 and his family, came to England as refugees. He displayed very challenging behaviour, swearing and being extremely disruptive. His behaviour was also causing problems at school where he was frequently placed in isolation and sometimes excluded. While reinforcing our rules around behaviour we reinforced the positive aspects reminding him that he is bright, capable and could be funny. He opened up to staff saying he recognised that his

behaviour was often a problem but that he didn't seem able to control it, but that he was worried about being permanently excluded from school. We gave him some tools and techniques to help him control the behaviour. We also offered him a reward, of his choosing, if he managed to avoid any further isolations or exclusions for the rest of term. He decided he wanted to earn this reward, but he also wanted to earn it for the whole group, giving himself the responsibility of trying to succeed not just for himself but for his peers too. These tools and incentives worked for him and he was successful in earning the reward for the group.

(Names have been changed)

An example of the impact of our work with families

We were very pleasantly surprised and moved by an email we received just before Christmas, from a family who were living in the hostel and using our support services five years ago.

Dear all at doorsteps,
I know it's been a long time but believe it or not I think about you all, all of the time.
I'm Marinder, I used to live above the crèche at the hostel. I had 4 children and a disabled husband.

Since leaving the hostel we set up home on the other side of Camden nearer to UCLH hospital. It's taken time to furnish and make an empty shell a home but I think we have finally got there.

I was unsure of how to approach you and have also been up but just didn't know how to come down the stairs and knock on the door. I suffer from severe anxiety and I think it's stopped me from a lot of things. I just wanted you all to know how greatful my family and I are.

I have seen Kiki a few times in Camden and I grab and hug her every time!
I remember the Vickies! I remember Sahra and Kiki. I know I've forgotten some names but I do still remember you! My mind has taken a lot to fix and get on my feet. The children have grown the eldest now 14! And my little one 7!

I was hoping to ask if I had anything I could donate, how would I go about it?
I was also hoping to get in contact with Victoria Coren Mitchell as she came to visit me at the hostel. At the time I was wearing a Batman onesie and had a massive bag full of washing with my hair in a messy bun! Not my best but it was all I had. I felt embarsed and was ashamed I couldent look at her in her eyes and I was scared when she was kind to me. I would just like to say to her thank you for feeling something for me, I'm sorry I could not face you and have a proper conversation. I was worried, unsure, nervous discombobulated about the situation I was in but as long as you know we are very greatful I am very greatful. I hope I am able to thank

you in person. I'd like you to know I'm ok, my children are doing well and my husband is actually living and moving and enjoying life.

Please could you also let me know if you do still take clothes / toys electrical items as donations. And how do I drop them off, is it like it use to be?
Can I come in and say hello to everyone? I know that crèche use to be on so having people around was not always a good idea. I'd also like to volunteer my time if you have anything for me to do im hard working and I'm trying to do something for someone else like they did for me when I was there. I understand what it's like being in a situation you least expect to find yourself. To Sahra your kind words have never left me your kindness towards my children I will never forgot. To kiki thank you for feeding me I felt full when you use to cook your special dishes I felt like I had a guardian sat on my shoulder. You took dirty washing out of my hands and washed and dried it for me no one has ever done that for me. I was broken. To vicky thank you for the conversations and making me accept myself. And making sure my head stayed up high and I stood tall.
I finally have an email so this is it and I'm using it!
I just wanted you all to know I can honestly say I walk with my head high I actually try and make more eye contact and try and get counted instead of being on the side lines and disappearing into the crowd. It is all because I had some really level headed strong women. Sahra, Ebony, Kiki, yourself and Victoria. I've never asked for help and never expected it or even an ear to listen to me when I felt for the ground to swollow me up. Your kindness filled my heart and made me fight, and believe. I knew I was right but didn't have a voice and you all honestly pulled me outta of my shell, and made me push that little bit more and gave me the motivation that all is not lost. In our case we were mistreated and not heard and once our voices and stories were heard along with the evidence it changed everything.
(Name changed)



The Bigger Picture

The following article (truncated) appeared in the October 2024 edition of Prospect Magazine.

Temporary accommodation nation

Families spending years living in hotels, households moved miles across the country—why are we spending billions on a system that harms those it is designed to protect? An investigation into a national scandal

By Jack Shaw October 29, 2024

Temporary accommodation is the sharp end of England's housing crisis. Official data shows that there are now more than 117,000 households in this unenviable situation— an increase of 23 per cent in the past three years—including 151,000 children under the age of 16. Together, they could occupy every home in Cambridge.

For years, this phenomenon has been a stain on British politics—but in the past decade it has become much worse. The number of households living in temporary accommodation has been rising, more or less, since 2010, but since 2014, the rate has steadily increased almost every quarter. Over the past three years, the number of households placed in hotels or B&Bs has risen by 74 per cent nationally. The UK has more people living in stop-gap housing than any other nation in the OECD.

Households facing homelessness can be placed in temporary accommodation, funded by their local council, until a long-term home is found. They might be offered a flat, house, shared house, B&B, bedsit or hotel. Ideally, households are relocated close to school, work and family, but in recent years the number placed further from home has reached record levels. Compared with three years ago, 10,000 more households are in temporary accommodation outside of their borough.

As councils across England struggle with underfunding and a trend of real-terms budget cuts, many are buckling under the pressure of sourcing accommodation. The housing crisis makes the problem only more acute, because the pool of available housing has

dried up. Greater London, where local authorities spend £1bn every 12 months placing people facing homelessness in temporary accommodation, was once disproportionately affected. These ballooning costs are seriously threatening the ability of many to function. But now the phenomenon is growing at a faster rate outside the capital.

Through a series of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests, I have found that local authorities across England are now paying millions of pounds to hoteliers to keep up with the demand for temporary accommodation. In the absence of a joined-up, national approach to tackling homelessness, an absurd scenario has also developed, in which local authorities essentially trade residents who need temporary accommodation.

Across the country, temporary accommodation is far from temporary…… I can reveal that some households have been in temporary accommodation for more than a decade.

The trend is becoming only more dystopian—and the consequences for people in temporary accommodation, some of the country's most vulnerable residents, are severe.

For years, councils have relied on private rental properties to temporarily house families. Local authorities receive a subsidy from central government to help pay for placing people in stop-gap housing—and for landlords whose properties were too poor quality to compete in the private market it was good business to rent to local authorities instead. But since 2011, the rate of this subsidy has remained static, set at 90 per cent of the 2011 local housing allowance (the amount of housing benefit available to households renting privately; the rate varies from council to council). If rents or a B&B or hotel stay cost more—which increasingly they do—the council must make up the difference.

For a two-bedroom property in London's most disadvantaged local authority, Barking and Dagenham, where I am an elected councillor, the authority receives £176.47 a week for every two-bedroom temporary accommodation property. The council would be entitled to £258.90, an additional £82.43 a week for every household, if the government had increased the subsidy alongside the increase of local housing allowance since 2011, taking into account rising private rents. Instead, councils are struggling to cover the shortfall. ……

For hotel chains including Travelodge and Premier Inn, temporary accommodation has opened up a new line of business

Frozen subsidy rates and squeezed council finances–as well as rising private rents—mean that landlords are now converting their properties into more lucrative houses of multiple occupancy, where they can cram in numerous tenants all sharing kitchens and bathrooms and paying rent separately. In a seller's market, some are simply supplying their accommodation to the highest bidder—which is rarely, if ever, a council. With many landlords now exiting the temporary accommodation market for more profitable alternatives, there is a shortage of places for households facing homelessness. In Barking and Dagenham, the number of private landlords housing residents in such accommodation has fallen from 1,400 in 2018 to 578 in 2024, according to official figures.

Meanwhile, authorities are routinely gazumped by neighbouring councils as they struggle to secure temporary accommodation for residents, often with very little notice. The subsidy that Westminster City council receives for a two-bedroom property is £412.86 a week: more than double Barking and Dagenham's entitlement. What this means is that Westminster can afford to place households in pricier accommodation……..

This has created a slew of negative outcomes—from councils relying on expensive hotels to councils essentially exchanging some of England's most vulnerable residents……

Across England, while some families stay in temporary accommodation for a few days before entering a more permanent arrangement, other stays can stretch to about a decade.

In Hackney, one person has been in a hotel for 2,929 days—and remains there—according to an FOI request. Hackney council acknowledged in an email that the situation is "not ideal". In the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, one household has been living in a hotel for six years and eight months, or 2,400 days. In Barnet, another household has lived in a hotel for 2,058 days……..

In the 50 authorities with the highest levels of temporary accommodation in England, nearly 14,000 households have been in temporary accommodation for more than five years, according to an FOI request. In London, that's equivalent to one in five of the households in temporary accommodation.

One household in London placed in temporary accommodation in 2000 is still there. In Dartford, Kent, another has been in temporary accommodation since 2009. In Birmingham, one household has been in stop-gap housing since at least 2011, though the authority doesn't hold information predating that year. In Manchester, the longest a household has been in such accommodation is nine years……..

Imagine living for months, even years, in temporary accommodation, where pets are banned, you have to wash your clothes in communal areas, you might have no cooking facilities and your belongings are locked up in storage. Council-owned temporary accommodation—sometimes in buildings converted from previous use, such as office blocks—is often dated and colourless, with the feel of a hospital or an army base. In one English local authority, officers have an affectionate nickname for the site they use for temporary accommodation. It starts with "HMP", after His Majesty's Prison Service.

Temporary accommodation can be a refuge, whether from the cost of private tenancies, domestic abuse or from something else entirely. Hallways become sites of shared experience, strangers become friends. There is a sense of community. But this does not make up for the lack of certainty and routine, or the denial of agency and dignity over a person's life, that comes with not having a stable home.

In the language of officialdom, many of these households are not living in "separate, self-contained units". They have no access to a kitchen or washing machines of their own. Those staying in hotels tend to have their own toilets and showers, but that is not the case in other kinds of temporary housing……..

As many as 38 per cent of households living in such accommodation are classed as vulnerable.

Abul Uddin*, an Uber driver, spent more than 12 months living in a hotel, following three separate stints at two Travelodge sites. He told me that he hadn't been able to cook a meal in over a year because he had no cooking facilities. The hotels had rejected his request for access to their kitchens.

Uddin's story reflects the chaotic nature of the system in which he is trapped. His wife suffers from epilepsy and has had several seizures while in hotel accommodation. His elderly mother-in-law has been placed in temporary accommodation with them. The NHS had said that the accommodation was causing his wife's health to deteriorate and he instructed solicitors to issue a legal notice against Waltham Forest, his local authority,

accusing it of not meeting its obligations under the Equality Act. “I am dying,” he said of the experience……..

It would be difficult to design a system more complex than the current temporary accommodation regime: authorities place households wherever they can afford to, but with subsidies frozen since 2011, local authorities are increasingly placing households in more disadvantaged areas where rent is cheaper.

This has led to absurd, and often cruel, outcomes. For instance, from April to June 2023, the London borough of Haringey placed 260 households in temporary accommodation outside its area of responsibility, while at the same time 232 households from 15 authorities, principally across London, were placed in temporary accommodation inside Haringey. Croydon has experienced similar, with 420 households placed inside the authority by 16 other local councils.

Local authorities are increasingly placing households in disadvantaged areas, where rent is cheaper

This scenario breeds further injustice. Not only are people who already face hardship often moved away from lives they have built up over years, they are frequently placed in disadvantaged areas where employment prospects tend to be poorer and where public services struggle to meet demand. I can reveal details of this for the first time. For example, over the same three-month period, only eight households were placed in the wealthy borough of Kensington and Chelsea, but the authority placed 194 outside its local area. Meanwhile, leafy Richmond placed 121 households outside its local area, but only 18 were placed there.

Loretta Lees, a professor of sociology at the University of Boston, and the former chair of the mayor of London’s housing panel, has accused local authorities of “erasing, socially cleansing and hiding the poor, marginalised and homeless”. But this is less the fault of individual authorities, and more a structural flaw, an unintended consequence of a poor housing and homelessness policy.

The Supreme Court has taken a dim view on authorities placing households outside their boundaries. The 2015 case of Nzolameso v City of Westminster (then a Conservative-run council) is a pertinent example. Authorities have a statutory responsibility to provide accommodation in their own area "so far as reasonably practicable" under the terms of the Housing Act (1996). Nzolameso was a 51-year-old single mother of five children under the age of 16. She was HIV positive and suffered from diabetes and hypertension. When Nzolameso's private landlord kicked her out, she and her family moved into two rooms in a hotel in Kensington and Chelsea before being offered a permanent property in Bletchley, some 50 miles away. Nzolameso rejected the offer because of the distance. She relied on her support network to look after her children. She also wanted to remain with her GP, and did not want to pull her children out of their school.

Under current legislation, because Nzolameso had rejected the offer, Westminster was no longer responsible for providing her with accommodation. With few options available to her, Nzolameso's children were placed in three different foster settings. It was not until the case was brought to the Supreme Court that the ruling was reversed. In fact, the court observed that Westminster provided no evidence that it had procured accommodation in line with the Housing Act.

In another case, a teenager with autism was days away from homelessness because Devon County Council failed to decide where he should live when he became 18 (the point at which the teenager needed to move into a residential facility for adults which offered the live-in care he required). Devon offered the young man a placement 40 miles away from his mother, who did not drive, and, according to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman's ruling, the authority expected the teenager to "make his own way to school, unsupported" despite his additional needs. The teenager missed half a term of education before Devon put travel arrangements in place. The episode had "a major impact on his mental health" and "led him to be at significant risk of self-harm".

Authorities are failing to meet these obligations for reasons that are well documented: significant under-resourcing, increasing demand, more complex cases and a struggling housing market. All of these are outside the control of a local council. Even in cases where councils do seek solutions, those solutions are often inadequate. Without addressing the root causes of the housing crisis, there can be no real long-term answer.

Some authorities have attempted to reduce the distance at which they place households in temporary accommodation, with varying success. Tower Hamlets has paused the creation of new "zones" outside its boundaries marking the maximum distance that it will place households, after significant backlash. Critics raised concerns that the proposal risked

creating a punitive policy, akin to differentiating between “worthy” and “unworthy” households.

Under statutory guidance, local authorities are meant to keep households within their local area for temporary accommodation wherever possible. But this is routinely ignored because of cost. Many authorities block-book accommodation, placing households in cheap lodgings, regardless of whether it suits their individual circumstances. In 2015, Tower Hamlets placed 71 households at Vantage House, a converted office block on an industrial site in Merton, more than an hour away from the east London borough on public transport.

This picture is complicated further by the asylum system. While asylum claims are processed, the Home Office places claimants into accommodation without coordinating with local councils. After claims are processed, asylum seekers lose their Home Office accommodation at short notice; at that point, with nowhere to live, they seek housing support from the local authority where they were placed. It is that authority which then picks up the bill for housing refugees. Under successive Conservative governments, the Home Office dispersed asylum seekers across the country, with little consideration for rates of homelessness or households in temporary accommodation in a given area. This approach has made it more difficult for authorities to manage demand.

The far right has made this a flashpoint. In August, as anti-immigrant riots spread across the UK, rioters mobbed a hotel in Rotherham which they believed was housing asylum seekers and tried to set fire to the building. On social media, the wife of one Northamptonshire Conservative councillor called for fire to be set “on all the fucking hotels full of the bastards”. She has since been sentenced to prison for stirring up racial hatred.

Under years of Conservative austerity, homelessness in Britain rose steeply. Today, households have limited means to protect themselves from this hardship. Local authorities, meanwhile, have few levers to pull.

Locally, campaigners are organising to make life better for people who end up in temporary accommodation—and authorities are becoming more aware of the serious health and educational costs of a life in temporary accommodation. In Camden, for instance, campaigners supported by a local charity, Doorstep, secured a concession from the local authority to provide temporary accommodation sites with wifi (though Camden still hasn’t delivered on that promise, 12 months on). Lewisham is also exploring how it can provide wifi through private sector partnership.

Doorstep's chief executive, Vicky Fox, told me that the households supported by her charity are being "penalised for a lack of understanding" over their statutory rights and the requirements placed on them. Support has moved online since the pandemic, making it even harder to get help. Fox wants local authorities to provide more support to families where English is their second language, and she wants to see caseworkers visiting households in temporary accommodation in person.

Labour has promised that growth will improve lives for ordinary people. Aside from boosting the economy, the government's goal of building 1.5m homes over the next five years is intended to provide an opportunity—through supply-side reform—to prevent more households facing homelessness and ending up in temporary accommodation. More homes will, eventually, provide an exit route for households in this precarious position, but that will not happen in this parliament.

Much of the interest in housebuilding has coalesced around economics. New homes, the government and economists insist, are key to "growth, growth, growth". The moral case for house building has been under discussed by comparison, despite adequate housing being recognised in international law as an essential human right. House Building should be "measured in problems solved" as well as homes built, as Bill Payne, the former chief executive of Metropolitan Thames Valley, a housing association with roots in building homes for Afro-Caribbean communities in the 1950s, said in 2011.

While people in temporary accommodation languish on waiting lists for new properties, the bill for local councils is skyrocketing—and some households are spending years in inadequate homes, often far from their communities, work, school, friends and family. Sarah Smith*, placed in temporary accommodation in Woolwich by Tower Hamlets more than seven years ago, is tired of waiting.

"All I do at the minute is cry," she tells me, recounting the bus and three London Underground trains she takes every morning to get her son to school—a two-hour round trip. "It's like I've been forgotten." *Jack Shaw is an affiliated researcher at the Bennett Institute for Public Policy*

Breaking- Eighty children died while living in temporary accommodation in England last year, shocking new figures that highlight the impact of homelessness have revealed.

Analysis from a group of MPs also shows that, over the past five years, 74 children have died with temporary accommodation listed as a possible contributing factor to their vulnerability, ill health or death. (As reported in The Independent 28/01/2025 -Holly Bancroft,Aine Fox)

Financial Report

The financial statements for Doorstep (or 'the charity') cover the financial year ending 31 March 2024.

The fiscal year 2024 ended in a secure position, with the reserve carried forward being sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The management committee and director recognise the need for, and remain committed to, pursuing multi-year funding both to minimise the risk of disruption to the charity's services, for example in the event of a downturn in one or more areas of external funding

Careful financial and operating records have been kept throughout the financial year ending on 31 March 2024. The accounts for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2024 have been examined by an independent accountancy firm. Detailed records of financial documents are available and may be requested from Doorstep Homeless Families Project, 13A Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3QX.

The Management Committee members are satisfied that Doorstep is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year in accordance with section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The Management Committee members acknowledge their responsibilities for:
1- Ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
2- Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity as at the end of the financial year 2024 and of its profit or loss for the aforementioned financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on 15/10/2024 and were signed on their behalf by the chair, Ali Jabeen.

Ali Jabeen
Chair

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	3	113,719	51,507	**165,226**	202,728
Total Income		**113,719**	**51,507**	**165,226**	202,728
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	4	4,736	-	**4,736**	4,810
Charitable activities	4	88,636	51,507	**140,143**	206,903
Total expenditure		**93,372**	**51,507**	**144,879**	211,713
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	5	**20,347**	-	**20,347**	(8,985)
Net movement in funds	9	**20,347**	-	**20,347**	(8,985)
Funds brought forward		142,074	3,000	**145,074**	154,059
Total funds carried forward		**162,421**	**3,000**	**165,421**	145,074

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note		2024		2023
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	7		300		400
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		172,217		214,634	
		172,217		214,634	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(7,096)		(69,960)	
Net current assets			165,121		144,674
Net assets			165,421		145,074
Funds					
Restricted Funds	9		3,000		3,000
General funds	9		162,421		142,074
Total charity funds			165,421		145,074

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the charitable 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 requirments of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on
and signed on its behalf by:

Ali Jabeen (Chair)

Company Registration No. 02476922

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Chair's report

Doorstep remains an essential part of the Camden community. The charity continues to work for the children and families living in temporary accommodation. By connecting children and their families, who are living in one of Camden's largest hostels, to vital services Doorstep provides a lifeline for those in need. Over the past year the dedicated Doorstep team, led by its passionate director, has worked tirelessly to create joy, respite, and opportunities for children, young people and families.

Doorstep is a constant source of support, evolving to meet the changing needs of families without a secure home. Today's challenges, such as rising austerity and uncertainty, require innovative solutions, and Doorstep continues to respond. By fostering both economic and social development for children and young residents, Doorstep plays a critical role in nurturing future generations

Doorstep has also been instrumental in raising awareness about the importance of rehousing families appropriately, reducing upheaval and insecurity. Through sign posting families to the relevant services in Camden the charity supports their journey towards permanent homes and stability

Within the basement of the hostel, Doorstep ensures children can enjoy the simple pleasures often taken for granted. A large garden to explore and a safe, well resourced environment for play, space and support for completing their homework, holiday programmes, healthy snacks and meals. The charity provides vital resources for young residents and their families. Over the last year families again received supermarket vouchers, hygiene products and essential clothing, access to washing machines, and opportunities to connect with others to build mutually supportive networks. These efforts help combat loneliness and alienation, which are often exacerbated by homelessness and the rising cost of living.

I am proud to report another successful year for Doorstep. Special thanks to our Director, Vicky Fox, whose exceptional fundraising has improved Doorsteps' financial situation. I also extend my gratitude to the Management committee and Board of Trustees for their unwavering support.

This year, we welcomed three new trustees – Judith, Roger and Rakesh whose expertise will strengthen our efforts. At the same time, we bid farewell and give our heartfelt thanks to Celia, who stepped down after three years of service as a trustee.

I would also like to thank Doorstep's patron, Victoria Coren Mitchell, for her generosity and support. Finally, a sincere thank-you to our staff, supporters, individual donors, trusts, charities, companies' schools, and volunteers. Your contributions enable Doorstep to make a meaningful impact on the lives of children and their families in Camden year after year.

Together, we will continue to create lasting positive change for those who need it most.

Ali.F.Jabeen

We give our most sincere and grateful thanks to the following organisations for their support of Doorstep and our families:

AKO Foundation
Barnett & Sylvia Shine Charitable Foundation
Beauty Banks
Benevity
Camden Council
Camden Giving
Crucible Foundation
Devonshire Hill School
Fitzdale Trust
Free Cakes for Kids Camden
Good Things Foundation
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust
IBM
London Community Foundation
John Lyons Trust
Kajatawa Foundation
McLaren Group
Properly Properties
Reel Fund
Sarum Hall School
SOLTs
South Hampstead High School
St Mary's Church
StreetSmart
The American School in London
The Village School
Voluntary Action Camden
Waitrose & Partners
Warner Brothers

Also, to the very many kind and generous individuals who donated money, food, toys, clothes, books, and their time.

The Management Committee

Ali Jabeen- Chair

Reena Malharkar-Treasurer

Judith Trounson-Secretary- Joined 04/06/2024

Jess Reddell

Roger Burgess- Joined 17/09/2024

Rakesh Vithalani- Joined 04/06/2024

Lesley Adams

Tsedey Yilala

Celia Carr- Resigned-12/11/2024

The Staff Team

Vicky Fox - Director

Khadra Mohamed - Children's Worker (part time)

Belkize Banjica - Housekeeping & sessional play support (part time)

Dilly Azam - Children's Worker (part time)

Iryna Hulam- Sessional play support

Zinedine Belabbas- Youth Project sessional

Ayyoub Kawadri-Youth Project sessional

Volunteers

ASL teachers & Students

Bell Team

Rasheda Hussain

Mara Fischbacher Gibson

Patron

Victoria Coren-Mitchell

Not forgetting the hundreds of other individuals who took part in occasional projects- we give our sincere thanks to each and every one!

Doorstep Homeless Families Project
13A Broadhurst Gardens
London NW6 3QX

Tel: 0207 372 0413
Email:hello@doorsteplondon.com Website: www.doorsteplondon.com
www.facebook.com/DoorstepLondon
https://twitter.com/doorstep_london
www.instagram.com/doorstep_london

Doorstep is a Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales, No 2476922. Registered Charity No 1007692. Doorstep is funded by Charitable Grants and private donations.

DOORSTEP

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 02476922 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1007692

Accountability Europe Limited
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	Doorstep
Charity registration number	1007692
Company registration number	02476922
Registered office	13a Broadhurst Gardens London NW6 3QX
Directors / Trustees	Ali Jabeen – Chair Phoebe Stamford-Moroz – Vice Chair (resigned on 30/10/23) Alpona Banerji (resigned on 30/10/23) Joanne Cunningham Lesley Adams Celia Carr Tsedey Yilala Jessica Reddel Reena Malharkar – Treasurer (appointed on 30/10/23) Judith Trounson (appointed on 04/06/24) Rakesh Vithalani (appointed on 04/06/24) Roger Burgess (appointed on 17/09/24)
Company Secretary	Judith Trounson (appointed on 17/09/24)
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB
Independent examiner	Aamer Shehzad FCA Accountability Europe Limited Omnibus Workspace 39-41 North Road London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 16 February 1990, and also registered with the Charity Commissioners.

Appointment, induction & training of Trustees

All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction session they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organization

The charity is organized so that the trustees meet regularly to manage its affairs. There is one full time executive Vicky Fox, who both manages the day-to-day administration of the charity and organizes fundraising initiatives. The sessional staff are employed to run particular service sections or with specific administration or building responsibilities.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:-

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives are "the relief of poverty and distress and the advancement of education of persons resident in Camden and the surrounding area, in particular those who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation". The charity provides a range of support services with the overall aim to improve the quality of life of service users. These include laundry facilities, play opportunities for children and taught courses in areas such as IT and ESOL.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future services. In particular the board of trustees consider how our planned services will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- We turned a large projected deficit into a surplus and have been successful in generating sources of multi year funding to ensure the sustainability of the organisation.
- New members have joined our board of trustees and new officers have been appointed following a recruitment drive.
- Young people attending our Youth Project created a social action campaign for Wifi to be installed in the hostel. The campaign was successful and the council have agreed to install this.
- As well as holding parties and providing the children with gifts, we were able to provide every family with supermarket gift vouchers to celebrate Christmas and Eid.
- We have achieved good outcomes for children which has been acknowledged by funders. “You clearly continue to achieve brilliant outcomes with your children and young people. Congratulations on the successful delivery of this grant.” (BBC Children in Need)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income for the year of £165,226 (2023: £202,728) and total expenditure of £144,879 (2023: £211,713) resulting in surplus of £20,347 (2023: deficit of £8,985). Total reserves of £165,421 are carried forward of which £162,421 are unrestricted and £3,000 are restricted.

RESERVES

The present level of reserves is sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The reserves are needed to allow time for re-organisation in the event of a downturn of income in one or more areas of funding, and to provide for unforeseen, and hence unbudgeted, expenditure where this enables the Charity to continue to meet its objectives.

FUTURE PLANS

- We will be working to achieve the following:
- We will recruit an Operations Coordinator as part of the succession plan.
- We will be recruiting more staff to support our services for children and young people.
- We will continue to review our strategic business plan with a clear focus on the wider policy environment and developments in income generation, which may lead to the periodic reordering of our priorities.
- We will continue to develop and deliver a range of services and activities that promote skills and new experiences and improve the quality of life for adults, young people and children.

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and 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 the 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the reparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on **15th October 2024**
and signed on its behalf by:



.....

Ali Jabeen
(Chair)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

DOORSTEP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



……

Aamer Shehzad FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

Date: **16/10/2024**

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	**3**	113,719	51,507	**165,226**	202,728
Total Income		**113,719**	**51,507**	**165,226**	202,728
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	**4**	4,736	-	**4,736**	4,810
Charitable activities	**4**	88,636	51,507	**140,143**	206,903
Total expenditure		**93,372**	**51,507**	**144,879**	211,713
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	**5**	**20,347**	**-**	**20,347**	(8,985)
Net movement in funds	**9**	**20,347**	**-**	**20,347**	(8,985)
Funds brought forward		142,074	3,000	**145,074**	154,059
Total funds carried forward		**162,421**	**3,000**	**165,421**	145,074

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£		£	
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	**7**		**300**		400
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**172,217**		214,634	
		172,217		214,634	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**8**	**(7,096)**		(69,960)	
Net current assets			**165,121**		144,674
Net assets			**165,421**		145,074
Funds					
Restricted Funds	**9**		**3,000**		3,000
General funds	**9**		**162,421**		142,074
Total charity funds			**165,421**		145,074

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the charitable 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 requirments of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on **15th October 2024**
and signed on its behalf by:



Ali Jabeen (Chair)

Company Registration No. 02476922

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The charitable company is exempted from preparing a cash flow statement due to exemption available to charities with income of less than £500,000.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment: 33% Straight line basis

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

a) Costs of raising funds:

It includes the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

b) Expenditure on charitable activities

It includes the costs of delivering services, exhibitions and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charity's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023
Income from:	£	£	£
Donations and grants	135,288	67,440	202,728
Total Income	135,288	67,440	202,728
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising	4,810	-	4,810
Charitable activities	93,958	112,945	206,903
Total expenditure	98,768	112,945	211,713
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	36,520	(45,505)	(8,985)
Total funds brought forward	105,554	48,505	154,059
Total funds carried forward	142,074	3,000	145,074

3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2024**	Total 2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Donations:				
Donations	42,469	-	**42,469**	69,538
Grants:				
AKO Foundation	35,000	-	**35,000**	25,000
Fitzdale Trust	-	3,000	**3,000**	3,000
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust	-	20,000	**20,000**	15,750
The Kajatawa Foundation	3,000	-	**3,000**	7,500
Crucible Foundation	-	-	**-**	10,000
Street Smart	-	-	**-**	10,000
BBC Children in Need	-	23,507	**23,507**	38,940
Cellnex	-		**-**	11,000
London Community Foundation	33,250	-	**33,250**	-
Reel Fund	-	-	**-**	10,000
John Lewis	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
Grant Elliott Simmons Charitable Trust	-	-	**-**	2,000
	113,719	**51,507**	**165,226**	202,728

4 Analysis of expenditure

Current year	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	**2024 Total**	2023 Total
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Staff costs	4,736	121,605	-	**126,341**	147,071
Direct costs	-	9,836	-	**9,836**	53,529
Premises costs	-	-	293	**293**	976
Other office costs	-	-	4,159	**4,159**	6,316
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,550	**3,550**	3,121
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	**600**	600
Depreciaition	-	-	100	**100**	100
	4,736	131,441	8,702	**144,879**	211,713
Support costs allocated	-	8,702	(8,702)	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	**4,736**	**140,143**	**-**	**144,879**	211,713

Of the total expenditure, £93,372 was unrestricted (2023: £98,768) and £51,507 was restricted (2023: £112,945)

4 Analysis of expenditure (continued)

Prior year	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	4,810	142,261	-	147,071
Direct costs	-	53,529	-	53,529
Premises costs	-	-	976	976
Other office costs	-	-	6,316	6,316
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,121	3,121
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	600
Depreciaition	-	-	100	100
	4,810	195,790	11,113	211,713
Support costs allocated	-	11,113	(11,113)	-
Total expenditure 2022	4,810	206,903	-	211,713

5 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:	**2024**	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	**100**	100
Independent examiner's fee (excl VAT)	**500**	500

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows:	**2024**	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**104,998**	123,850
Social security costs	**3,090**	4,844
Pension costs	**18,252**	18,377
	126,340	147,071

No member of staff received emoluments of more than £60,000 in this year (2023: £nil)

The total employee benefits including employer NIC and pension of the key management personnel were £47,359 (2023: £49,406). During the year there were no redundancy payments.

The trustees of the charitable company were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year, was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Number of project staff	**4.5**	4.5
	4.5	4.5

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
COST	**£**
At start and at the end of the year	**25,315**
DEPRECIATION	
At start of the year	25,315
Charge for the year	100
At the end of the year	**25,415**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2024	**300**
At 31 March 2023	400

8	**Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**	**2024**	2023
		£	£
	Deferred Income	**-**	58,507
	Taxation and social security	**4,106**	5,380
	Accruals	**1,640**	1,640
	Others Creditors	**1,350**	4,433
		7,096	69,960

9	**Movement in funds**	**At 1 April**			**At 31 March**
	Current year	**2023**	**Income**	**Expenditure**	**2024**
	Restricted:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
	BBC Children in Need	-	23,507	23,507	**-**
	Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust	-	20,000	20,000	**-**
	John Lewis	-	5,000	5,000	**-**
	Fitzdale Trust	3,000	3,000	3,000	**3,000**
	Total Restricted Fund	**3,000**	**51,507**	**51,507**	**3,000**
	Unrestricted Funds:				
	General Funds	142,074	113,719	93,372	**162,421**
	Total Unrestricted Fund	**142,074**	**113,719**	**93,372**	**162,421**
	Total funds	**145,074**	**165,226**	**144,879**	**165,421**

	Movement in funds	At 1 April			At 31 March
	Prior year	2022	Income	Expenditure	2023
	Restricted:	£	£	£	£
	BBC Children in Need	9,005	38,440	47,445	-
	Crucible Foundation	-	7,500	7,500	-
	Fitzdale Trust	2,000	3,000	2,000	3,000
	Camden Giving	-	7,500	7,500	-
	London Borough of Camden	37,500	-	37,500	-
	Cellnex - London Community Foundation	-	11,000	11,000	-
	Total Unrestricted Fund	48,505	67,440	112,945	3,000
	Total funds	154,059	202,728	211,713	145,074

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2024 £**
Tangible fixed assets	300	-	**300**
Net current assets	162,121	3,000	**165,121**
Total Funds	162,421	3,000	**165,421**

Analysis of net assets between funds Prior year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	400	-	400
Net current assets	141,674	3,000	144,674
Total Funds	142,074	3,000	145,074

11 Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member without share capital.

12 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2024 (2023: none).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. There is no balance due to/from related parties at the end of the year.

DOORSTEP

England & Wales - Charity number 1007692

Accounts

Doorstep

"Opening doors for homeless families"



Annual Report 2023 and Accounts 2022

Director's Report

It has been a year of change, adjustment and planning for the future.

We completed the process of reviewing the five year strategic business plan we created in 2018 and together with our stakeholders we developed a new plan for 2023 to 2028.

The cost of living crisis has impacted the charity as well as the people we serve and fundraising has continued to be an extremely high priority, to both maintain existing services and support our future goals. While reviewing our previous plan we were gratified to have secured multi year funding over the last five years. However, with two sources of funding coming to an end in 2023 the need to find alternative funding became urgent.

A key member of staff, who worked across all ages of children and young people, as well as the lead worker for our youth project and another sessional youth worker all left to take up full time/better paid jobs. Their departure coupled with four years of funding for our work with children and young people coming to an end meant we couldn't offer job security to recruit replacement staff. This has been a challenge and while not yet succeeding in securing the long term funding for this area of work we did raise sufficient to maintain these services for approximately six months. Unfortunately, we had to pause our youth project due to the funding and staffing situation but we know how much it is needed and plan to re-establish the project once funding and recruitment permit. We continue to prioritise work with children and young people as our most urgent multi year fundraising goal.

Similarly, funding for the Parent Support Worker came to an end in March 2023. We have so far managed to maintain the post by raising sufficient funds to cover partial costs and using funds from our reserves.

We said goodbye to five outgoing members who had served on the board of trustees for between six and 23 years. We give sincere thanks for their support, expertise and dedication over the years. We welcomed three new members and are currently recruiting more members to improve diversity amongst the membership.

Our thanks also go to our patron Victoria Coren Mitchell, for her generosity and support despite spending much of the year pregnant. We congratulate her on the birth of her second daughter.

Last but not least I thank my colleagues for their hard work and their adaptability.

Doorstep is an organic organisation that has experienced many challenges and achieved many successes over more than forty years since its inception. We are excited to look forward to another year of delivering services that really do make a difference to some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Vicky Fox

Our services

Our services have been developed over the years in direct response to the needs that families have expressed:

- ★ Opportunities for children and young people to play, learn and develop at our after school club, crèches, Youth Project and drop-ins.
- ★ Joint activities with the partner organisations.
- ★ Regular creative & educational activities for adults.
- ★ Information, support and guidance for parents.
- ★ A programme of special activities and outings during the summer and school holidays.
- ★ A weekly 'bazaar' giving access to free essential goods donated by the wider community.
- ★ Free daily access to laundry facilities.
- ★ Family food packages, healthy snacks and meals

225 people accessed Doorstep's services from January to December 2023. During this period 14 new families with 38 children registered with Doorstep and 10 families with 25 children moved away- all to private rented with the exception of 1 to Housing Association. We supported a total of 60 families, 75 adults and 130 children and young people. Additional needs among our children and young people include severe allergies, ADHD, severe allergies, Autism Spectrum, Verbal development delay, Mobility Development delay & Tourettes.

Highlights of the Year

January- March -We continued to provide a monthly store cupboard food parcel for every family, ran a digital literacy and maths course for parents to enable them to help their kids with homework and the youth project visited an exhibition at Camden Arts Centre. Our kids also made lanterns to welcome Amal, a 3.5 metre puppet depicting a Syrian refugee child revered around the world as a symbol of human rights who visited Camden.



April - June -During the Easter Holidays we visited parks and the library with the younger ones and the youth project had a tour of the creative hub at the roundhouse. At the beginning of May we celebrated Eid with a day-long party starting with our little ones in the morning, continuing in the afternoon at the after-school club and into the evening with the youth project. We enjoyed delicious food, henna art, games, presents and cakes galore! In June we ran a course on healthy eating on a low budget for parents and McClaren Group created a wildlife area in our gardens with bird feeders and bug hotels for the kids. Sadly, Kaamila Mohamed who had been leading our youth project left us to take up a full time post.

July-September- In July The young people attending our Youth Project created a video, as part of their social action campaign, concerning the lack of WiFi in their temporary accommodation. The video was shared with the Director of housing and the leader of the council. They were impressed by it and shared it with other councillors. Our young people were invited to make a deputation to a Cabinet Council meeting where they had 3 minutes to make their case. The leader of the council informed them - ”We’ve found the funding through our families fund to install free wi-fi in our three family hostels and will try to do that as quickly as possible. As a result of your campaign you have really made a difference. Thank you for pushing us.” The story appeared in BBC local news reports. It is an amazing achievement for our young people who have not only succeeded to improve things for themselves and their families, but also for all the other families and those who will come behind.



Sadly, Sarah Lough left us mid July to take up another post. Sarah had been with us for fifteen years and both she and Kaamila Mohamed are missed. The loss of a staff member just before the Summer Programme was due to start meant we had to adapt the plans we had made at extremely short notice. We managed to deliver as much of the originally planned programme as possible in the circumstances.

The programme ran for 5 weeks from July 24th until August 25th. We ran different sessions for different ages with a range of age appropriate activities and one themed activity in Science, cooking, art and crafts, sports and games each day.

As well as the themed activities, children enjoyed singing, dancing, story time, dressing up, construction games, sand and water trays, role play, team games, loom band creations, musical instruments and cared for the plants they are growing in the garden. At every session children and young people were provided with fruit and a variety of healthy snacks as well as being able to eat or take home what they made in cooking sessions.

Due to staffing levels we were not able to deliver some of the planned outings as there was insufficient staffing to ensure safety. However, once per week we provided a coach for a day trip to the coast for whole families. We visited Clacton on Sea, Southend on Sea, Broadstairs, Eastbourne and Portsmouth. We had picnics on the beach, the children dug in the sand, found sea creatures, swam and paddled in the sea. At Clacton and Southend we provided entrance to the pier funfairs.



In September we resumed our term timetable.

October - December - In October the four year funding we had received for our work with children and young people came to an end. Fortunately, we were able to raise sufficient funds to continue this area of work for approximately, a further six months while we seek longer term funding. Sessional playworker Zinedine Belabbas left to take up a full time job and Iryna Hulam took his place.

At Christmas we held our usual three parties for the different age groups. One for parents and under fives with a hot meal cooked in house and games for the children. Another for the kids

aged 5-11 years with face painting, games, snacks, pizza and treats. The youth group chose chicken and chips as their guilty pleasure meal with snacks and treats. Thanks to the generosity of various schools, businesses, a local church and kind individuals every child and young person received two gifts. Every family received a supermarket gift voucher.

We provided every child and young person with a birthday gift and thanks to volunteer bakers at Free Cakes for Kids Camden they all received a beautiful customised cake.





Doorstep Parent Support and Advocacy Service

The project has been successful in supporting 58 families. Parents have received support with concerns including eviction notices, support to understand housing law and requests to access information. Other support services, such as the Camden Early Help team, can alert us to such cases directly as we have developed a partnership with other organisations to help signpost families and adults to appropriate support services.

Upon investigating the circumstances when an eviction notice has been served, we found that, in some cases the order was wrongly issued. In one example an English speaking family member, who was the council contact in a Bengali speaking family, had not responded to the council in a timely manner. Unbeknown to the council, this was due to his wife having birth complications and being in the ICU with their child for an extended period. We supported the family sharing the evidence of their circumstances with council staff and the eviction notice was revoked.

We have been able to highlight where systems can fail those who are vulnerable and not always able to advocate for themselves due to literacy, lack of understanding systems, language barriers, mental health, and trauma. We have been developing ways to support the work of the council while supporting our service users to have a good experience of the housing system in a difficult time in their lives.

Our partnership with Working Men's College led to the provision and successful uptake of classes including literacy and numeracy through budget management and cooking classes with maths. We also had a class called Maths for Parents: to help parents support children with school maths in Key Stages 1,2 and 3.

There has been an increase in the numbers of refugees mainly because either home office schemes which paid towards their housing ended or the sponsor scheme they came to the UK on has ended and alternative housing has not been found. As a result we have seen an increase in service users with language barriers which can complicate engaging them when they arrive.

Families can be empowered when they have information and knowledge and when adopting self-advocacy techniques we have supported them to develop.

Some examples of the impact of our work with children and young people

Creche- 0-4 years

Case Study 1

Zak had no space to move at home, living in crowded accommodation with his siblings. He needed encouragement and more opportunities to start standing and then encouragement cruising, holding onto furniture and toys to move around the setting. He followed older peers, watching and copying them, choosing toys to play alongside them. With the extra space to play that Doorstep offers indoors and outside Isa now runs by himself, and tries to join-in chasing games with older peers in the group. Consistent with his predicted milestones for his age-range he grabs toys from peers to inspect and use himself and 'helps' adults collecting toys from the floor when asked by name. Being from a bi-lingual family has meant his communication skills are advanced for his age and he already understands names and positional language of toys, smiling and looking when staff ask him to get a ball from under the table.

Case Study 2

When Hafi started using creche she was non-verbal, she and her family had a low understanding of English but she also had difficulty understanding her home language, instead she just smiled or shook her head to communicate. Within 3 months of attending the setting she started picking -up objects that she wanted to use or pointed to resources to express herself. Using suggested activities from the Speech and Language partners at the creche sessions meant that after six months she was using single words of English and mime, when she didn't know the word. She also tried to use some single words of her home language, but quickly realised the staff didn't understand her and used gestures instead to express herself. Now Hafi is a busy member of the creche cohort, joining her peers in games and making suggestions for songs at singing time. At tidy-up time she will help staff tidy up the room, collecting toys asked for by name, and talking about her home and family 'I'm making dis for Mumma' With Doorstep's support she is now meeting all of the expected milestones, on track for her age compared with the EYFS, for language and physical development.

After -School Club-4-11 years

Case Study 3

Ama started using the creche at Doorstep, until she found a space in Nursery class she was non-verbal, and Mum was chasing an Autism diagnosis, to enable her daughter to get extra support she needed. When she became 4 she was able to use the After-School Club after Nursery had finished. She found the transition difficult and became unsettled, clinging to her older sister who had to stay with her every session. Working with teen volunteers and staff at Doorstep, Ama was supported to play alongside her peers and share resources. After 9 months of after-school club Ama is now enjoying chasing games with teen volunteers and chatting with adults about school and what she's playing. Her speech isn't always clear but she uses long sentences of 6-7 words. Unfortunately her peers still find it difficult to understand what she's saying, making imaginative play difficult so she still needs adult support from staff to enable successful interactions, the whole cohort encourages her to play with them in active games.

Case Study 4

Ella found it hard to mix with the peer group at After-School Club when she first started attending. She was used to interacting with her older siblings at home and found it difficult to just play with peers. Instead she wanted to help the adults and chat with staff. Doorstep asked one of the teen volunteers to support her to interact with her peers. After-School Club introduced more small group activities for her to complete with children she knew from her time using the creche service. Ella flourished in the more supportive atmosphere and smaller groups, she started to invite her peers to play hide and seek together, chatting with them about what she'd been learning at school, and what resources they should get out to play with. Now she rushes to get to the After-School Club, to meet her friendship group, join-in art activities and play in the garden. Her new-found confidence also means she is able to make suggestions and give feedback as part of the group, to influence future activities

Youth Project-12-18 years

Case Study 5

Mani started using the Youth Project late in 2022, arriving into a tight-knit group, finding it difficult to bond with the older people who were attending at the time. Acting combatively, defensive when anyone asked him questions. Play workers encouraged him to chat with peers, although he constantly pretended to be older to try and impress them. Engaging him in cooking activities, with emphasis on everyone's diverse heritage helped him to open-up and talk with adults and older members of the cohort about his homelife. After 6 months he finally admitted to peers his real age, talking about his school, because they'd already accepted him, no-one made a fuss which surprised him. Since revealing his age he's more able to act his age and relax at the setting, becoming more welcoming to new people and interacting with everyone, helping to perpetuate the welcoming, non-judgmental atmosphere that benefited him.

Case Study 6

At the start of the year Taf needed constant reminders about her behaviour and to use appropriate language, she struggled with literacy which reduced her self-confidence, she preferred to create a diversionary scene than risk people laughing that she couldn't read or write. Doorstep campaigned for school to get her a 1-to-1 worker, and supported her with accommodations to help with literacy in the setting as well as getting her a laptop to help. Now, Taf is confident to use her maths skills while cooking, helping peers with cooking skills, she still avoids writing and reading by negotiating to make artwork for posters. Her new self-confidence in her abilities means she's able to join banter with peers without becoming aggressive from frustration because she can express herself better. She does still need reminding about appropriate language (playground speak vs speaking with adults) but this has become less as time passes .

The impact of being without a secure, stable home can be deep and far reaching through childhood and into adulthood. We shouldn't underestimate the damaging effects of living in temporary accommodation on children and young people. Having no space to play or to do homework, no privacy, lost friendships, lost support networks, not feeling good enough or like they belong and uncertainty about the future. Doorstep's work with children and young people aims to provide recreational and educational opportunities, to create an area of consistency and normality during a very difficult time in their lives, for them to feel part of a community and very importantly to let them know we care and they are valued.

BBC Children in Need gave the following response to our report on the fourth and final year of funding-
"You clearly continue to achieve brilliant outcomes with your children and young people. Congratulations on the successful delivery of this grant - and we wish you all the best going forward."

The Bigger Picture

Half of teachers in England work with homeless children

Shelter -Posted 22 Dec 2023

Shelter warns housing emergency is inflicting untold damage on children's education as teachers report missed school days, hunger and exhaustion

Alarming new research from Shelter exposes the devastating impact of homelessness on school age children. Half of teachers at state schools in England (49%) work at a school with children who are homeless or who have become homeless in the last year.

With a dire shortage of social homes, and sky-high private rents forcing more families into homelessness, there are now nearly 140,000 children living in temporary accommodation in England. This means 1 in 84 children are homeless in England today.

Shelter's survey of more than 1,000 teachers - carried out by YouGov for the charity's urgent appeal - paints an appalling portrait of a failing housing system that is inflicting untold damage on children's education.

Polly Neate, Chief Executive of Shelter, said: "With 1 in 84 children homeless in England right now, the immense damage being inflicted on their education is a national scandal. An alarming number of teachers are bearing witness to the horrors of homelessness and bad housing that families tell our services about every day. Appalling stories of children

falling asleep in class because they don't have their own bed, and parents filled with worry because they can't even cook a hot meal in their grim hostel without a kitchen."

Shelter's research dives even deeper into the heart-breaking effects of the housing emergency on children, as witnessed by teachers who've worked with children experiencing homelessness in the last year:

Shelter's research resonates with Chiara, a teacher from East London. She said: "Many of the young people I teach are being put at a huge disadvantage by homelessness and bad housing. I have students who have been moved miles out of their area. They get up at 5am just to make it into school. They're hungry and tired. We do everything we can for them, but they end up falling behind.

"Some have been placed in temporary accommodation where they don't even have locks on their doors. They hear alarms going off all night and people coming in and out. They don't feel safe at all. It's a vicious cycle because without a secure home, their education suffers."

Polly Neate continued: "How do we expect children to concentrate in class and succeed without a safe place to call home? To end the nightmare of child homelessness the government must make renting more affordable and build decent social homes. Until then, we need the public's support more than ever so that we can keep fighting for the families on the frontline of the housing emergency."

Ethan, 17, lives with his mum in Hackney, London. When Ethan was 11, his family received a S21 no fault eviction notice, which plunged them into homelessness. They were housed in temporary accommodation for the next six years where they dealt with appalling conditions including mould, disrepair, and pest problems. This had a huge impact on Ethan's health, education, and wellbeing throughout his time at school.

Ethan said: "We spent just over a year in the hostel when we were first evicted. The place was infested with cockroaches and there wasn't any drinking water - we didn't even have a kitchen. If you wanted to do dishes, you had to use a bucket in the shower and cooking anything was impossible, so I often went to school hungry.

"I was always so exhausted because I had to wake up so early to get to school. I got home at 5.30pm every day because I had to stay late to do my homework. There just wasn't any space to concentrate at home – the place was so small that mum was constantly injuring herself, and we were always bumping into each other. It was a nightmare.

"We were moved to different temporary accommodation after the first year. The

building wasn't looked after properly, and my room became covered in mould. Half of my things were destroyed because it was so damp, and I had to sleep on the couch or share a bedroom with my mum – which was hard. In the end, the damp became so bad that the floor in the living room rose by nearly a foot."

Of the teachers who have worked with children experiencing homelessness in the last year, Shelter research found that:

91% say children are coming to school tired as a result of their housing situation, as sharing beds and being stuck in overcrowded accommodation mean it is difficult to sleep

83% say children have not been able to complete their homework because of a lack of space in their accommodation

87% say that children have come to school hungry. Temporary accommodation such as B&Bs and hostels often have only basic or no kitchen facilities at all

91% say that children's living situation has negatively affected the mental health of children at their school.

81% reported it having a negative impact on physical health.

78% reported friendship breakdowns among children struggling with homelessness and bad housing.



Moving, Always Moving The normalisation of housing insecurity among children in low income households in England

Always Moving – the latest publication from The Children's Society's study Understanding Childhoods: Growing up in hard times. It is testament to the value of listening to children and placing their voices at the heart of social research. (The following is an extract from the report)

One of the most striking aspects of gathering the data used for this report was not only what our transient participants told us – of how they had got used to living with various aspects of housing insecurity, had come to expect the worst, how it was just life really, or no big deal (until it was over, when they acknowledged that actually it had been) – but the way in which they often recounted their experiences of it.

With a few exceptions, young people's accounts of 'moving, always moving', getting housed permanently in places they didn't want to be, or living in limbo somewhere in between, were told quite matter-of factly, almost impartially at times, with little in the way of animation, which may have indicated a sense of injustice or indignation about their circumstances. No drama, no sense that things might be different. Their narratives of their housing histories seemed to trip off the tongue as if they were stories of games in the playground, leaving researchers wondering, at first, whether they really were hearing things right, and if they were, whether these were indeed stories of significance that spoke to a chronic denial of human needs satisfaction.

This is important, because it reinforces the way that housing insecurity can become normalised for those experiencing it, albeit still stigmatised and felt negatively. It shows how transient young people can get so used to moving, always moving, and through this can become so accustomed to circumstances that compromise the satisfaction of their human needs that it all just becomes a routine, accepted part of their lives.

From the data described in this report, we can identify three key – interrelated – senses in which this normalisation operates. First, housing insecurity becomes normal for a young person when it has been a fact of life for them growing up, or in recent times. It becomes normal in the sense that it becomes a familiar experience, known through personal and household circumstances. Things that might at first – or from the outside – seem shocking or out-of-the-ordinary, become normal for those who experience them enough.

For those whose poverty-driven, involuntary house moves are spread out over a number of years, moving itself may theoretically be less likely to feel normal, but even in the absence of actual house moves, other factors comprising housing insecurity are often still present and persistent – unelected fixity, the parental struggle (and inability) to pay rent, the threat of eviction, living with short term tenancies. When these things have characterised young peoples' experiences of growing up, it is simply what life is like.

Second, housing insecurity can become normal for transient young people in the sense that it is felt to be expected, given who they (feel they) are. When young people grow up acutely aware that their family is in receipt of benefits or earning low wages, when they know they rely on Government assistance to pay rent, when they know that they and their families are considered undesirable tenants, when they live in areas they know are deprived and abhorred, when they understand that they might get evicted and become homeless and have to live in a teeny tiny box or be put out on the street with all their belongings, they also come to understand that this positions them in certain, undesirable ways. They can feel judged by others, looked down on, ignored, somewhere between low and middle in the social hierarchy – not 'normal' compared to a broader set of people whose parents command more money, can more easily afford to pay for housing, do not rely on Government help and do not have to entertain the thought of becoming homeless. There is a sense in which housing insecurity can become normal for those who already feel as though they themselves are not.

Third, housing insecurity can become normalised in the sense that young people themselves can try to normalise it in a bid to stave off the stigma attached to it, or to its constituent elements. As transient young people grow older, perhaps becoming exposed to a wider set of experiences against which to compare their own, they can feel the full force of the stigma that housing insecurity (or aspects of it) carries. But by emphasising its commonality – as Tiffany did with hostel living in her final interview – they can try to make themselves feel, or seem, less aberrant. There is normality in numbers.

Scholarship on the psychosocial and relational aspects of poverty has already begun to incorporate the notion of othering – the process by which the non-poor often view and treat the poor as different and inferior, denying them their humanity and subjectivity (Lister 2019). Our research points to a psychosocial process through which the poor, and in this case transient, can themselves approach their own predicaments, actively promoting these as normal (though knowing they are not), in an attempt to diminish the shame they feel. In the words of nurse, novelist and memoirist Christie Watson (2019): 'It is amazing, and sad, what can become normal.'

It is amazing, and it is sad that children can grow up in one of the richest countries in the world, in contemporary times, with a lack of security around something as fundamental as housing, and get used to it, become accustomed to it, incorporate it as part of their normality, at the same time as becoming aware that it is not 'normal' for the majority. What is perhaps even more amazing, and even more sad, is that this housing insecurity which seems to have become a normal part of growing up for some young people exists in a context where legislation exists to prohibit it.

All the while housing insecurity has been affecting our transient participants and other young people and their families in England – putting their well-being at risk and disrupting the satisfaction 94 The Children's Society of their human needs – the right to secure housing has been enshrined in international legislation. Specifically, the United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which the UK has signed and ratified, and which has been in force since 1976, is a core treaty protecting the rights of children, as well as adults, to adequate housing. Article 11 of the treaty protects the right to housing as part of the right to an adequate standard of living, and it states that everyone has the right to 'adequate...housing, and to the continuous improvement of housing conditions' (CRAE). The Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) has interpreted Article 11 of the ICESCR as extending beyond a basic right to shelter, to a right to 'live somewhere in security, peace and dignity', and has issued two General Comments setting out the meaning and scope of this.

It makes clear that the right to housing should not be interpreted in a restrictive or narrow sense, and it clarifies what comprises adequacy in relation to housing: housing that provides legal security of tenure; availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure; affordability; habitability; accessibility; location; and cultural adequacy. Unfortunately, although this international human rights legislation contains the means by which housing insecurity might be prevented, it is not directly enforceable in UK courts of law.

Housing insecurity impedes the satisfaction of fundamental human needs in young people, and goes against the right to secure housing that has been enshrined for them in international law. Whichever way one looks at it – from a rights perspective, or a needs perspective, or even from a perspective of well-being, education, health, behaviour, psychology, or sociality, housing insecurity takes its toll. It is amazing and it is sad, and so too is the way it has come to be shrugged off as 'just life, really', 'no big deal'

Financial Report

The financial statements for Doorstep (or 'the charity') cover the financial year ending 31 March 2023.

The fiscal year 2023 ended in a secure position, with the reserve carried forward being sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The management committee and director recognise the need for, and remain committed to, pursuing multi-year funding both to minimise the risk of disruption to the charity's services, for example in the event of a downturn in one or more areas of external funding

Careful financial and operating records have been kept throughout the financial year ending on 31 March 2023. The accounts for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2023 have been examined by an independent accountancy firm. Detailed records of financial documents are available and may be requested from Doorstep Homeless Families Project, 13A Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3QX.

The Management Committee members are satisfied that Doorstep is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year in accordance with section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The Management Committee members acknowledge their responsibilities for:
1- Ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
2- Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity as at the end of the financial year 2023 and of its profit or loss for the aforementioned financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on 31/08/2023 and were signed on their behalf by the chair, Ali Jabeen.

Ali Jabeen
Chair

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	3	135,288	67,440	**202,728**	155,548
Total Income		**135,288**	**67,440**	**202,728**	155,548
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	4	4,810	-	**4,810**	4,730
Charitable activities	4	93,958	112,945	**206,903**	132,049
Total expenditure		**98,768**	**112,945**	**211,713**	136,779
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	5	**36,520**	**(45,505)**	**(8,985)**	18,769
Net movement in funds	9	**36,520**	**(45,505)**	**(8,985)**	22,097
Funds brought forward		105,554	48,505	**154,059**	135,290
Total funds carried forward		**142,074**	**3,000**	**145,074**	154,059

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

Chair's report

Doorstep: homeless families project, is an essential project in Camden. By providing connectivity to the relevant voluntary and statutory services in Camden for the vulnerable families living in temporary accommodation in one of the largest hostels in Camden.

Over the past year Doorstep and its excellent staff and enthusiastic director have worked hard to provide rest, escape and enjoyment for the children. As well as empowering Camden's secondary school pupils who live in the hostel. Who collectively asked the council for a Wi-Fi service in the hostel, which caught the attention of the BBC.

Doorstep has been prominent for 40 years and is able to develop in line with the needs of the user group. The current needs for children and young people are different from they were 40 years ago. Doorstep provides the means to develop the community the children and its young residents need for their economic development. The attention given to each generation during a time of austerity and ambiguity, which we hope will be short lived but often this is not the case.

The parent support and advocacy project has provided information and guidance, has opened the doors to the Camden Housing department, caught the attention of local Councillors and Camden's children's social services, to take notice of what is supposed to be temporary hostel accommodation. Making sure appropriate assessments take place for each individual family and their specific needs. Doorstep has been successful in raising awareness in how important it is to rehouse families in accommodation suitable for their needs, preventing further upheaval and insecurity. Doorstep will continue to support families to gain secure homes, via sign posting to the relevant services in Camden to achieve this aim.

Doorsteps continues to work for the children living in the hostels. Making sure the children enjoy term time activities and holiday programmes with the annual trips to the seaside, fun in its garden, greenery to escape into and explore and provided with the space and support to do their homework. Giving out food parcels to the families, providing essential clothing. The families have access to laundry facilities, information, and the opportunity to talk to each other. Reducing loneliness and alienation which is so important after the damage caused by covid and the increase in the cost of living.

I can proudly report that Doorstep had another successful year. A big thank you to the Director of Doorstep Vicky Fox and the Management Committee/board of trustees who are actively recruiting and diversifying the board. I would also like to thank them for all their counsel and support. Additionally, a big thank you to Doorstep's Patron, Victoria Coren Mitchel for all her support and generosity. Finally, thank you to all our supporters: individuals, trusts, charities, companies, and schools that help us in a plethora of ways, and that allows Doorstep to continue to positively impact homeless families year after year.

Ali.F.Jabeen

We give our most sincere and grateful thanks to the following organisations for their support of Doorstep and our families:

AKO Foundation
Barnett & Sylvia Shine Charitable Foundation
BBC Children in Need
Benevity
Boston Consulting Group
Camden Council
Camden Giving
Cellnex
Crucible Foundation
Devonshire Hill School
Fitzdale Trust
Free Cakes for Kids Camden
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust
Harkalm Group
John Lewis
London Community Foundation
McLaren Group
Properly Properties
Reel Fund
Sarum Hall School
South Hampstead Junior School
St Christina's School
St Mary's Church
StreetSmart
The American School in London
University College School
Voluntary Action Camden
Waitrose & Partners

Also, to the very many kind and generous individuals who donated money, food, toys, clothes, books, and their time.

The Management Committee

Alpona Banerji - Chair -Resigned 30/10/23

Phoebe Stamford-Moroz - Vice Chair-Resigned 30/10/23

Jo Cunningham - Secretary- Resigned 19/06/23

Alexa Brummer- Treasurer- Resigned 06/03/23

Sara Katchi-Resigned 23/01/23

Ali Jabeen- Chair -Appointed 06/03/23

Jess Reddell- Secretary-Appointed 06/03/23

Reena Malharkar-Treasurer-Appointed 30/10/23

Lesley Adams

Celia Carr

Tsedey Yilala

The Staff Team

Vicky Fox - Director

Ubah Egal - Parent Support/Advocate

Sarah Lough (resigned July 2023) **& Khadra Mohamed** - Children's Workers (part time)

Belkize Banjica - Housekeeping & sessional play support (part time)

Kaamila Mohamed- Youth Lead (part time)-resigned April 2023

Dilly Azam - Play Support (part time)

Zinedine Belabbas- Youth Project sessional

Iryna Hulam- Sessional play support

Volunteers

ASL teachers & Students

McLaren Team

Naz Malik

Patron

Victoria Coren-Mitchell

Not forgetting the hundreds of other individuals who took part in occasional projects- we give our sincere thanks to each and every one!

Doorstep Homeless Families Project
13A Broadhurst Gardens
London NW6 3QX

Tel: 0207 372 0413
Email:hello@doorsteplondon.com Website: www.doorsteplondon.com
www.facebook.com/DoorstepLondon
https://twitter.com/doorstep_london
www.instagram.com/doorstep_london

Doorstep is a Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales, No 2476922. Registered Charity No 1007692. Doorstep is funded by Charitable Grants and private donations.

DOORSTEP

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 02476922 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1007692

Accountability Europe Limited
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	Doorstep
Charity registration number	1007692
Company registration number	02476922
Registered office	13a Broadhurst Gardens London NW6 3QX
Directors / Trustees	Ali Jabeen – Chair (appointed 06/03/23) Phoebe Stamford-Moroz – Vice Chair Alpona Banerji Joanne Cunningham Lesley Adams Celia Carr Tsedey Yilala (appointed 26/09/2022) Jessica Reddel (appointed 06/03/2023) Sara Katchi (resigned 23/01/23) Alexa Brummer - Treasurer (resigned 06/03/23)
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB
Independent examiner	Aamer Shehzad FCA Accountability Europe Limited Omnibus Workspace 39-41 North Road London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 16 February 1990, and also registered with the Charity Commissioners.

Appointment, induction & training of Trustees

All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction session they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organization

The charity is organized so that the trustees meet regularly to manage its affairs. There is one full time executive Vicky Fox, who both manages the day to day administration of the charity and organizes fundraising initiatives. The sessional staff are employed to run particular service sections or with specific administration or building responsibilities.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:-

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives are "the relief of poverty and distress and the advancement of education of persons resident in Camden and the surrounding area, in particular those who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation”. The charity provides a range of support services with the overall aim to improve the quality of life of service users. These include laundry facilities, play opportunities for children and taught courses in areas such as IT and ESOL.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future services. In particular the board of trustees consider how our planned services will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- A review of our previous five-year strategic business plan showed we had achieved much of what we had set out to do e.g. the generation of multi-year funding, the appointment of a new post to support parents, the provision of skill building workshops for adults, awareness and profile raising. Together with our stakeholders we developed a new plan and identified goals for the next five years.
- With the appointment of the new post of Parent Support/Advocate we were able to provide information and support to families to improve their situation and highlight issues with policy makers.
- In collaboration and partnership with other organisations we provided adult courses e.g. Numeracy, Healthy Low-Cost Cooking, ESOL and Digital Literacy. We also provided devices to those in need.
- We provided packages of store cupboard food essentials, throughout the winter, to help families in the cost of living crisis.
- We celebrated Eid and Christmas with parties and gifts as well as providing personalised birthday cakes for our children and young people throughout the year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income for the year of £202,728 (2022: £155,548) and total expenditure of £211,713 (2022: £136,779) resulting in deficit of £8,985 (2022: surplus of £18,769). Total reserves of £154,059 (2022: £154,059) are carried forward of which £142,074 (2022: £105,554) unrestricted and £3,000 (2022: £48,505) restricted.

RESERVES

The present level of reserves is sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The reserves are needed to allow time for re-organisation in the event of a downturn of income in one or more areas of funding, and to provide for unforeseen, and hence unbudgeted, expenditure where this enables the Charity to continue to meet its objectives.

FUTURE PLANS

We will be working to achieve the following:

- With some existing multi-year sources of income coming to an end, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the organisation through the generation of income, succession planning and the development of collaborative working will be extremely high priority.
- We will continue to develop and deliver a range of services and activities that promote skills and new experiences and improve the quality of life for adults, young people and children.
- We will keep our strategic business plan under review with a clear focus on the wider policy environment and developments in income generation, which may lead to periodic reordering of our priorities.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and 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 the 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the reparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on
and signed on its behalf by:

……..
Ali Jabeen
(Chair)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

DOORSTEP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

……

Aamer Shehzad FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

Date:

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	**3**	135,288	67,440	**202,728**	155,548
Total Income		**135,288**	**67,440**	**202,728**	155,548
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	**4**	4,810	-	**4,810**	4,730
Charitable activities	**4**	93,958	112,945	**206,903**	132,049
Total expenditure		**98,768**	**112,945**	**211,713**	136,779
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	**5**	**36,520**	**(45,505)**	**(8,985)**	18,769
Net movement in funds	**9**	**36,520**	**(45,505)**	**(8,985)**	22,097
Funds brought forward		105,554	48,505	**154,059**	135,290
Total funds carried forward		**142,074**	**3,000**	**145,074**	154,059

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note		2023		2022
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	**7**		**400**		-
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**214,634**		229,282	
		214,634		229,282	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**8**	**(69,960)**		(75,223)	
Net current assets			**144,674**		154,059
Net assets			**145,074**		154,059
Funds					
Restricted Funds	**9**		**3,000**		48,505
General funds	**9**		**142,074**		105,554
Total charity funds			**145,074**		154,059

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the charitable 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 requirments of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on
and signed on its behalf by:

Ali Jabeen (Chair)

Company Registration No. 02476922

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The charitable company is exempted from preparing a cash flow statement due to exemption available to charities with income of less than £500,000.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:
Equipment: 33% Straight line basis

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

a) Costs of raising funds:

It includes the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

b) Expenditure on charitable activities

It includes the costs of delivering services, exhibitions and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charity's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022
Income from:	£	£	£
Donations and grants	68,210	87,338	155,548
Total Income	68,210	87,338	155,548
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising	4,730	-	4,730
Charitable activities	76,468	55,581	132,049
Total expenditure	81,198	55,581	136,779
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	(12,988)	31,757	18,769
Total funds brought forward	118,542	16,748	135,290
Total funds carried forward	105,554	48,505	154,059

3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2023**	Total 2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Donations:				
Donations	69,538	-	**69,538**	23,210
Grants:				
AKO Foundation	25,000	-	**25,000**	35,000
Fitzdale Trust	-	3,000	**3,000**	2,800
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust	15,750	-	**15,750**	4,000
Camden Giving	-	7,500	**7,500**	-
Crucible Foundation	2,500	7,500	**10,000**	-
Street Smart	10,000	-	**10,000**	-
BBC Children in Need	500	38,440	**38,940**	39,968
Cellnex	-	11,000	**11,000**	-
London Community Foundation	-	-	**-**	570
Reel Fund	10,000	-	**10,000**	10,000
London Borough of Camden	-	-	**-**	40,000
Grant Elliott Simmons Charitable Trust	2,000	-	**2,000**	-
	135,288	**67,440**	**202,728**	155,548

4 Analysis of expenditure

Current year	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	**2023 Total**	2022 Total
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Staff costs	4,810	142,261	-	**147,071**	102,937
Direct costs	-	53,529	-	**53,529**	24,052
Premises costs	-	-	976	**976**	949
Other office costs	-	-	6,316	**6,316**	6,782
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,121	**3,121**	1,459
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	**600**	600
Depreciaition	-	-	100	**100**	-
	4,810	195,790	11,113	**211,713**	136,779
Support costs allocated	-	11,113	(11,113)	-	-
Total expenditure 2023	**4,810**	**206,903**	**-**	**211,713**	136,779

Of the total expenditure, £98,768 was unrestricted (2022: £81,198) and £112,945 was restricted (2022: £55,581).

4 Analysis of expenditure (continued)

Prior year	Cost of Fundraising £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2022 Total £
Staff costs	4,730	98,207	-	102,937
Direct costs	-	24,052	-	24,052
Premises costs	-	-	949	949
Other office costs	-	-	6,782	6,782
Accountancy fees	-	-	1,459	1,459
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	600
Depreciaition	-	-	-	-
	4,730	122,259	9,790	136,779
Support costs allocated	-	9,790	(9,790)	-
Total expenditure 2022	4,730	132,049	-	136,779

5 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:	**2023 £**	2022 £
Depreciation	**100**	-
Independent examiner's fee (excl VAT)	**500**	500

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows:	**2023**	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**123,850**	83,340
Social security costs	**4,844**	2,226
Pension costs	**18,377**	17,371
	147,071	102,937

No member of staff received emoluments of more than £60,000 in this year (2022: £nil)

The total employee benefits including employer NIC and pension of the key management personnel were £49,406 (2022: £47,297). During the year there were no redundancy payments.

The trustees of the charitable company were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year, was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of project staff	**4.5**	4.5
	4.5	4.5

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
COST	**£**
At start of the year	25,215
Additions	500
At start and at the end of the year	**25,715**
DEPRECIATION	
At start of the year	25,215
Charge for the year	100
At the end of the year	**25,315**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	**400**
At 31 March 2022	-

8	**Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**	**2023**	2022
		£	£
	Deferred Income	**58,507**	67,850
	Taxation and social security	**5,380**	4,882
	Accruals	**1,640**	2,491
	Others Creditors	**4,433**	-
		69,960	75,223
	Deferred Income:		
	Balance at the Beginning of the Year	**35,000**	-
	Amount released to income in the year	**(35,000)**	-
	Amount deferred in the year	**58,507**	35,000
	Balance at the End of the Year	**58,507**	35,000

Deferred income comprises of grants received in current year but relating to future periods.

9	**Movement in funds**	**At 1 April**			**At 31 March**
	Current year	**2022**	**Income**	**Expenditure**	**2023**
	Restricted:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
	BBC Children in Need	9,005	38,440	47,445	**-**
	Crucible Foundation	-	7,500	7,500	**-**
	Fitzdale Trust	2,000	3,000	2,000	**3,000**
	Camden Giving	-	7,500	7,500	**-**
	London Borough of Camden	37,500	-	37,500	**-**
	Cellnex - London Community Foundation	-	11,000	11,000	**-**
	Total Restricted Fund	**48,505**	**67,440**	**112,945**	**3,000**
	Unrestricted Funds:				
	General Funds	105,554	135,288	98,768	**142,074**
	Total Unrestricted Fund	**105,554**	**135,288**	**98,768**	**142,074**
	Total funds	**154,059**	**202,728**	**211,713**	**145,074**

	Movement in funds	At 1 April			At 31 March
	Prior year	2021	Income	Expenditure	2022
	Restricted:	£	£	£	£
	BBC Children in Need	10,445	39,968	41,408	9,005
	Charles Lewis Foundation	2,620	-	2,620	-
	London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	-	2,800	800	2,000
	Total Restricted Fund	-	4,000	4,000	-
	Unrestricted Funds:	-	570	570	-
	General Funds	3,683	-	3,683	-
	Total Unrestricted Fund	118,542	68,210	81,198	105,554
	Total funds	135,290	155,548	136,779	105,554

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2023 £**
Tangible fixed assets	400	-	**400**
Net current assets	141,674	3,000	**144,674**
Total Funds	142,074	3,000	**145,074**

Analysis of net assets between funds Prior year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets	105,554	48,505	154,059
Total Funds	105,554	48,505	154,059

11 Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member without share capital.

12 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2023 (2022: none).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. There is no balance due to/from related parties at the end of the year.

DOORSTEP

England & Wales - Charity number 1007692

Accounts

Doorstep

"Opening doors for homeless families"



Annual Report 2022 and Accounts 2021-2022

Director's Report-Vicky Fox

It has been a transformative year of development and growth that we have been working to achieve for a long time.

Successful fundraising meant we were able to recruit a new full time member of staff, Ubah Egal, in March 2022 for one year. The role of Parent Support/Advocate to support adults was a need we had identified several years ago, but the funding had remained elusive. The role has achieved extremely significant benefits for parents and families and we are hopeful that we will be able to raise sufficient funds to continue this much needed and effective area of work.

Similarly, the new Youth Project service which had to be put on hold due to the pandemic was finally established. We welcomed Kaamila Mohamed onto the team to lead this project. Young people from 12 years upwards now have the opportunity to meet with their peers and engage in activities of their choice. These have included cooking for each other, sharing recipes and food from their different countries and cultures. They have developed a social action video highlighting the need for WiFi to be provided in temporary accommodation hostels. During the summer holidays they were able to try new things such as kayaking and go karting which they very much enjoyed.

We also welcomed Dilly Azam who has been working to give additional support in our creches and holiday programmes

We are currently in the process of reviewing the five year strategic business plan we created in 2018. Looking back at the goals we set then it is gratifying to see that so many have been achieved. Together with our stakeholders we are developing a new plan for 2023 to 2028 which will include a plan for my succession within that period. In 2023 it will be 33 years since I joined Doorstep and the time is approaching for me to hand over the reins. We will be looking at staffing and the roles required to ensure Doorstep has a strong infrastructure and continues to flourish for all the future years that the support we provide is needed.

Fundraising is always a high priority and will remain so. Having achieved developments this year we need to raise sufficient funds to be able to sustain them, along with our core services, as well as to support the goals we set for the next five years. It won't be easy given the current economic market and cost of living crisis but the very vulnerable people we work to support are relying on us to succeed.

My thanks go to the members of Doorstep's board of trustees for their commitment to Doorstep and ensuring good governance. I'd like to give a special thanks to Alpona Banerji who has been chair since 2018 and has led the board through its difficult times and achievements. Alpona will be stepping down as chair but we are thankful she will be remaining as a trustee.

Sincere thanks also to our patron Victoria Coren Mitchell for her continued interest and support.

Last but by no means least thanks to my colleagues both new and old for all their hard work.

We look forward to the future with optimism and determination.

Our services

Our services have been developed over the years in direct response to the needs that families have expressed:

- ★ Opportunities for children and young people to play, learn and develop at our after school club, crèches, Youth Project and drop-ins.
- ★ Joint activities with the partner organisations.
- ★ Regular creative & educational activities for adults.
- ★ Information, support and guidance for parents.
- ★ A programme of special activities and outings during the summer and school holidays.
- ★ A weekly ‘bazaar’ giving access to free essential goods donated by the wider community.
- ★ Free daily access to laundry facilities.
- ★ Family food packages, healthy snacks and meals

216 people accessed Doorstep’s services from January to December 2022, which was an increase of 24% on the previous year. During this period 32 new families with 68 children registered with Doorstep and 21 families with 41 children moved away- 4 to permanent social housing and 17 to private rented. We supported a total of 66 families, 75 adults and 130 children and young people. Additional needs among our children and young people include severe allergies, ADHD, severe anxiety, Epidermolysis Bullosa. Autism Spectrum, Verbal development delay, SALT, PKU, Mobility Disorder, Epilepsy & Tourettes.

Highlights of the Year

We were successful in raising sufficient funds to restart provision of a monthly parcel of food basics for every family.

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Doorstep Parent Support and Advocacy Service

In March Ubah Egal joined the team as Parent Support/Advocate and after an initial period of introduction and an assessment of needs she provided support and activities.

From March 2022-October 2022, Doorstep's ParentSupport/Advocate saw 45 individual families for support as one-to-one visitors to the new service.

This includes:
20 families referred for first round Camden Cost of living Grants generating £3000 grant awards direct to families. A further 39 Families were supported for the Oct/Nov Cost of living grants. The estimated total payment to the families is in the 20k region.

Doorstep has up to 70% of families with English as a second language. The demographic includes, Syrian, Afghan, Somali, Bangladesh, Ukrainian, Ethiopian, Eritrean, Sudanese, Moroccan, Guinea Bissau and many more international countries of origin.

Issues covered in the parent support weekly drop-ins which take place 4 x per week include:
Rent Arrears enquiries: 17
HB stopping or new claims: 6
Universal credit sanctions: 10
Universal credit app/website enquires to update: 28
Universal credit stopped: 3
Maternity Grant application: 2
Healthy start applications: 4
GP and health enquiries: 9
Fuel and energy provider: 5
Repairs enquiries in hostel: 8
School application: 5 (secondary)
School Applications: 3 (primary)-Deadline new year.
Reading official letters and explaining the contents: 30
Housing support for homelessness assessments: 33
School exclusion/move: 1
Safeguarding report: 1
Camden Safety Net referral:1
Early Help referral: 3
Floating support referral: 2
Camden Law Centre referral: 2
Camden Debt Specialist referral for serious fuel debt: 4
Camden Debt Specialist referral for debt consolidation: 2
Camden Housing allocation Zone banding challenge: 1
Solicitor referral for discharge of duty case: 1
Immigration enquiries: 3
Child Protection case referral: 2

Referral for MP support for housing points removed or under threat: 5
Referral to MP for housing support general and enquiries: 10
Miscellaneous enquiries 59
Total enquiries: 258

Camden Citizens Advice: 5 signposts, two for debt advice and 3 for general help.

Early Help: 3 referrals, 1 new case PTSD war trauma and family impact, 1 School exclusion risk of child grooming for county lines, 1 referral for new refugee family with no access to public funds.

Law Centre:1 referral for discharge of housing duty unlawfully. Also, the case referred to a solicitor firm for legal aid representation. Case won by private firm.

MP has taken several cases to further enquire at a constituent level for residents which has yielded significant change in all the cases referred. 15 cases with 6 pending currently.
What kind of issues have been referred?

The MP casework team have taken 1 case trying to move a family from the Private rental scheme given that it was one bedroom too small. Mother had SEND child and did not want to move again. MP helped ensure this did not happen.
1 case where the family were in an environmental health team condemned property due to damp and mould, family emergency moved back to Camden, MP helped to argue this family suffered enough and they were housed no longer out of borough but in Camden.

Forum
We set up a Parent forum in May, they meet once a month to discuss topics important to them, share their views about Doorstep services and areas of improvement. We have on average 6-10 participants monthly.
Parents raised concerns about the lack of free internet access in the hostel, they raised concern that housing officers never see them face to face and multiple officers call them, confusing them by not clarifying what role each officer does. Parents felt they needed to know more about housing law and their rights.
Policy makers and directors have visited the service and heard parents want to see Housing Officers in person.

Classes and workshops
A 10-week Digital literacy class with 10 parents.
In partnership with Working Men's College 3 basket making classes attended by 16 parents. Coffee morning weekly with computer access and bidding for council housing support. This session has an average attendee group of 11 adults.

Partnership working
To address some of the needs identified in the Forum and engagement work, Doorstep have developed new Partnerships to support the needs of our parents. We now partner with:

Working Men's College to programme a range of classes term time for adults onsite. Future planned classes include ESOL, Numeracy, Parent's classes to understand their children's homework and be better able to support their kids. Healthy cooking classes and more craft and art classes for January 2023.

Camden ESOL Advice Service, As ESOL is a large area of work and the levels of competency differ Camden's EAS team agreed to fast track access and place Doorstep families on to appropriate courses through their network. 16 adults were tested, all were placed into ESOL provisions across the borough over the summer. 2 were given online learning classes.

Camden Early Help Team Early help team met with us to discuss better ways to get our families accessing early help at the right time. We developed a partnership where Early Help officers will visit our adult drop-in sessions to meet families and explain what they do. Doorstep will refer to them and they also referred families to us. We have seen the benefits of Early help intervention and believe this to be a very important service to signpost to.

Camden Law Centre Doorstep families on occasion have legal issues we are not trained to manage, we are partnering with the Law Centre to signpost cases which require expert knowledge in Housing, family, and Employment Law. Camden Law centre officers have also supported our Parent Advocate to help check pre legal letters so Doorstep can assist with support from the experts when appropriate. This can be to ensure any requests sent on behalf of families have been signed off by an expert, this partnership allows us to make sure families are up to date on current rights and legal knowledge.

Citizens Advice This partnership was developed to support families with complex advice needs, such as significant debt, CAB have a debt specialist only for the locality we are based in, this worker has taken several referrals direct form us and have helped them manage fuel bills, rent arrears, credit, and loan debt.

Camden Carers, Doorstep have several parent carers and we have referred many to join this project to access specialist support for carers. Camden Carers also run training and one-off sessions for carers, and we plan to host a session in early 2023.

Advice Network Meetings run by Camden Council which we attend has allowed Doorstep to meet and partner with:
Mary Ward Centre, Komos Centre, Age UK as well as other community providers we can refer families to for extra help. We have attended Camden Cost of living crisis meetings and workshops.

Focus Groups

In October 2022 sixteen parents participated in focus groups to contribute to Doorstep's 5-year Strategic Planning, sharing ideas and experiences which will help to shape the direction of our work over the next 5 years.

Strategic work

Doorstep has made inroads into strengthening our strategic impact in Camden by meeting senior Housing department officers to feed in the experiences adults are having engaging and working with Camden departments.

The development of this work has seen an increase in more partnership working with frontline staff to enable better experience for families using the housing and homelessness services in the borough. This work is ongoing and continues to develop in partnership with Camden council.



Youth Project

After some initial setbacks with launching the Youth Project Kaamila Mohamed joined the team in April and worked with our young people on developing this new service. The group meets two evenings per week and the activities have been varied. Young people are encouraged to identify activities they would like to do. They appreciate having their own space to spend time with their peers away from siblings and the confines of cramped rooms.



Summer Programme

Our Summer Programme ran for five weeks during the holidays. We were very lucky to receive a grant which enabled us to visit, pay for activities and to go on a lot more outings than we can normally afford. Thirty six families, seventy children and young people and 50 adults participated. We were blessed with lovely weather throughout and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Outings & Activities

Under 5 years visited playgrounds at Broadhurst Gdns, Fairfax Rd, Swiss Cottage, Regents Park and JW3 Beach. They had onsite activities including Arts, Crafts & Games. They also joined the weekly family day trip.

5-11 years old visited Paddington Recreation Park, Diana Memorial Park, Inflatanation, Kidzania & Flip Out. Onsite they did Arts, Crafts, Cooking, Games & Sports. They also joined the weekly family day trip.

12 years and over visited Regents Park and went to the Cinema, Bowling, Thames River Boat, London Eye, Go Ape, London Aquarium, DNA Virtual Reality, Escape Room, Go Ape, Kayaking, Lazer Tag & Go Karting. Onsite they did art, Crafts, Games, Sports & Cooking. They also joined the weekly family day trip.

Day Trips for the whole family were once per week and we visited Southend, Eastbourne, Clacton, Margate and London Zoo.



Celebrations

We held several parties throughout the year. In July MP Tulip Siddiq joined us to celebrate EID with tasty dishes cooked by service users, music, henna art and gifts for the children.

In September we welcomed some of our funders, our patron Victoria Coren Mitchell, our trustees and our families to share delicious food for everyone and face painting for the children to celebrate the development of new services.

At Christmas we held three parties for the different age groups. One for parents and under fives with a hot meal cooked in house and games for the children. Another for the kids aged 5-11 years with face painting, games, snacks, pizza and treats. Finally, the youth group chose to go out for a meal and went ice skating. Thanks to the generosity of various schools, businesses, a local church and kind individuals every child and young person received two gifts. Successful fundraising meant we were able to provide every family with a supermarket gift card.

Thanks to volunteer bakers at Free Cakes for Kids Camden every child received a customised cake and a gift on their birthday.



Case Study 1- Creche

Child E was 2.5 years old when she started using Doorstep's creche. She was used to staying with relatives while Mum went to college so settled quickly into the setting but wouldn't speak English or her home language. Her only method of communication was to smile at adults when they spoke to her. Unable to ascertain how much E understood, creche staff decided to work with her 1-to-1, encouraging her to explore the setting and choose different resources to use. E was able to play alongside peers for 2-3 minutes with support but preferred being with an adult, and needed support to share toys and take turns with activities. E and her Mum were encouraged to attend as regularly as possible to ensure E would benefit from professional support for social and language development. As time passed E started to mimic adults and repeat words she heard, starting with 'Bye' and waving as she left the setting, and now using the names of other children, and saying short 2-3 word sentences in English or her home language.

Case Study 2- After School Club

Child D experienced a lot of change as she started Reception and started attending Doorstep's After-School club with her sibling. D found so many changes, in addition to the problems which had led to her family living in the hostel was emotionally challenging. She would often cry when Mum tried to leave the after-school club without her. Adults would try to distract her by encouraging her to play with girls her age, or with her older sister which worked occasionally but would result in D becoming upset again later when children decided they wanted to play elsewhere or with other resources and she didn't, or if the play became too loud or rough. With support from teenage volunteers from the Youth Project, as well as time spent 1-to-1 with staff members immediately after her Mum has left, D has now managed to attend the whole summer programme with her peers. At after-school club sessions she can become upset when tired from school but is easily distracted with arts and craft, cooking or learning activity; she happily plays in a small group of similarly aged girls resources indoors or bouncing on the trampoline calling out to friends. Her improved self-confidence has meant she can now join-in all of the activities and often chats with teen volunteers about school and her family.

Case Study 3- Youth Project

M is 16, and had lived in the hostel for 4 months, but while her younger sibling rushed to After-school club there was nothing for her age group, until the Youth Project was launched. M didn't know any-one her age at the hostel, only her much younger neighbours, who would often interrupt her studies to play with her sibling. Within the first few weeks of attending Youth Project, M had made friends with 3 girls in her year group. Although they were all at different schools, living in the same situation while trying to study for GCSEs gave them common ground. They were able to find space to chat and relax, relate to each other and empathise with the issues each was facing with siblings destroying coursework and problems getting to school on time after being moved further away. M now attends every session, although she often worries

about making time for the revision and homework she gets set, and has led cookery sessions as well as supporting the young teens to complete art and cooking activities successfully.

Case Study 4-Parent Support

S is a mother in her 30's who came to live in the hostel as a result of DV. She reported that the case is ongoing, and the father was declined access to the children by the family court and a non-molestation order was taken out against him. The children have witnessed the violence towards their mother and have experienced some level of it themselves. The father recently applied to the court, which the mother reports has been distressing for her children.

S has a daughter aged 16, who is a year 11 student at a local school. S came to the UK on a visa with the childrens' father and now has legal status. She lived in his council house but once the marriage hit difficulty, he evicted her and their children. She is currently on benefits, unable to move from the hostel due to the benefit cap. The family is supported by Doorstep and we are supporting S to seek skills development. S hopes she can gain sustainable employment and not have to remain in hostel rooms which is very difficult for children studying GCSEs. Doorstep has provided a laptop for home learning.

Case study 5 - Parent Support

L is a single mother who has been sharing one hostel room with her two sons aged 23 and 15. Her 23 year old son has now moved out. L lost her job as a beautician during lockdown which caused her to get into debt. L told us that the lockdown also affected the self confidence and mental health of both herself and her aged 15-year-old son. His mental health was affected by being stuck in one room with his family. He also struggled to adapt to online schooling and managing his studies and only had access to a defective device.

The family had lived in a comfortable private rental for 13 years, where her sons each had their own room, but they became homeless when the landlord sold the property. The family were moved into a hostel where they remained for two years. That hostel then closed down and they were moved to another hostel where they are currently living. L told us she believes that moving into a small hostel room was the beginning of her son's mental health troubles. Her son's behaviour became more challenging when he could no longer go to school or see friends and had to spend most of the time in the one room. L said her son is on the waiting list to be seen by CAMHS because he is struggling to catch up at school and may fail GCSEs. Her son refused to see the Tavistock link worker at the school so there has been a delay in him getting help for his mental health. Doorstep provided a new laptop so he can do his coursework and online access to therapy is planned; he has also been invited to the Youth Project.

What Service Users say…..

The parent/ service user focus groups, which were held as part of our review and strategic planning for the next five years, were conducted by an independent facilitator. The feedback was hugely positive. When asked -What do you like about Doorstep?- it was everything and all our services were listed. When asked -What can Doorstep do better and in the future-it was more staff, enhancement of existing services and ideas for new services to be developed. They also identified issues they wanted Doorstep to highlight with policy and decision makers to bring about change.

Some comments from participants:

"Cannot fault them. They provide lots of support for adults and children. They will deal with any question and any source of confusion".

"The staff are always very helpful, they always have time for you, emotional and physical, always open, "Doorstep is "a family", "like an extended family". "People do not feel isolated".

"Service activities for children and young people are child centred".

"I was struggling when I came to Doorstep, and they cared for me as a person".

"When I see the shopping, I am very happy". "It helps with meeting the stress of the cost of living".



The Bigger Picture

Looking at the bigger picture the following is taken from various blogs produced by Shelter, which reflect the issues and difficulties we see families experiencing.

This is not a home: in temporary accommodation you have to put on a brave face

21 December 2022 by Fiona McLeod -Involvement Officer at Shelter



One in every 100 children in England is homeless and living in temporary accommodation provided by the local council.To put that in perspective, that's over 120,000 kids spending the Christmas holidays in temporary accommodation.

I know what this feels like. I know only too well the unbearable pressure that living in temporary accommodation can put on children's health, education and wellbeing. Because I lived it as a mum, with my then teenage son, for five long, hard years. And I see it every day in my work with other families still going through it.

That's why, along with other experts by experience – a number of them still living in temporary accommodation – I've been steering a landmark piece of Shelter research. This research looks into the impact of temporary accommodation on families like ours. It's been funded by Trust for London and The Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

We're frustrated that so few people know what this form of hidden homelessness is like. Other parents often have no idea what we're going through, even when our children are in the same nursery or class at school.

Our research was made possible because more than 800 families living in temporary accommodation throughout England, took time out of their often hellish days to tell us about their experiences. These families included 1,600 children. They wanted their voices to be heard.

Here are some of the worst problems we want to tell you about:

Sharing beds

Our survey found that more than a third (35%) of parents in temporary accommodation say their children don't have a bed of their own, so have to share a bed with another family member.

This can affect children differently depending on their age. Young children might not mind sharing a bed but find it difficult to get to sleep in hostel-style accommodation, with noise from other residents, and are easily disturbed. This leaves them tired and irritable. Some parents find distressed younger children wet the bed – which isn't easy to deal with without your own washing machine! On the other hand, teenagers can be affected by the lack of privacy, space and their own bed: you're not allowed to have your own furniture. And what teenage boy wants their friends to know they share the same room with their mum, let alone the same bed?

Education

Our survey found almost half (45%) of school-age children have arrived at school tired, late or hungry as a result of living in temporary accommodation.

Mornings can be very difficult. Children wake tired from disturbed sleep. Hotel rooms rarely have facilities to store or cook food – not even a fridge to keep milk for cereal. And in hostels with shared bathrooms and kitchens, there are big problems when as many as ten families are all trying to get their children showered and given breakfast.

Then there's the commute to school. Over a quarter of temporary accommodation is in another area. So families often have to set off for school very early in the morning, waiting in the dark and rain for a series of buses to get to school on time. The long commute home means children miss after-school clubs or intervention lessons.

Finally, the lack of internet in lots of temporary accommodation can really affect homework and study. When my teenage son told a teacher he had no wifi at home, they replied that everyone had wifi at home – they had no idea.

Mental health

It's upsetting, but not surprising. Our survey found one in four parents (26%) report their child or children being often unhappy or depressed as a result of living in temporary accommodation.

I knew of parents who worried about how their children would cope if they had to stay in the hostel environment much longer. Children are very conscious that they lack the most basic things that class-mates take for granted: a secure home, their own bedroom, space to play and study, being able to have friends over, internet, a private toilet, a kitchen they can wander into to raid the biscuit tin, a familiar neighbourhood where they feel safe.

Not knowing how long they'll have to stay in the accommodation or where they'll end up, and frequent short-notice moves to different temporary accommodation, are extremely unsettling and lead to anxiety.

Myself and my son went into the hostel with some existing mental health issues. Imagine having previously fled domestic violence, only to hear reminders of it through the thin adjoining walls of a hostel room. There were routine checks on your rooms by hostel staff, whether you were in or not, for health and safety reasons.

Social isolation

Our survey found more than one in four parents (28%) say their children are finding it hard to make or keep friends as a result of living in temporary accommodation.

School-age children, especially teenagers, can feel too ashamed to tell anyone their family is homeless and living in temporary accommodation. Some parents tell us their children pretend to their friends that they still live in their former home because of the stigma they feel.

It can also be difficult to hang out with friends because the temporary accommodation is so far away from school. Or because they're unable to have friends over due to the lack of space, privacy or strict 'no-visitor' rules. What teenager wants to invite a friend to a room in a hostel where the whole family is crammed in and they can't chat in private?

This can't carry on

I felt grateful for our hostel room because (unlike some) it didn't have infestations or damp. I felt grateful for the next accommodation, in a converted office, because it was in a neighbouring council area, so still near my support network. But, despite all this gratitude, my son continued to suffer.

He was 12 when we first became homeless. He spent the remainder of his secondary school life without internet at home, without a place to invite his friends back, without space for a desk and homework area and (a lot of the time) without a room of his own.

He didn't get the school grades he was capable of. We can't get those years back. But we can stop it happening to other families.

What can you do to help

Along with other families living in temporary accommodation, I joined a Temporary Accommodation Action Group to fight for better standards, facilities and a better service from our accommodation provider.

I'm now an Involvement Officer, supporting other families to get their voices heard.

But families shouldn't be homeless in the first place – or left stuck in damaging temporary accommodation for months and years at a time. They need a secure home.

Without urgent government action, thousands more families like mine will become homeless this winter as the lack of social housing, frozen local housing allowance and the cost of living crisis all take their toll.

Not-so-temporary accommodation

19 December 2022 by Jenny Pennington- Senior Researcher at Shelter



The housing emergency and subsequent cost of living crisis are pushing thousands of households into homelessness.

New statistics show that over 150,000 households became homeless across just the first six months of 2022. But what happens to the increasing numbers of people pushed onto the homelessness safety net?

In England, councils have a duty to support most families experiencing homelessness to find a suitable, settled home. Until a suitable home can be offered, they provide 'temporary' accommodation.

However, this safety net is failing to function – suitable settled accommodation (either a social or private tenancy of at least 12 months) is proving hard to find. So, temporary accommodation (TA) is not proving to be temporary at all.

• **Two-thirds of families living in TA have been there for more than 12 months. In London, this rises to more than four-fifths**

• Some families have been living in temporary accommodation for more than 10 years

• Even emergency accommodation (like homeless B&Bs), is increasingly being used to accommodate people long term. 1 in 4 families in B&Bs, reception centres and hostels (under homelessness legislation) have been there for more than a year. Half of London families in this type of accommodation have been there for more than a year

• Partly due to these long stays, **the number of households living in temporary accommodation has almost doubled in just ten years. The acute shortage of affordable housing options means there's little prospect of a route out**

In fact, in the absence of safe, secure social homes, we are seeing the steady growth of a new kind of government-provided housing. But one without tenancy rights, specific standards, or effective oversight. Temporary accommodation was never designed to be a place where people build lives and children thrive. Yet it is now being relied on to provide that function for hundreds of thousands of people.

So what's the impact of forcing hundreds of thousands of people to live like this?

Over the last 6 months, we've been exploring the impact of this breakdown of our housing system on the people forced to experience it.

This is something we have gathered insight on for years, and others have too. And this research revealed shocking stories and compelling evidence that change is needed. But there hasn't been any broadly representative, quantitative research on temporary accommodation carried out since our last research in 2004 – a time when the housing emergency was nowhere near as bad as it is today. Without up-to-date data, the extent of issues, and their impacts, can be ignored.

So, following a period of qualitative research and consultation, led by experts by experience, (as we reported back in February), we have set out to fill that data gap by conducting the largest-ever survey of households living in temporary accommodation.

Filling the data gap

Over the spring, led by a steering group of people with lived experience of homelessness, we drafted the survey questions.

We partnered with local authorities across England to pilot, and then launch the full survey in June. Participants were contacted by post and email and given the option to complete the fifteen-minute survey online or over the telephone. By the time we closed it in August, we'd received 1,112 full responses. People stuck in temporary accommodation are clearly very keen to have their voices heard.

We've spent the last few months cleaning and verifying this data, crunching the numbers, and working closely with our steering group to interpret the results.

We now have a trove of results that give fresh new insight into what temporary accommodation is like, how it affects day-to-day life and the impacts of being forced to build a life on temporary foundations.

Over the next couple of months, we'll start to share the results here, and start a conversation about how to ensure we have a housing system, and homelessness safety net, that allows families to thrive, rather than simply survive.

Levelling Up with social housing: stop temporary accommodation becoming permanent

5 January 2023 by Andrew Soar-Campaigner at Shelter

Previously we covered how the word 'affordable' in housing has started to lose all meaning. Our research team has noted, the word 'temporary' is going in the same direction.

The recent National Housing Survey has found that of the 120,000 children growing up in temporary accommodation, 26,641 children are under five. There are 59,500 households in temporary accommodation – a staggering 56.8% rise from the 37,940 in 2010. And two thirds of families living in temporary accommodation have been there for more than 12 months. In London, this rises to more than four fifths.

Why is temporary becoming more permanent? There's nowhere else for people to go.

Not replacing and increasing our social housing stock is increasing the housing benefit bill and leaving thousands in temporary accommodation. Temporary accommodation is becoming the new social housing. It's where you end up if you can't afford the market and the state accommodates you because there is no social housing available.

A recent report by the Public Accounts Committee stated: 'We are concerned that the number of homes being built for social rent is not enough to meet demand. There is huge demand for social rent homes which is the only real, affordable option for many people.'

They're not wrong. Last week the social housing waiting list was updated – it's now up to 1.2million people.

And yet, every year we lose thousands more social homes than we build. So, how do we reverse this trend?

Levelling Up with Social Housing:

The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill enters the House of Lords next month. This is a big opportunity for the government to prioritise social housing over other tenures; making sure more of the most affordable types of housing are built.

To do that, we need to help councils, make developers build their fair share, and make social housing the number one priority when new 'affordable' homes are built. Here's what we're calling for:

Making developers build their fair share of social housing:

Currently, social housing is mostly delivered by private developers who are made to build social homes as part of the agreement when they get permission to build a new development. This is a Section 106 agreement. The Levelling Up Bill wants to scrap this method, and proposes a new Infrastructure Levy. We believe this new levy must focus on delivering more social homes than the current system. However, because of the way the levy may work, it could mean there's a

loophole so social homes aren't built as part of every development. **Our amendment would close that loophole.**

Building social, not 'affordable' housing:

Not all types of 'affordable' housing is affordable to those on lower wages. We believe this new Infrastructure Levy is an opportunity to make it clear that the only type of housing that is truly affordable is social housing. **Our amendment would specify that social housing should be built rather than just 'affordable' housing.**

Helping Councils build more social housing:

We need to make land cheaper so councils can build social homes. Hope Value is the bizarre old rule which makes social housing really difficult for councils to build because it inflates the cost of land.

This change would also make brownfield, urban land more likely to be used to build the homes communities need. **Our amendment would scrap hope value for projects that build social housing.**

These changes to the Bill would prioritise social housing over other tenures, make sure more is built by developers, and help councils build more.

We understand that these changes seem quite technical, but we want to remind you of the impact a social home can have on a family.



Treasurer's Report

The financial statements for Doorstep (or 'the charity') cover the financial year ending 31 March 2022.

The fiscal year 2022 ended in a secure position, with the reserve carried forward being sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The management committee and director recognise the need for, and remain committed to, pursuing multi-year funding both to minimise the risk of disruption to the charity's services, for example in the event of a downturn in one or more areas of external funding

Careful financial and operating records have been kept throughout the financial year ending on 31 March 2022. The accounts for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2022 have been examined by an independent accountancy firm. Detailed records of financial documents are available and may be requested from Doorstep Homeless Families Project, 13A Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3QX.

The Management Committee members are satisfied that Doorstep is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year in accordance with section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The Management Committee members acknowledge their responsibilities for:
1- Ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
2- Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity as at the end of the financial year 2022 and of its profit or loss for the aforementioned financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on 25/10/22 and were signed on their behalf by the chair, Alpona Banerji.

Alexa Brummer
Treasurer

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	**3**	68,210	87,338	**155,548**	212,636
Total Income		**68,210**	**87,338**	**155,548**	212,636
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	**4**	4,730	-	**4,730**	4,752
Charitable activities	**4**	76,468	55,581	**132,049**	129,724
Total expenditure		**81,198**	**55,581**	**136,779**	134,476
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	**5**	**(12,988)**	**31,757**	**18,769**	78,160
Funds brought forward		118,542	16,748	**135,290**	57,130
Total funds carried forward		**105,554**	**48,505**	**154,059**	135,290

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Note		2022		2021
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	**7**		**-**		-
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**229,282**		177,232	
		229,282		177,232	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**8**	**(75,223)**		(41,942)	
Net current assets			**154,059**		135,290
Net assets			**154,059**		135,290
Funds					
Restricted Funds	**9**		**48,505**		16,748
General funds	**9**		**105,554**		118,542
Total charity funds			**154,059**		135,290

For the year ended 31 March 2022 the charitable 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 requirments of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on
and signed on its behalf by:

Alpona Banerji (Chair)

Company Registration No. 02476922

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Chair's report

Doorstep continues to be a strong and reliable partner for vulnerable families in the local community, a task that it has been undertaking for more than three decades. In that regard, I can proudly report that Doorstep had a particularly successful year as it ramped up capacity in terms of staff, services and impact on users.

First mentioned as a strategic goal in the business strategy plan of 2018-2023, Doorstep finally hired a full time member of staff, to focus on supporting parents, who has been particularly effective in engaging with the families by helping to directly support individual challenges faced by families. This has already achieved significant benefits such as stronger engagement with Doorstep activities and services from families. Doorstep also launched a new service called the Youth Project, which focuses on young people from 12 years upwards. Under supervision, the young people now have the ability to interact with others their own age and engage in activities that appeal to their age group. I got a chance to talk to some of the young people using this service and I was struck by how particularly engaged this demographic was with Doorstep and their enthusiasm for Doorstep's services spoke volumes as it reflected their growing confidence, their ability to make friends and enjoy life as other young people do.

Essential food parcels distribution to the families continued on a monthly basis as the cost of living crisis intensified. The weekly childcare services, laundry services and weekly bazaar were working full speed ahead. The summer programme was full and impossibly more comprehensive than I have ever seen it: with multiple trips outside London for children and families, which were enormously appreciated as they allowed the families a respite from their cramped living spaces. These trips allow the hostel residents and particularly the children to have some carefree days over the summer holidays which are so important for mental and physical health. The year ended with multiple face to face children's holiday parties and each child receiving at least 2 gifts!

As I step down as Chairperson for Doorstep, I would like to thank and acknowledge the commitment and critical involvement of Director Vicky Fox, and her small and efficient team that makes Doorstep what it is. Vicky and her team continue to adapt to the new realities of the cost of living crisis and supporting families that are particularly vulnerable to this new economic reality. I would also like to thank the Management Committee, a group of volunteers who readily give their time to Doorstep by meeting every 6 to 8 weeks, with several ad hoc meetings over the year to further the work of sub-committees. I would like to thank them for all their counsel and support over the past five years.

Additionally, the Management Committee and I, thank Doorstep's Patron, Victoria Coren Mitchel for all her support and generosity.

Finally, thank you to all our supporters: individuals, trusts, charities, companies and schools that help us in a plethora of ways, and that allows us to continue to positively impact our community year after year.

Alpona Banerji

We give our most sincere and grateful thanks to the following organisations for their support of Doorstep and our families:

Ahmadiya Ladies Muslim Community Group
AKO Foundation
Barnett & Sylvia Shine Charitable Foundation
BBC Children in Need
Benevity
Bloom Foundation
Boston Consulting Group
Camden Council
Camden Giving
Camden Open Air Gallery
Cellnex
Crucible Foundation
Devonshire Hill School
Elliott Simmons Charitable Trust
Fitzdale Trust
Free Cakes for Kids Camden
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust
Ickenham Masonic Lodge
JA Kemp LLP
John Chilton School
Limi London
London Community Foundation
McLaren Group
Meta
Moonbug
Properly Properties
Reel Fund
Sarum Hall School
South Hampstead Junior School
St Christina's School
St Mary's Church
StreetSmart
The American School in London
The Charles Lewis Foundation
The Kajatawa Foundation
University College School
Voluntary Action Camden
Waitrose & Partners
Warner Brothers
XTX Markets

Also, to the very many kind and generous individuals who donated money, food, toys, clothes, books, and their time.

The Management Committee

Alpona Banerji - Chair

Jo Cunningham - Secretary

Alexa Brummer- Treasurer

Celia Carr - Appointed 25/10/21

Kate Gaertner- Resigned 25/10/21

Phoebe Stamford-Moroz - Vice Chair

Sara Katchi

Lesley Adams

Tsedey Yilala-Appointed 26/09/22

Layle Asmat- Resigned 17/01/22

The Staff Team

Vicky Fox - Director

Ubah Egal - Parent Support/Advocate

Sarah Lough & Khadra Mohamed - Children's Workers (part time)

Belkize Banjica - Housekeeping & sessional play support (part time)

Kaamila Mohamed- Youth Lead (part time)

Dilufer Azam - Play Support (part time)

Volunteers

ASL teachers & Students

Aysha Ahmed

McLaren Team

Patron

Victoria Coren-Mitchell

Not forgetting the hundreds of other individuals who took part in occasional projects- we give our sincere thanks to each and every one!



Doorstep Homeless Families Project
13A Broadhurst Gardens
London NW6 3QX

Tel: 0207 372 0413
Email:hello@doorsteplondon.com Website: www.doorsteplondon.com
www.facebook.com/DoorstepLondon
https://twitter.com/doorstep_london
www.instagram.com/doorstep_london

Doorstep is a Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales, No 2476922. Registered Charity No 1007692. Doorstep is funded by London Borough of Camden, Charitable Grants and private donations.

DOORSTEP

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 02476922 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1007692

Accountability Europe Limited
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	Doorstep
Charity registration number	1007692
Company registration number	02476922
Registered office	13a Broadhurst Gardens London NW6 3QX
Directors / Trustees	Alpona Banerji - Chair Phoebe Stamford-Moroz – Vice Chair Sara Katchi Joanne Cunningham Alexa Brummer - Treasurer Kate Gaertner (resigned 25/10/21) Lesley Adams Layle Asmat (resigned 17/01/22) Celia Carr (appointed 25/10/21)
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB
Independent examiner	Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA Accountability Europe Limited Omnibus Workspace 39-41 North Road London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

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All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

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The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:-

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

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The objectives are "the relief of poverty and distress and the advancement of education of persons resident in Camden and the surrounding area, in particular those who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation". The charity provides a range of support services with the overall aim to improve the quality of life of service users. These include laundry facilities, play opportunities for children and taught courses in areas such as IT and ESOL.

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We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future services. In particular the board of trustees consider how our planned services will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

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- We recruited a new full time post of Parent support/Advocate to provide more tailored support to parents and families.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income for the year of £155,548 (2021: £212,636) and total expenditure of £136,779 (2021: £134,476) resulting in surplus of £18,769 (2021: £78,160). Total reserves of £154,059 (2021: £135,290) are carried forward of which £105,554 (2021: £118,542) unrestricted and £48,505 (2021: £16,748) restricted.

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The present level of reserves is sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The reserves are needed to allow time for re-organisation in the event of a downturn of income in one or more areas of funding, and to provide for unforeseen, and hence unbudgeted, expenditure where this enables the Charity to continue to meet its objectives.

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The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on **26 October 2022**
and signed on its behalf by:

Alpona Banerji
.....

Alpona Banerji
(Chair)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

DOORSTEP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



……

Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

Date: **26 October 2022**

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	**3**	68,210	87,338	**155,548**	212,636
Total Income		**68,210**	**87,338**	**155,548**	212,636
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	**4**	4,730	-	**4,730**	4,752
Charitable activities	**4**	76,468	55,581	**132,049**	129,724
Total expenditure		**81,198**	**55,581**	**136,779**	134,476
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	**5**	**(12,988)**	**31,757**	**18,769**	78,160
Funds brought forward		118,542	16,748	**135,290**	57,130
Total funds carried forward		**105,554**	**48,505**	**154,059**	135,290

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The charitable company is exempted from preparing a cash flow statement due to exemption available to charities with income of less than £500,000.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:
Equipment: 33% Straight line basis

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

a) Costs of raising funds:

It includes the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

b) Expenditure on charitable activities

It includes the costs of delivering services, exhibitions and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charity's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021
Income from:	£	£	£
Donations and grants	138,272	74,364	212,636
Total Income	138,272	74,364	212,636
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising	4,752	-	4,752
Charitable activities	63,864	65,860	129,724
Total expenditure	68,616	65,860	134,476
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	69,656	8,504	78,160
Total funds brought forward	48,886	8,244	57,130
Total funds carried forward	118,542	16,748	135,290

3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2022**	Total 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Donations:				
Donations	23,210	-	**23,210**	81,420
Grants:				
AKO Foundation	35,000	-	**35,000**	25,000
Fitzdale Trust	-	2,800	**2,800**	3,000
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust	-	4,000	**4,000**	-
Camden Giving	-	-	**-**	5,000
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	-	**-**	4,000
Edward Harvist Trust	-	-	**-**	5,000
Limi Foundation	-	-	**-**	15,000
BBC Children in Need	-	39,968	**39,968**	40,364
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	-	-	**-**	20,000
London Community Foundation	-	570	**570**	-
London Borough of Camden	-	40,000	**40,000**	-
Reel Fund	10,000	-	**10,000**	5,000
JRS grant	-	-	**-**	8,352
Localgiving	-	-	**-**	500
	68,210	87,338	**155,548**	212,636

4 Analysis of expenditure

Current year	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	**2022 Total**	2021 Total
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Staff costs	4,730	98,207	-	**102,937**	90,852
Direct costs	-	24,052	-	**24,052**	35,802
Premises costs	-	-	949	**949**	930
Other office costs	-	-	6,782	**6,782**	2,899
Accountancy fees	-	-	1,459	**1,459**	3,108
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	**600**	600
Depreciaition	-	-	-	**-**	285
	4,730	122,259	9,790	**136,779**	134,476
Support costs allocated	-	9,790	(9,790)	-	-
Total expenditure 2022	**4,730**	**132,049**	**-**	**136,779**	134,476

Of the total expenditure, £81,198 was unrestricted (2021: £65,551) and £55,581 was restricted (2021: £67,995).

4 Analysis of expenditure

Prior year	Cost of Fundraising £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2021 Total £
Staff costs	4,752	86,100	-	90,852
Direct costs	-	35,802	-	35,802
Premises costs	-	-	930	930
Other office costs	-	-	2,899	2,899
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,108	3,108
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	600
Depreciaition	-	-	285	285
	4,752	121,902	7,822	134,476
Support costs allocated	-	7,822	(7,822)	-
Total expenditure 2021	4,752	129,724	-	134,476

5 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:	**2022 £**	2021 £
Depreciation	**-**	285
Independent examiner's fee (excl VAT)	500	500

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows:	**2022**	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**83,340**	72,272
Social security costs	**2,226**	1,544
Pension costs	**17,371**	17,036
	102,937	90,852

No member of staff received emoluments of more than £60,000 in this year (2021: £nil)

The total employee benefits including employer NIC and pension of the key management personnel were £47,297 (2021: £47,517). During the year there were no redundancy payments.

The trustees of the charitable company were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year, was as follows:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Number of project staff	**4.5**	4.0
	4.5	4.0

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
COST	**£**
At start and at the end of the year	**25,215**
DEPRECIATION	
At start and at the end of the year	**25,215**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022 and at 31 March 2021	**-**

8 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred Income	**67,850**	35,000
Taxation and social security	**4,882**	4,122
Accruals	**2,491**	2,820
	75,223	41,942
Deferred Income:		
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	**35,000**	-
Amount deferred in the year	**67,850**	35,000
Amount released to income in the year	**35,000**	-
Balance at the End of the Year	**67,850**	35,000

Deferred income comprises of grants received in current year but relating to future periods.

9 Movement in funds

Current year	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2022**
Restricted:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
BBC Children in Need	10,445	39,968	41,408	**9,005**
Charles Lewis Foundation	2,620	-	2,620	**-**
Fitzdale Trust	-	2,800	800	**2,000**
Hampstead Wells & Campden	-	4,000	4,000	**-**
London Borough of Camden	-	40,000	2,500	**37,500**
London Community Foundation	-	570	570	**-**
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	3,683	-	3,683	**-**
Total Restricted Fund	16,748	87,338	55,581	**48,505**
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	118,542	68,210	81,198	**105,554**
Total Unrestricted Fund	118,542	68,210	81,198	**105,554**
Total funds	135,290	155,548	136,779	**154,059**

Prior year	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
Restricted:	£	£	£	£
BBC Children in Need	8,244	40,364	38,163	10,445
Camden Giving	-	5,000	5,000	-
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	4,000	1,380	2,620
Edward Harvist Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	-	20,000	16,317	3,683
Total Restricted Fund	8,244	74,364	65,860	16,748
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	48,886	138,272	68,616	118,542
Total Unrestricted Fund	48,886	138,272	68,616	118,542
Total funds	57,130	212,636	134,476	135,290

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2022 £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	**-**
Net current assets	105,554	48,505	**154,059**
Total Funds	105,554	48,505	**154,059**

Analysis of net assets between funds Prior year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets	118,542	16,748	135,290
Total Funds	118,542	16,748	135,290

11 Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member without share capital.

12 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2022 (2021: none).
There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. There is no balance due to/from related parties at the end of the year.

DOORSTEP

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on **26 October 2022**
and signed on its behalf by:

Alpona Banerji
.....

Alpona Banerji
(Chair)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

DOORSTEP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



……

Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

Date: **26 October 2022**

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	**3**	68,210	87,338	**155,548**	212,636
Total Income		**68,210**	**87,338**	**155,548**	212,636
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	**4**	4,730	-	**4,730**	4,752
Charitable activities	**4**	76,468	55,581	**132,049**	129,724
Total expenditure		**81,198**	**55,581**	**136,779**	134,476
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	**5**	**(12,988)**	**31,757**	**18,769**	78,160
Funds brought forward		118,542	16,748	**135,290**	57,130
Total funds carried forward		**105,554**	**48,505**	**154,059**	135,290

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The charitable company is exempted from preparing a cash flow statement due to exemption available to charities with income of less than £500,000.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:
Equipment: 33% Straight line basis

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

a) Costs of raising funds:

It includes the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

b) Expenditure on charitable activities

It includes the costs of delivering services, exhibitions and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charity's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021
Income from:	£	£	£
Donations and grants	138,272	74,364	212,636
Total Income	138,272	74,364	212,636
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising	4,752	-	4,752
Charitable activities	63,864	65,860	129,724
Total expenditure	68,616	65,860	134,476
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	69,656	8,504	78,160
Total funds brought forward	48,886	8,244	57,130
Total funds carried forward	118,542	16,748	135,290

3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2022**	Total 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Donations:				
Donations	23,210	-	**23,210**	81,420
Grants:				
AKO Foundation	35,000	-	**35,000**	25,000
Fitzdale Trust	-	2,800	**2,800**	3,000
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust	-	4,000	**4,000**	-
Camden Giving	-	-	**-**	5,000
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	-	**-**	4,000
Edward Harvist Trust	-	-	**-**	5,000
Limi Foundation	-	-	**-**	15,000
BBC Children in Need	-	39,968	**39,968**	40,364
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	-	-	**-**	20,000
London Community Foundation	-	570	**570**	-
London Borough of Camden	-	40,000	**40,000**	-
Reel Fund	10,000	-	**10,000**	5,000
JRS grant	-	-	**-**	8,352
Localgiving	-	-	**-**	500
	68,210	87,338	**155,548**	212,636

4 Analysis of expenditure

Current year	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	**2022 Total**	2021 Total
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Staff costs	4,730	98,207	-	**102,937**	90,852
Direct costs	-	24,052	-	**24,052**	35,802
Premises costs	-	-	949	**949**	930
Other office costs	-	-	6,782	**6,782**	2,899
Accountancy fees	-	-	1,459	**1,459**	3,108
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	**600**	600
Depreciaition	-	-	-	**-**	285
	4,730	122,259	9,790	**136,779**	134,476
Support costs allocated	-	9,790	(9,790)	-	-
Total expenditure 2022	**4,730**	**132,049**	**-**	**136,779**	134,476

Of the total expenditure, £81,198 was unrestricted (2021: £65,551) and £55,581 was restricted (2021: £67,995).

4 Analysis of expenditure

Prior year	Cost of Fundraising £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2021 Total £
Staff costs	4,752	86,100	-	90,852
Direct costs	-	35,802	-	35,802
Premises costs	-	-	930	930
Other office costs	-	-	2,899	2,899
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,108	3,108
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	600
Depreciaition	-	-	285	285
	4,752	121,902	7,822	134,476
Support costs allocated	-	7,822	(7,822)	-
Total expenditure 2021	4,752	129,724	-	134,476

5 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:	**2022 £**	2021 £
Depreciation	**-**	285
Independent examiner's fee (excl VAT)	500	500

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows:	**2022**	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**83,340**	72,272
Social security costs	**2,226**	1,544
Pension costs	**17,371**	17,036
	102,937	90,852

No member of staff received emoluments of more than £60,000 in this year (2021: £nil)

The total employee benefits including employer NIC and pension of the key management personnel were £47,297 (2021: £47,517). During the year there were no redundancy payments.

The trustees of the charitable company were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year, was as follows:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Number of project staff	**4.5**	4.0
	4.5	4.0

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
COST	**£**
At start and at the end of the year	**25,215**
DEPRECIATION	
At start and at the end of the year	**25,215**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022 and at 31 March 2021	**-**

8 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred Income	**67,850**	35,000
Taxation and social security	**4,882**	4,122
Accruals	**2,491**	2,820
	75,223	41,942
Deferred Income:		
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	**35,000**	-
Amount deferred in the year	**67,850**	35,000
Amount released to income in the year	**35,000**	-
Balance at the End of the Year	**67,850**	35,000

Deferred income comprises of grants received in current year but relating to future periods.

9 Movement in funds

Current year	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2022**
Restricted:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
BBC Children in Need	10,445	39,968	41,408	**9,005**
Charles Lewis Foundation	2,620	-	2,620	**-**
Fitzdale Trust	-	2,800	800	**2,000**
Hampstead Wells & Campden	-	4,000	4,000	**-**
London Borough of Camden	-	40,000	2,500	**37,500**
London Community Foundation	-	570	570	**-**
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	3,683	-	3,683	**-**
Total Restricted Fund	16,748	87,338	55,581	**48,505**
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	118,542	68,210	81,198	**105,554**
Total Unrestricted Fund	118,542	68,210	81,198	**105,554**
Total funds	135,290	155,548	136,779	**154,059**

Prior year	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
Restricted:	£	£	£	£
BBC Children in Need	8,244	40,364	38,163	10,445
Camden Giving	-	5,000	5,000	-
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	4,000	1,380	2,620
Edward Harvist Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	-	20,000	16,317	3,683
Total Restricted Fund	8,244	74,364	65,860	16,748
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	48,886	138,272	68,616	118,542
Total Unrestricted Fund	48,886	138,272	68,616	118,542
Total funds	57,130	212,636	134,476	135,290

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2022 £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	**-**
Net current assets	105,554	48,505	**154,059**
Total Funds	105,554	48,505	**154,059**

Analysis of net assets between funds Prior year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets	118,542	16,748	135,290
Total Funds	118,542	16,748	135,290

11 Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member without share capital.

12 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2022 (2021: none).
There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. There is no balance due to/from related parties at the end of the year.

DOORSTEP

England & Wales - Charity number 1007692

Accounts

Doorstep

"Opening doors for homeless families"



Annual Report 2021 and Accounts 2020-2021

Director's Report

With the whole country plunged into yet another lockdown at the start of 2021 we continued to provide support services in the ways that we had adapted to at the onset of the pandemic in 2020. In June 2021 we reopened all our onsite services and returned to our pre-covid timetable.

Despite the restrictions and setbacks the pandemic has caused we have been able to make significant progress in our plans for development. Successful fundraising means that we will be able to recruit a new full time member of staff who will be dedicated to supporting parents through these very difficult times. Although we currently only have funding for this post for one year we are focused and optimistic that we will be able to raise further funding for it to continue. We will also be bringing in extra staff to help push forward with our new Youth Project which we planned to launch in 2020 but which had to be put on hold.

For some time Doorstep has been working towards increasing the staff team and to developing services, but until now the additional funding we needed to do so has been elusive. We are very excited to finally be in the position to provide the additional support our families need and strengthen our infrastructure.

We are also committed to increasing the diversity of the staff team and board of trustees to achieve better representation of our service users.

The partnerships and collaborations which we formed at the beginning of the pandemic have grown and many organisations and individuals in the wider community have given generously of their time, money and gifts in kind.

My colleagues on the staff team, Sarah Lough, Khadra Mohamed and Kiki Banjica have shown outstanding dedication. They have worked tirelessly to keep pace with and adapt to ever changing circumstances to keep delivering support to the families that is meaningful and relevant. We have received heart warming feedback from families who have told us how much they appreciate what we do and that they feel we really care about them.

I am also grateful for the hard work of the members of Doorstep's board of trustees, who have given their time and expertise to ensure Doorstep has been responsive to exceptional circumstances and maintained high standards of governance. Also, for our Patron Victoria Coren Mitchell who continues to support our work.

We are very much looking forward to an exciting year of growth and development ahead.

Vicky Fox

Our on site services in normal circumstances

Our services have been developed over the years in direct response to the needs that families have expressed:

* Opportunities for children to play, learn and develop at our after school club, crèches and drop-ins.
* Joint activities with the partner organisations.

* Regular creative & educational activities for adults.

* A weekly exercise class such as Yoga.

* A programme of special activities and outings during the summer and school holidays.

* A weekly ‘bazaar’ giving access to free essential goods donated by the wider community.

* Free daily access to laundry facilities.

* Healthy snacks and meals

What we did in 2021

Through 2021 we supported 53 families 81 adults and 124 children. 89% of our service users were from BAME backgrounds, 75% were women, 50% single parents. There were three children with development delay and another 8 children with a variety of significant health issues.

Faced with another lockdown in January 2021 we continued with the support services we had devised to adapt to the circumstances created by the Covid-19 pandemic.

We continued to provide internet access to those who otherwise could not be online and provided devices for pupils and students who didn't have them.

The laundry was the only facility we could provide onsite with strict measures in place to keep everyone safe. We continued to provide interactive digital activities for children and delivered all the resources they needed to participate.

We continued to deliver care packages to families and to maintain dialogue with them to be aware of their difficulties and needs.

We provided the resources to participate in our digital activities weekly. Packages of household and personal hygiene items were provided for every family in January, February, March, June and December.

In February and March we delivered individually tailored care packages for 92 children and young people containing school stationery, art and craft materials and age appropriate learning tools.

Each week we delivered a package of staples i.e. eggs, bread and milk plus fresh fruit and vegetables, to every family, from January until the end of August. All the care package contents mentioned above were purchased with funds raised by Doorstep.

Additionally, Lighthouse London provided a monthly store cupboard package for every family from January to October and up until August JW3 contributed food items which were donated to them.

We reopened all our services for children onsite in June. Initially using a pre-booking system and welcoming small numbers in bubbles. During the summer we ran a five week programme of special activities onsite and at least one outing per week. We ran day trips to Brighton, Clacton, Southend, Go Ape/Battersea Zoo and Paradise Wildlife Park. The programme was very well attended and feedback was extremely positive. Families were happy to have 'normal' Doorstep services again and really enjoyed their days by the sea.



In September we added our weekly ‘bazaars’ back into our timetable of activities meaning that since September we have been running all our onsite activities as we were before the pandemic started.

At Christmas we held three parties for the different age groups including a party for children 4 years and under and parents, with cooked lunch. Thanks to the generosity of a number of organisations and individuals every child and young person received gifts. We also provided every family with a store cupboard package and a supermarket shopping voucher.

We have also provided every child with a gift and a personalised cake on their birthdays thanks to kind donations from volunteer bakers at Free Cakes for Kids Camden.

We are going to be launching a new Youth Project in 2022, which was due to be launched in 2020 but had to be put on hold due to the onset of the pandemic. We are also very excited to have raised sufficient funds to recruit the much needed new full time post of Parent Support/Advocate. This person will work closely with parents to provide information and support.



We have worked with some families for many years. Some we only worked with during lockdown and therefore they couldn't use onsite services. We have come to know all of them well and provided them all with support. Doorstep is a community to which the families feel they belong. It can be very distressing to be notified you have to move at a week or even a day's notice. To have absolutely no choice whatsoever about the area or property you will be living is dehumanising. To suddenly be taken away from your support network and placed in a strange place, often multiple times, makes it extremely difficult to feel settled or able to make plans for your life. The lack of a stable home often causes development delay for children.

Case Studies- Names have been changed

Case Study 1

Maria worked in a hotel where accommodation came with the job. When she discovered she was pregnant she had to leave the job which also left her homeless. Originally, she was placed in a hostel where her baby was born, but when that closed down she was placed in a hotel. She was then moved to L & A hostel in May 2021.

In September 2021 she was told that she wouldn't be allowed to stay in the hostel and that the council was looking for private rented accommodation for her. She argued that Doorstep was her only support network.

On the 29th November at around 4pm her housing support worker called her to say they'd found a private flat for her within her universal credit housing benefit cap in Feltham. She needed to meet the landlord, sign the contract and move in the following day (on 30th November). She had to find her own moving van, furniture (it was only half furnished) and inform Universal Credit about the change of address and where to pay the housing element to.

Maria said she was up most of the night packing their belongings into bin bags ready for a friend with a car to move them in the morning.

Tuesday morning she arrived at Doorstep very distressed, unable to access her Universal Credit account online, and worried how she would cope without Doorstep's support.

We phoned Universal Credit on M's behalf, who said the account was only accessible on the phone (you only set an account to work online OR on the phone), she would need to go to a job-centre to give proof of her new address after she signed her new tenancy agreement so the housing payments could be sent to her new landlord.

After phoning her housing support worker to tell her what Universal Credit had said M was asked to be in Feltham at 3pm to sign her tenancy agreement, the hostel had told her she needed to return her room keys by 5.30pm before the staff went home. She took the train to Feltham, signed the tenancy agreement, collected the keys, came back to the hostel and loaded up her friend's car with her belongings, returned her room keys, then drove back to Feltham in the evening to unpack her belongings.

Case Study 2

Mina was moved into the hostel in Jan 2021 with her three children aged 6, 8 and 10 years. After being put on furlough her wages had been reduced and she could no longer cover the cost of her private rented flat. She initially moved in with a friend but it became too overcrowded and stressful. During another lockdown she then lost her job so she didn't have the money to

get a new private rented flat. The council put her in the L & A hostel but all her possessions were still in storage, which she was paying for. Doorstep gave her some bedding and provided food packages each week. With a public corridor running through the middle of their living space there was no privacy and the family found living in the hostel very hard. The council offered her a private rented property and she accepted the first she was offered at a rent she could manage moving out of the hostel in March 2021. She told us that the property is very small and on an estate which is rough but she feels it is better than living in a hostel.

Case Study 3

Rowena had been living in a private rented flat which was extremely damp but despite taking the landlord to court she lost the property and became homeless. She was placed in L & A hostel in June 2017 with her 3 children 6 years, 18 months and 9 months. Her youngest child was later diagnosed with Autism. As her children grew, Rowena informed officials that her 1st floor room next to the lift was unsuitable as the youngest child would walk out of the room into the lift and down to the main door - often into the street. The child had to be kept in the room all the time and watched by an adult to prevent them 'escaping'. The windows had to be kept closed as there were no safety features, and they couldn't open at the top. In June 2021 the child fell out of the bathroom window landing in the basement level with a broken jaw and bruises. Rowena asked to be moved and was offered an alternative temporary accommodation in a self contained property at the end of July 2021.

Case Study 4

Habiba lived with her husband and three children in a private rented flat but her husband had health issues which caused him to become disabled and wheelchair bound. He was unable to work and the family lost their rented property. Habiba moved into a hostel with her children in 2011 but there was no temporary accommodation for the family that had wheelchair access. As a result of this Habiba's husband was placed in a care home at that time, where he still remains. Habiba and the children moved to L & A hostel in March 2016. In September 2021 she was offered 3 bed permanent property, but with no option to refuse it if she didn't find it suitable. She was given one week's notice to pack up all her belongings and be out of the hostel. She was forced to move without any furniture at all and no savings to buy any. She had to borrow money to buy beds and a cooker. She is struggling to furnish the property and repay the money she borrowed with only her benefits for income.

Case Study 5

Sumaya, her husband and two children aged 9 months and 5 years moved into the hostel in January 2013. They moved into a private rented property in 2014 but returned to the hostel in 2015 after the private rented property contract ended. Her youngest child presented behavioural issues and Doorstep supported Sumaya as she fought for them to be recognised and for the child to be diagnosed, which they eventually did with Autism. She struggled to cope with his condition and complaints from neighbours about him wandering around the hostel, causing arguments with their children, and getting into disagreements and fights in the hostel garden. Her marriage broke down while at the hostel. G moved to another private rented property in August 2021.

Looking at the bigger picture the following is taken from various blogs produced by Shelter, which echo the issues and difficulties we see families experiencing.

Britain's hidden homeless kids: how children are being failed by our broken housing system (5 November 2021 by Osama Bhutta-for Shelter)

'*Temporary accommodation is the worst thing, it's like a workhouse.'*

These are the words of Yaqub, one of three primary school-aged boys who feature in Channel 4's recent 'Dispatches' show, entitled 'Growing Up Poor: Britain's Hidden Homeless Kids'.

Yaqub shares a bunk bed with his mum and younger sister in a hostel room in Luton. He knows he needs a home if he's going to realise his dreams. Despite only being in Year Four, Yaqub has ambitions of becoming an engineer one day. But he's held back by the day-to-day reality of life as one of Britain's 120,000 homeless children.

Every child has a right to a childhood. Those precious early years of play, learning and imagination are vital to a child's development and their life chances. It's appalling that we have children as young as nine spending all day worrying about the cost of rent and their families being thrown out on the streets.

Biggest worry is housing costs

We hear from parents every day who are struggling to keep a roof over their children's heads. Housing costs are almost every family's biggest outgoing – and their biggest worry.

Without enough social homes that people on low incomes can afford, hundreds of thousands of families instead live in overcrowded rentals. There's no space for their children to play or concentrate on their homework. And the constant threat of eviction hangs over their heads.

There are also thousands of families like Yaqub's, who've been tipped into homelessness and are trapped in unsuitable emergency accommodation. Not just for a few weeks, but sometimes years at a time. No child should have to share a bathroom with strangers, eat from foodbank carrier bags on their bedroom floor or share a single bed with their parent or sibling.

Our broken housing system fails children across the country. Teachers tell us how homeless children and those living in bad housing suffer from hunger, tiredness, poor hygiene and absenteeism. There are children like Qasim, who features in the Dispatches show. He lives in overcrowded temporary accommodation, where he cannot get a good night's sleep and is then late for school. Qasim is only nine but worries that if he's too tired to learn enough at school, he'll never get a good job.

Homeless children hit hardest

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic hurt children's education through missed school days. Homeless children were hit hardest. Many don't have a desk at which they can study. Others don't have access to the internet in their temporary accommodation to join online classes. This harm may never be undone for the children whose families are still struggling.

Far too many children are unfairly held back because there aren't enough social homes. They're locked out of the affordable, stable homes that would allow them to grow and thrive. Like the third schoolboy who appears in 'Dispatches', Kai's mum has been on the social housing waiting list for eight years. They are one of over a million families stuck on waiting lists, chasing too few social homes.

Councils that are already overwhelmed can barely cope with the number of people coming to them for housing help. Families who were just about surviving before the pandemic are under increasing pressure and may not be able to weather the storm ahead.

With food and energy prices soaring and the cut to the Universal Credit sinking in, we risk failing even more children if we don't do something drastic about the cost of housing today.



Build social homes

The government's £65 million rent relief fund for renters facing eviction is a vital lifeline for some. But it won't protect every family at risk of homelessness this winter. We need more than just a sticking plaster to mend the gaping wound left by the housing emergency.

We owe it to Yaqub, Qasim, Kai and the many homeless children just like them to do everything we can to undo the damage inflicted by bad housing. Now is the time for the government to level up for the next generation and build the decent social homes that families really need today.

Levelling up starts with a home

14 October 2021 by Alastair Harper-for Shelter

Conducted by Frank Luntz for the Centre for Policy Studies, a recent poll found that 42 per cent of voters believe that they are invested in the UK, while only 27 per cent believe the UK is invested in them. This seems a damning statistic. What do you need, as a citizen, in order to feel as though your country is invested in you?

Home isn't a single building, but a community. The streets you are in, the faces you recognise. Home matters. But fewer people today have that normal sense of it. Parents are sharing single rooms with their kids, or strangers. They're in rooms with mould or broken windows that can't be shut in the winter. How are they meant to feel part of our country? How are they meant to feel invested in?

What is the 'system' we need to smash?

The private rented sector has more than doubled in size over the last 20 years. There are now 11 million people living in it. Average house prices are now eight times the average salary. We are spending more than ever on housing welfare (at double our total police budget), and it's covering less of the cost of rent. That's what a broken market looks like. We will only fix it by rebuilding the only tenure of secure, affordable housing for those who Luntz found feel the country has not invested in them. This means rediscovering the potential of social housing.

Right now, social housing competes directly with costly ownership discounts for those just about managing, through things like Help to Buy in the Affordable Homes Programme. Over half of the money in that programme gets spent on projects that households must earn twice the average income to even be able to access. This should raise an eyebrow from the perspective of economic prudence on government spending, but making it directly compete with the hundreds of thousands of children sat in ghastly temporary accommodation makes it a pretty immoral prioritisation. Each year, we lose four times the number of social homes than we are building.

For the last decade, government policy has focused on the almost-owning and ignoring the barely surviving. There is nothing wrong with the former thriving, but levelling up this country won't happen if the government ignores the latter. This is damaging our communities and makes it harder for children to get an education – for people to become the person they had the talent but not the opportunity to be.

Families in London are at the epicentre of the housing emergency

12 October 2021 by Steph Kleynhans-for Shelter

The housing emergency in London is overwhelming. While it rages on with magnitude across the country, London is the epicentre of unaffordable and poor-quality housing. Everyday families in the capital are having to choose between paying their rent or putting food on the table.

Why the housing emergency is worse in London

The housing emergency in London has been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic as families have struggled even more to afford their rent and essential living costs due to reduced hours, furlough and job loss.

The welfare safety net has failed to provide enough support for these households. Although the eviction ban kept many families in their homes for the duration of the pandemic, a difficult economic and jobs recovery ahead of us means people will be facing mounting arrears, evictions and potential homelessness.

At the root of London's housing emergency is a lack of truly affordable social homes, twinned with an inadequate welfare system. Over the last nine years, delivery of social housing in the capital fell from 11,374 to just 632 between 2011/12 and 2019/20.

Worse still, London has been losing more social rent homes through sales than it has been delivering.

This loss of social homes has meant there are not enough truly affordable homes available for low income households who need them and, as a result, they must turn to the expensive private rented sector. Between 2011 and 2021, private rents in London shot up by a quarter, and before the pandemic private renters in London on low incomes spent an enormous 58% of their income on their rent.

This, combined with a welfare safety net cut to the bone and low paid jobs, means that even with support or work, people are really struggling to keep their head above water.

The welfare safety net is not working, and the pandemic has only made it worse

Many people and families in London have lost work and needed housing benefits to see them through choppy waters.

The number of private renting households in London claiming housing benefit (Local Housing Allowance) to help pay their rent rose by 66% between February 2020 and May 2021. In some boroughs, a majority of private renters now rely on housing benefit, including Enfield where 75% of private renters receive housing support, Barking and Dagenham (62%) and Brent (56%).

We already know that the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates, or housing support for private renters, is too low. And they have been frozen so will only get worse as years go on as rents continue to rise.

Already, LHA rates do not cover what they should in 64% of London for a modest three-bedroom home meaning that many families will be facing growing shortfalls between their rent and what they receive in housing support. If they don't receive enough to cover the rent, they will have to try and make up with other limited income.

The arguably more pressing issue with the welfare safety net in London is the benefit cap. The benefit cap puts a limit on how much in benefits a family or a single person can receive in a year, if earning less than £617 per month. This is the same whether you live in a private rented home or a social home.

Living in London, that limit is £23,000 per year for a family and £15,410 per year for a single person without children. This means a family, regardless of size, will have to cover rent, bills, food, travel and all other essentials with just £1,916.67 per month. Considering the median rent for a privately rented two-bedroom home in London is £1,450 per month, families will struggle to make ends meet without accruing arrears and facing potential eviction and homelessness.

Family size isn't properly considered. As above, the Department for Work and Pensions do consider whether a single person is with or without children, but other than that they do not consider the number of children. Nor do they consider the cost of renting, which makes the benefit cap incredibly arbitrary and punitive to so many who live in areas with high housing costs such as London.

Seema's story

Shelter sees many people through our services who are impacted by the benefit cap across London, many of whom are facing homelessness simply because they cannot afford to pay their rent.

In our London hub we supported Seema (not her real name) who claims Universal Credit and is a survivor of domestic abuse. Seema is self-employed and she cannot work during school holidays because she has to look after her three children who are all under 10 years old.

She privately rents a family home in Ealing for £1,600 pcm. When she can't work, she is benefit capped and after the rent is paid, she is left with just £86 to live on for the month. She really struggles to keep up with the high gas and electricity bills, and she is reliant on local food banks to feed her children. This is having a huge impact on her health and wellbeing as she regularly is forced to choose between paying the rent or feeding her children.



Is there anything we can do?

The ultimate answer is for the benefit cap to be scrapped and the LHA rates to be unfrozen so they stay in line with the actual cost of renting.

However, for those struggling right now and at risk of losing their homes, Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) may be available to help cover the shortfall between rent and housing benefit. DHPs are administered by the local authority and are time-limited payments awarded to applicants on a discretionary basis to help with rent or other housing costs.

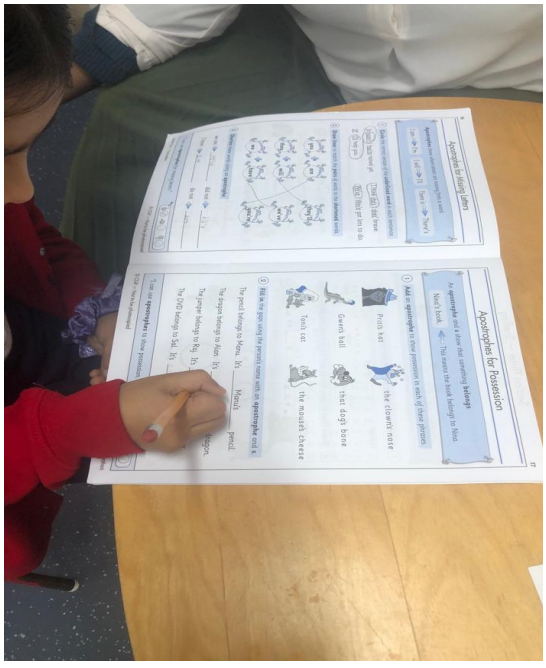
They are an incredibly vital tool in the prevention of homelessness and can be a cost-effective measure to keep people in their settled home. Once households become homeless, local authorities can face much higher costs compared to the average DHP used to keep someone in their home.

The provision of homelessness services by a local authority costs an estimated £15,063 per homeless person per year, but the average DHP award in London in 2020/21 was £1,421.

Timely intervention through a DHP can be relatively low-cost but effective in preventing homelessness and helping people to stay in their settled home.

We know DHPs are a sticking plaster and local authorities do not receive anywhere near enough funding to truly plug the gaping hole in the welfare safety net. However, many people are still not accessing DHPs leaving them at risk of eviction.

We know that throughout London different local authorities are using DHPs in creative and holistic ways to prevent homelessness. In our London Hub we have supported thousands of people affected by these issues since the pandemic began. We have seen how local partnerships can provide the right advice, information and support that can make the difference for people who can receive a DHP to prevent eviction and homelessness. (blog.shelter.org.uk)



Treasurer's Report

The financial statements for Doorstep (or 'the charity') cover the financial year ending 31 March 2021.

The fiscal year 2021 ended in a secure position, with the reserve carried forward being sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The management committee and director recognise the need for, and remain committed to, pursuing multi-year funding both to minimise the risk of disruption to the charity's services, for example in the event of a downturn in one or more areas of external funding and to offer new services to the community for whom we cater, such as a new youth project for the teens and an advocate for the parents .

Careful financial and operating records have been kept throughout the financial year ending on 31 March 2021. The accounts for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021 have been examined by an independent accountancy firm. Detailed records of financial documents are available and may be requested from Doorstep Homeless Families Project, 13A Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3QX.

The Management Committee members are satisfied that Doorstep is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year in accordance with section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The Management Committee members acknowledge their responsibilities for:
1- Ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
2- Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity as at the end of the financial year 2021 and of its profit or loss for the aforementioned financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on 12/11/21 and are signed on their behalf by the chair, Alpona Banerji.

Alexa Brummer
Treasurer

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	3	138,272	74,364	**212,636**	127,476
Total Income		**138,272**	**74,364**	**212,636**	127,476
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	4	4,752	-	**4,752**	4,812
Charitable activities	4	63,864	65,860	**129,724**	100,567
Total expenditure		**68,616**	**65,860**	**134,476**	105,379
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	5	**69,656**	**8,504**	**78,160**	22,097
Funds brought forward		48,886	8,244	**57,130**	35,033
Total funds carried forward		**118,542**	**16,748**	**135,290**	57,130

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

Chair's report

I am extremely proud to report that the continuing uncertainty with regards to the COVID-19 pandemic was not a hindrance to Doorstep in providing invaluable support and help to the vulnerable families in the local community, a task that it has been undertaking for more than three decades.

This year Doorstep leveraged the framework of services it had set up during the first wave of the lockdown. Entering the year in a hard lockdown and tight restrictions, Doorstep provided online activities for the children which was possible because of the prior distribution of digital devices and broadband access. Essential food parcels to the families at the hostel continued as income loss from the pandemic intensified. As Covid-19 restrictions eased, Doorstep resumed its face to face weekly childcare services, laundry services and the weekly bazaar, following all social distancing protocols and health and safety procedures. The summer programme was full and comprehensive with multiple trips outside London for children and families, which were enormously appreciated as they allowed the families a respite from their cramped living spaces. The year ended on a high note, with multiple face to face childrens' holiday parties across all age ranges and even activities such as ice skating for teens. The feedback from the families on the activities held and services provided during another difficult year has been very favourable and Doorstep continues to have a deep meaningful impact on their lives. Additionally, extensive planning and development has taken place to start a service dedicated to the teens at Doorstep, as well as recruitment of a new, much needed full time member of staff who will provide information and support for parents.

Doorstep continues to function at high levels because of the fabulous work by the small and dedicated staff at Doorstep. The Management Committee joins me in thanking and acknowledging the deep commitment and critical involvement of Director Vicky Fox, who is Doorstep's only full-time staff. Vicky leads a small and efficient team who under her guidance, adapted very quickly to the new realities of families that were particularly vulnerable to the impact of the virus, in terms of health, economic and mental and social impact. In that context, I would like to thank our childcare workers Sarah and Khadra who developed new skills very quickly and online programmes. Kiki provides enormous assistance to Doorstep not least by helping to sort through the generous weekly donations and also running the laundry service which the users find very necessary and useful especially in this environment.

Although Doorstep received adequate funding in the financial year ending December 2021, resource constraints continue especially in the context of increasing demands on Doorstep's services. Fundraising, especially multi-year funding, continues to be a focus and will remain one especially in the context of "beyond COVID-19" and the support and help that vulnerable families will need to rebuild their lives.

Doorstep's Patron, Victoria Coren Mitchell continues to be an unstinting advocate of the organisation and the Management Committee thanks Victoria for all her support and generosity.

I would like to thank the small group of highly skilled volunteers who make up the Management Committee. The management committee continued to meet on Zoom every 6 to 8 weeks, with several ad hoc meetings over the year to further the work of sub-committees. I would like to thank you for all your counsel and support.

Finally, thank you to all our supporters: individuals, trusts, charities, companies and schools that help us in a plethora of ways, and that allows us to continue to positively impact our community year after year.

I would like to wish all friends of Doorstep Homeless Families Project all the best for a healthy and safe year.

Alpona Banerji

We give our most sincere and grateful thanks to the following organisations for their support of Doorstep and our families:

4bysix
Ahmadiya Ladies Muslim Community Group
AKO Foundation
Barnett & Sylvia Shine Charitable Foundation
BBC Children in Need
Bloom Foundation
Bottle
Bridgepoint
Camden Council
Camden Giving
Camden Open Air Gallery
Conor does Food
Edward Harvist Fund
Elliott Simmons Charitable Trust
Fitzdale Trust
Free Cakes for Kids Camden
Hampstead Wells & Campden Trust
Ickenham Masonic Lodge
JW3
John Chilton School
Limi London
Local Giving
London Community Foundation
London Funders Emergency Response
London Lighthouse
Penny Appeal
Properly Properties
Reel Fund
Savills
South Hampstead Junior School
St Christina's School
St John's women's Club
St Mary's Church
StreetSmart
Texel Foundation
The American School in London
The Charles Lewis Foundation
The Childhood Trust
The Kajatawa Foundation
Voluntary Action Camden
Waitrose & Partners
Xander Lily Fund
Young & Mighty

Also, to the very many kind and generous individuals who donated money, food, toys, clothes, books, and their time.



The Management Committee

Alpona Banerji - Chair

Jo Cunningham - Secretary

Alexa Brummer- Treasurer from 12/02/21

Kate Gaertner- Resigned 25/10/21

Layle Asmat- Joined 10/05/21

Phoebe Stamford-Moroz - Vice Chair

Ellen Murphy -Treasurer until 12/02/21

Sara Katchi

Lesley Adams

Celia Carr-Joined 25/10/21

The Staff Team

Vicky Fox - Director

Sarah Lough & Khadra Mohamed - Children's Workers (part time)

Belkize Banjica - Housekeeping & sessional play support (part time)

Dilufer Azam - Sessional Play Support (part time)

Volunteers

ASL teachers & Students

JW3

London Lighthouse

Marieke Van der Meij

Gail Sinitsky

Patron

Victoria Coren-Mitchell

Not forgetting the hundreds of other individuals who took part in occasional projects- we give our sincere thanks to each and every one!

Doorstep Homeless Families Project
13A Broadhurst Gardens
London NW6 3QX

Tel: 0207 372 0413
Email:hello@doorsteplondon.com Website: www.doorsteplondon.com
www.facebook.com/DoorstepLondon
https://twitter.com/doorstep_london
www.instagram.com/doorstep_london

Doorstep is a Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales, No 2476922. Registered Charity No 1007692. Doorstep is funded by London Borough of Camden, Charitable Grants and private donations.

DOORSTEP

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 02476922 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1007692

Accountability Europe Limited
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	Doorstep
Charity registration number	1007692
Company registration number	02476922
Registered office	13a Broadhurst Gardens London NW6 3QX
Directors / Trustees	Alpona Banerji - Chair Phoebe Stamford-Moroz – Vice Chair Sara Katchi Joanne Cunningham Ellen Murphy - Treasurer (resigned on 12/02/2021) Alexa Brummer - Treasurer from 12/02/2021 Kate Gaertner Lesley Adams Layle Asmat (appointed on 10/05/2021)
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB
Independent examiner	Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA Accountability Europe Limited Omnibus Workspace 39-41 North Road London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 16 February 1990, and also registered with the Charity Commissioners.

Appointment, induction & training of Trustees

All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction session they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organization

The charity is organized so that the trustees meet regularly to manage its affairs. There is one full time executive Vicky Fox, who both manages the day to day administration of the charity and organizes fundraising initiatives. The sessional staff are employed to run particular service sections or with specific administration or building responsibilities.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:-

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives are "the relief of poverty and distress and the advancement of education of persons resident in Camden and the surrounding area, in particular those who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation". The charity provides a range of support services with the overall aim to improve the quality of life of service users. These include laundry facilities, play opportunities for children and taught courses in areas such as IT and ESOL.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future services. In particular the board of trustees consider how our planned services will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- We continued to provide support throughout the pandemic by maintaining contact and dialogue with families, assessing their needs and adjusting our service delivery to meet them.
- We raised funds to provide every family with a weekly fresh fruit and vegetable delivery.
- We formed partnerships and collaborated with other local organisations to provide families with non-perishable food and household items.
- We raised funds to provide internet connection and devices for everyone who was without, as well as regular parcels of family hygiene items and creative/learning materials for children of all ages.
- We provided interactive digital activities for children and provided the necessary materials to participate in these.
- We hired sufficient coaches to ensure social distancing to take the families for a day by the sea.
- We hosted digital Christmas parties with every child receiving gifts and treats and every family receiving a supermarket voucher.
- We succeeded in raising sufficient funds to employ a new full time staff member, for one year, to specifically support parents

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income for the year of £212,636 (2020: £127,476) and total expenditure of £134,476 (2020: £105,379) resulting in surplus of £78,160 (2020: £22,097). Total reserves of £135,290 (2020: £57,130) are carried forward of which £118,542 (2020: £48,886) unrestricted and £16,748 (2020: £8,244) restricted.

RESERVES

The present level of reserves is sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The reserves are needed to allow time for re-organisation in the event of a downturn of income in one or more areas of funding, and to provide for unforeseen, and hence unbudgeted, expenditure where this enables the Charity to continue to meet its objectives.

FUTURE PLANS

We will be working to achieve the following:

- We will seek further multi year funding to continue the new parental support post beyond one year.
- We will continue to seek funding for existing staff and services, as well as to develop new services to meet growing demand and needs.
- We will continue to develop both our existing and new collaborations and partnerships with corporations and other community organisations.
- We will continue to raise awareness of the issues faced by homeless families and the organisation's profile.
- We will develop and launch the new service for teenagers which was put on hold due to the pandemic.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and 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 the 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the reparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on …**12/11/2021**……..
and signed on its behalf by:

……..
Alpona Banerji
(Chair)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

DOORSTEP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

……

Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

Date: **17/11/2021**

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	**3**	138,272	74,364	**212,636**	127,476
Total Income		**138,272**	**74,364**	**212,636**	127,476
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	**4**	4,752	-	**4,752**	4,812
Charitable activities	**4**	63,864	65,860	**129,724**	100,567
Total expenditure		**68,616**	**65,860**	**134,476**	105,379
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	**5**	**69,656**	**8,504**	**78,160**	22,097
Funds brought forward		48,886	8,244	**57,130**	35,033
Total funds carried forward		**118,542**	**16,748**	**135,290**	57,130

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Note		2021		2020
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	**7**		-		285
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**177,232**		63,022	
		177,232		63,022	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**8**	**(41,942)**		(6,177)	
Net current assets			**135,290**		56,845
Net assets			**135,290**		57,130
Funds					
Restricted Funds	**9**		**16,748**		8,244
General funds	**9**		**118,542**		48,886
Total charity funds			**135,290**		57,130

For the year ended 31 March 2021 the charitable 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 requirments of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on **12/11/2021**

and signed on its behalf by:

Alpona Banerji (Chair)

Company Registration No. 02476922

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The charitable company is exempted from preparing a cash flow statement due to exemption available to charities with income of less than £500,000.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:
Equipment: 33% Straight line basis

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

a) Costs of raising funds:

It includes the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

b) Expenditure on charitable activities

It includes the costs of delivering services, exhibitions and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charity's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020
Income from:	£	£	£
Donations and grants	106,032	21,444	127,476
Total Income	106,032	21,444	127,476
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising	4,812	-	4,812
Charitable activities	87,367	13,200	100,567
Total expenditure	92,179	13,200	105,379
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	13,853	8,244	22,097
Total funds brought forward	35,033	-	35,033
Total funds carried forward	48,886	8,244	57,130

3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2021**	Total 2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Donations:				
Donations	81,420	-	**81,420**	52,285
Donations - Gift Aid	-	-	**-**	1,000
Grants:				
AKO Foundation	25,000	-	**25,000**	25,000
Fitzdale Trust	3,000	-	**3,000**	3,000
Street Smart	-	-	**-**	10,000
Camden Giving	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	4,000	**4,000**	-
Edward Harvist Trust	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
Limi Foundation	15,000	-	**15,000**	-
BBC Children in Need	-	40,364	**40,364**	21,444
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4		20,000	**20,000**	-
London Community Foundation	-	-	**-**	14,747
Reel Fund	5,000	-	**5,000**	-
JRS grant	8,352	-	**8,352**	-
Localgiving	500	-	**500**	-
	138,272	74,364	**212,636**	127,476

4 Analysis of expenditure

Current year	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	**2021 Total**	2020 Total
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Staff costs	4,752	86,100	-	**90,852**	90,213
Direct costs	-	35,802	-	**35,802**	2,299
Premises costs	-	-	930	**930**	2,150
Other office costs	-	-	2,899	**2,899**	2,624
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,108	**3,108**	2,520
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	**600**	600
Depreciaition	-	-	285	**285**	4,973
	4,752	121,902	7,822	**134,476**	105,379
Support costs allocated	-	7,822	(7,822)	-	-
Total expenditure 2021	**4,752**	**129,724**	**-**	**134,476**	105,379

Of the total expenditure, £65,551 was unrestricted (2020: £92,179) and £67,995 was restricted (2020: £13,200).

4 Analysis of expenditure

Prior year	Cost of Fundraising £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2020 Total £
Staff costs	4,752	85,461	-	90,213
Direct costs	60	2,239	-	2,299
Premises costs	-	-	2,150	2,150
Other office costs	-	-	2,624	2,624
Accountancy fees	-	-	2,520	2,520
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	600
Depreciaition	-	-	4,973	4,973
	4,812	87,700	12,867	105,379
Support costs allocated	-	12,867	(12,867)	-
Total expenditure 2020	4,812	100,567	-	105,379

5 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:	**2021 £**	2020 £
Depreciation	**285**	4,973
Independent examiner's fee (incl VAT)	**600**	600

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows:	**2021**	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**72,272**	70,256
Social security costs	**1,544**	1,959
Other pension costs	**17,036**	17,998
	90,852	90,213

No member of staff received emoluments of more than £60,000 in this year (2020: £nil)

The total employee benefits including employer NIC and pension of the key management personnel were £47,517 (2020: £47,517). During the year there were no redundancy payments.

The trustees of the charitable company were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year, was as follows:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Number of project staff	**4.0**	4.0
	4.0	4.0

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
COST	**£**
At start of the year	25,215
At end of the year	**25,215**
DEPRECIATION	
At start of the year	24,930
Charge for the year	285
At end of the year	**25,215**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	**-**
At 31 March 2020	285

8 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred Income	**35,000**	-
Taxation and social security	**4,122**	4,287
Accruals	**2,820**	1,890
	41,942	6,177

	2021	2020
Deferred Income:	**£**	£
Amount deferred in the year	**35,000**	-
Balance at the End of the Year	**35,000**	**-**

Deferred income comprises of grants received in current year but relating to future periods.

9 Movement in funds

Current year	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2021**
Restricted:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
BBC Children in Need	8,244	40,364	38,163	**10,445**
Camden Giving	-	5,000	5,000	**-**
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	4,000	1,380	**2,620**
Edward Harvist Trust	-	5,000	5,000	**-**
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	-	20,000	16,317	**3,683**
Total Restricted Fund	8,244	74,364	65,860	**16,748**
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	48,886	138,272	68,616	**118,542**
Total Unrestricted Fund	48,886	138,272	68,616	**118,542**
Total funds	57,130	212,636	134,476	**135,290**

Movement in funds Prior year	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
Restricted:	£	£	£	£
BBC Children in Need	-	21,444	13,200	8,244
Total Restricted Fund	-	21,444	13,200	8,244
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	35,033	106,032	92,179	48,886
Total Unrestricted Fund	35,033	106,032	92,179	48,886
Total funds	35,033	127,476	105,379	57,130

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2021 £**
Net current assets	118,542	16,748	**135,290**
Total Funds	118,542	16,748	**135,290**

Analysis of net assets between funds Prior year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	285	-	285
Net current assets	40,357	16,488	56,845
Total Funds	40,642	16,488	57,130

11 Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member without share capital.

12 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2021 (2020: none).
There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. There is no balance due to/from related parties at the end of the year.

DOORSTEP

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 02476922 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1007692

Accountability Europe Limited
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	Doorstep
Charity registration number	1007692
Company registration number	02476922
Registered office	13a Broadhurst Gardens London NW6 3QX
Directors / Trustees	Alpona Banerji - Chair Phoebe Stamford-Moroz – Vice Chair Sara Katchi Joanne Cunningham Ellen Murphy - Treasurer (resigned on 12/02/2021) Alexa Brummer - Treasurer from 12/02/2021 Kate Gaertner Lesley Adams Layle Asmat (appointed on 10/05/2021)
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB
Independent examiner	Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA Accountability Europe Limited Omnibus Workspace 39-41 North Road London N7 9DP

DOORSTEP

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 16 February 1990, and also registered with the Charity Commissioners.

Appointment, induction & training of Trustees

All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring trustees and requesting nominations for the AGM. When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction session they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organization

The charity is organized so that the trustees meet regularly to manage its affairs. There is one full time executive Vicky Fox, who both manages the day to day administration of the charity and organizes fundraising initiatives. The sessional staff are employed to run particular service sections or with specific administration or building responsibilities.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:-

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives are "the relief of poverty and distress and the advancement of education of persons resident in Camden and the surrounding area, in particular those who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation". The charity provides a range of support services with the overall aim to improve the quality of life of service users. These include laundry facilities, play opportunities for children and taught courses in areas such as IT and ESOL.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future services. In particular the board of trustees consider how our planned services will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- We continued to provide support throughout the pandemic by maintaining contact and dialogue with families, assessing their needs and adjusting our service delivery to meet them.
- We raised funds to provide every family with a weekly fresh fruit and vegetable delivery.
- We formed partnerships and collaborated with other local organisations to provide families with non-perishable food and household items.
- We raised funds to provide internet connection and devices for everyone who was without, as well as regular parcels of family hygiene items and creative/learning materials for children of all ages.
- We provided interactive digital activities for children and provided the necessary materials to participate in these.
- We hired sufficient coaches to ensure social distancing to take the families for a day by the sea.
- We hosted digital Christmas parties with every child receiving gifts and treats and every family receiving a supermarket voucher.
- We succeeded in raising sufficient funds to employ a new full time staff member, for one year, to specifically support parents

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income for the year of £212,636 (2020: £127,476) and total expenditure of £134,476 (2020: £105,379) resulting in surplus of £78,160 (2020: £22,097). Total reserves of £135,290 (2020: £57,130) are carried forward of which £118,542 (2020: £48,886) unrestricted and £16,748 (2020: £8,244) restricted.

RESERVES

The present level of reserves is sufficient to support the running of the charity for a minimum of six months. The reserves are needed to allow time for re-organisation in the event of a downturn of income in one or more areas of funding, and to provide for unforeseen, and hence unbudgeted, expenditure where this enables the Charity to continue to meet its objectives.

FUTURE PLANS

We will be working to achieve the following:

- We will seek further multi year funding to continue the new parental support post beyond one year.
- We will continue to seek funding for existing staff and services, as well as to develop new services to meet growing demand and needs.
- We will continue to develop both our existing and new collaborations and partnerships with corporations and other community organisations.
- We will continue to raise awareness of the issues faced by homeless families and the organisation's profile.
- We will develop and launch the new service for teenagers which was put on hold due to the pandemic.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and 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 the 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the reparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on …**12/11/2021**……..
and signed on its behalf by:

……..
Alpona Banerji
(Chair)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

DOORSTEP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

……

Aamer Shehzad FCCA FCA
Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP

Date: **17/11/2021**

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income From					
Donations and grants	**3**	138,272	74,364	**212,636**	127,476
Total Income		**138,272**	**74,364**	**212,636**	127,476
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising	**4**	4,752	-	**4,752**	4,812
Charitable activities	**4**	63,864	65,860	**129,724**	100,567
Total expenditure		**68,616**	**65,860**	**134,476**	105,379
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	**5**	**69,656**	**8,504**	**78,160**	22,097
Funds brought forward		48,886	8,244	**57,130**	35,033
Total funds carried forward		**118,542**	**16,748**	**135,290**	57,130

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

DOORSTEP
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Note		2021		2020
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	**7**		-		285
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**177,232**		63,022	
		177,232		63,022	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**8**	**(41,942)**		(6,177)	
Net current assets			**135,290**		56,845
Net assets			**135,290**		57,130
Funds					
Restricted Funds	**9**		**16,748**		8,244
General funds	**9**		**118,542**		48,886
Total charity funds			**135,290**		57,130

For the year ended 31 March 2021 the charitable 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 requirments of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on **12/11/2021**

and signed on its behalf by:

Alpona Banerji (Chair)

Company Registration No. 02476922

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The charitable company is exempted from preparing a cash flow statement due to exemption available to charities with income of less than £500,000.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:
Equipment: 33% Straight line basis

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

a) Costs of raising funds:

It includes the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

b) Expenditure on charitable activities

It includes the costs of delivering services, exhibitions and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charity's artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020
Income from:	£	£	£
Donations and grants	106,032	21,444	127,476
Total Income	106,032	21,444	127,476
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising	4,812	-	4,812
Charitable activities	87,367	13,200	100,567
Total expenditure	92,179	13,200	105,379
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	13,853	8,244	22,097
Total funds brought forward	35,033	-	35,033
Total funds carried forward	48,886	8,244	57,130

3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2021**	Total 2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Donations:				
Donations	81,420	-	**81,420**	52,285
Donations - Gift Aid	-	-	**-**	1,000
Grants:				
AKO Foundation	25,000	-	**25,000**	25,000
Fitzdale Trust	3,000	-	**3,000**	3,000
Street Smart	-	-	**-**	10,000
Camden Giving	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	4,000	**4,000**	-
Edward Harvist Trust	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
Limi Foundation	15,000	-	**15,000**	-
BBC Children in Need	-	40,364	**40,364**	21,444
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4		20,000	**20,000**	-
London Community Foundation	-	-	**-**	14,747
Reel Fund	5,000	-	**5,000**	-
JRS grant	8,352	-	**8,352**	-
Localgiving	500	-	**500**	-
	138,272	74,364	**212,636**	127,476

4 Analysis of expenditure

Current year	Cost of Fundraising	Charitable activities	Support costs	**2021 Total**	2020 Total
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Staff costs	4,752	86,100	-	**90,852**	90,213
Direct costs	-	35,802	-	**35,802**	2,299
Premises costs	-	-	930	**930**	2,150
Other office costs	-	-	2,899	**2,899**	2,624
Accountancy fees	-	-	3,108	**3,108**	2,520
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	**600**	600
Depreciaition	-	-	285	**285**	4,973
	4,752	121,902	7,822	**134,476**	105,379
Support costs allocated	-	7,822	(7,822)	-	-
Total expenditure 2021	**4,752**	**129,724**	**-**	**134,476**	105,379

Of the total expenditure, £65,551 was unrestricted (2020: £92,179) and £67,995 was restricted (2020: £13,200).

4 Analysis of expenditure

Prior year	Cost of Fundraising £	Charitable activities £	Support costs £	2020 Total £
Staff costs	4,752	85,461	-	90,213
Direct costs	60	2,239	-	2,299
Premises costs	-	-	2,150	2,150
Other office costs	-	-	2,624	2,624
Accountancy fees	-	-	2,520	2,520
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	600	600
Depreciaition	-	-	4,973	4,973
	4,812	87,700	12,867	105,379
Support costs allocated	-	12,867	(12,867)	-
Total expenditure 2020	4,812	100,567	-	105,379

5 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:	**2021 £**	2020 £
Depreciation	**285**	4,973
Independent examiner's fee (incl VAT)	**600**	600

6 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows:	**2021**	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**72,272**	70,256
Social security costs	**1,544**	1,959
Other pension costs	**17,036**	17,998
	90,852	90,213

No member of staff received emoluments of more than £60,000 in this year (2020: £nil)

The total employee benefits including employer NIC and pension of the key management personnel were £47,517 (2020: £47,517). During the year there were no redundancy payments.

The trustees of the charitable company were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year, was as follows:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Number of project staff	**4.0**	4.0
	4.0	4.0

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
COST	**£**
At start of the year	25,215
At end of the year	**25,215**
DEPRECIATION	
At start of the year	24,930
Charge for the year	285
At end of the year	**25,215**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	**-**
At 31 March 2020	285

8 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred Income	**35,000**	-
Taxation and social security	**4,122**	4,287
Accruals	**2,820**	1,890
	41,942	6,177

	2021	2020
Deferred Income:	**£**	£
Amount deferred in the year	**35,000**	-
Balance at the End of the Year	**35,000**	**-**

Deferred income comprises of grants received in current year but relating to future periods.

9 Movement in funds

Current year	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2021**
Restricted:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
BBC Children in Need	8,244	40,364	38,163	**10,445**
Camden Giving	-	5,000	5,000	**-**
Charles Lewis Foundation	-	4,000	1,380	**2,620**
Edward Harvist Trust	-	5,000	5,000	**-**
London Funders Wave 2 and Wave 4	-	20,000	16,317	**3,683**
Total Restricted Fund	8,244	74,364	65,860	**16,748**
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	48,886	138,272	68,616	**118,542**
Total Unrestricted Fund	48,886	138,272	68,616	**118,542**
Total funds	57,130	212,636	134,476	**135,290**

Movement in funds Prior year	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
Restricted:	£	£	£	£
BBC Children in Need	-	21,444	13,200	8,244
Total Restricted Fund	-	21,444	13,200	8,244
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	35,033	106,032	92,179	48,886
Total Unrestricted Fund	35,033	106,032	92,179	48,886
Total funds	35,033	127,476	105,379	57,130

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2021 £**
Net current assets	118,542	16,748	**135,290**
Total Funds	118,542	16,748	**135,290**

Analysis of net assets between funds Prior year	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	285	-	285
Net current assets	40,357	16,488	56,845
Total Funds	40,642	16,488	57,130

11 Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member without share capital.

12 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2021 (2020: none).
There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. There is no balance due to/from related parties at the end of the year.